



# Bright Horizons FOUNDATION for Children.



Our Bright Spaces are enriching play environments for children impacted by domestic violence, abuse, homelessness, parental imprisonment and ill health.

In the UK, there are many children who need our help:

- 1 in 20 has been sexually abused
- 1 in 5 has been exposed to domestic abuse
- More than 200,000 are affected by parental imprisonment
- More than 100,000 are homeless

Our Bright Spaces are designed to help these children recover from trauma, build positive relationships, have fun, learn and relax through play.

We provide the equipment, furniture, toys, games, books, resources and volunteers required to create and sustain Bright Spaces, which are located in domestic violence refuges, homeless shelters, police child protection interview suites, courts, prisons, hospitals and hospices.

Bright Spaces are created in partnership with organisations which include the Metropolitan Police, Refuge, Women's Aid refuges, HM Courts and Tribunals Service, HM Prison Service and local charitable organisations.

The Foundation is the registered charity of nursery provider, Bright Horizons Family Solutions which has extensive experience of creating environments for children in its nurseries. The Foundation leverages Bright Horizons' expertise and resources to make a difference in the communities where it operates, and is supported by its employees, clients, suppliers and families.



## How Bright Spaces Help

Experiencing trauma can be detrimental to children's physical, emotional and intellectual development. Our Bright Spaces are designed to give children the opportunities they deserve to develop resilience, form stronger bonds with their families and other caring adults, and strengthen their self-esteem.

Every one of our Bright Spaces is special, providing a comforting, peaceful space for children and families who are experiencing distress. We strive to promote healing, offer nurturing and stimulating activities, and provide a stable, enriching environment for each and every child who enters a Bright Space.

A Bright Space in a police station enables a child to relax and feel safe and calm when providing video evidence against the perpetrators of abuse, to help secure convictions.

A Bright Space in a domestic violence refuge provides a safe environment in which children can play freely without the fear of violence or intimidation.

A Bright Space in a prison encourages children to visit and maintain relationships with their families, helping to reduce the risk of re-offending.

A Bright Space in a hospice provides a dedicated place for children and families to create happy memories.





## Impact

We have more than 80 Bright Spaces throughout the UK, supporting thousands of children. They are used for play and relaxation, therapy, one to one support, family interventions, and child abuse investigation interviews.

"We conducted an interview this week with a young child who had suffered significant abuse. He was given one of the stress packs you supplied us, during the interview he made a comment about the pack in which he stated that if he did not have the things in the bag he would not have coped and would not have been able to speak in the interview. I just thought I would let you know the work you do has made a positive difference in this child's life."

DS Safeguarding Central North Area

"The whole process was managed thoughtfully and carefully. The space created is beautiful." Bright Space partner.

"The feedback about the Bright Space has been astounding. There is nothing better than making a child smile and relax at such a difficult time in their lives." Bright Space partner.

"I do not want to leave the refuge now. I would love to stay here. Since the new living room we see each other a lot more." Refuge parent

"It feels like a home and not a refuge. It feels warm." Refuge parent.

"I love everything!" Refuge resident aged 5 years.

## How You Can Help

There are numerous ways you can support us, which include:

- Fundraising as an individual, team or community
- Creating or supporting a local Bright Space
- Raising FREE donations for us by shopping via Give As You Live and Amazon Smile
- Donating regularly from your salary (Give As You Earn)
- Nominating the Foundation as your company's designated charity
- Organising Brightening Live Activities for a local Bright Space
- Securing match-funding for your donations and fundraising from your employer
- Connecting with us on social media to help spread the word

Here are some of the ways your donations make a difference:

£12 = books for children using a Bright Space

£60 = a baby gym and mat for a baby living in a refuge

£360 = a Teen Bright Space in a police station for child abuse victims

£720 = a mobile Bright Space for a domestic violence outreach worker

£6,000 = a complete Bright Space in a homeless shelter or refuge

To find out more about how you can get involved, please visit our website at [www.brightspaces.org.uk](http://www.brightspaces.org.uk)

