



Facilities to Provide Emotional and Practical Support to Bereaved Families

When a loved one dies, a life is turned upside down. Our charity is the only bereavement charity in the UK to tailor the support we provide to families to fit their individual needs.

Families are often left to grieve alone with no, or little support available and this can often have a devastating impact on family life and children. We provide opportunities for bereaved children and their families to share their thoughts and feelings in a fun and safe environment.

Once Upon a Smile also provide practical support to bereaved families that consists of financial support and respite breaks.

We are seeking this application to enable us to enter phase two of furnishing Sidley House to a high standard. Sidley House is a dedicated bereavement centre and has rooms dedicated to specific activities to allow bereaved families to express in a fun and safe environment both in groups and individually.

Making a difference with the help of SEIB

Lego Therapy - This application will help transform a room to a 'Lego Therapy Room' that will create a multi-sensory, open-ended experience for children who we have identified as having additional needs. Since moving into Sidley House in March 2019, we have received a huge influx of referrals for bereaved children with additional needs. We need to ensure we are providing a safe space for them to express in a creative and fun way.

Flooring - Our multi-purpose cinema room provides children with the opportunity to kick back and relax, giving them a safe space from their grieving environment. Unfortunately, the carpet is very old and worn which means they must sit on chairs whilst this room is in use. Please help us to create a comfortable experience for them so they can lie down and enjoy their experience.



Soundproof - Our Share & Care room is a space where we meet all our parents for the first time to assess their children's individual needs. It's a room where they cry, share their heartbreaking experience and where we have in depth discussions about death and dying. We have identified that the room does not provide the privacy families require to ensure conversations are not overheard, and therefore soundproofing will allow this room and the two rooms connected to be used at the same time without breaching confidentiality and create a comfortable environment.

Toilets - Our toilets need updating to a high standard to accommodate our families. We require a refurb to ensure we have an adult bathroom that also accommodates those with a disability and a bathroom to accommodate children. We need to make the toilet more child friendly by bringing everything lower down so the children can reach to enable them to have more independence whilst visiting Sidley House. Toilets need to be welcoming, fun and colourful but at the moment they are grey, clinical and unsuitable.

Call 01708 850000

www.seib.co.uk   



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