



Children's Hospice Project



What is a hospice?

A paediatric hospice (children's hospice) cares for children aged from birth to 18 years and their families living with life-limiting conditions and requiring palliative care.

It provides a home-like environment where specialist care and treatment can be provided via a network of health and care professionals, away from a clinical hospital setting, to help families live the best life possible.

A hospice provides all aspects of care and treatment in one place and support for close family members. This includes occupational therapy, music, art and play therapy, physiotherapy, nursing and medical care, psychosocial support and sibling support.

Why is it needed?

Although a child might receive a diagnosis of a life-limiting condition, their journey could span weeks, months or even years. This often results in a great stress on families for a sustained period of time and impacts their resources, relationships and wellbeing.

The hospice will assist with this by providing a space for children living with a life-limiting condition and their families to access a range of services and supports in a safe and welcoming environment. This includes:

- Respite: the hospice will assume care of children with a life-limiting condition for a period of time allowing their families much needed respite.
- Support for the families of life limited children.
- End of life care for children with the safety net of clinical care in the comfort of a highly respectful and supported environment.
- State-wide bereavement service for families following the death of a child.

Where will it be?

The planned site is in Swanbourne – a western coastal suburb of Perth, located in the City of Nedlands. The site is located in Allen Park (a currently unused bushland area), close to the beach and ocean, and is approximately 8km from Perth Children's Hospital.

What will it look like?

The children's hospice will be modelled on the ethos of Bear Cottage in NSW as a home-away-from-home environment; close to the beach with a community garden. It will be a five to seven bed facility with adjoining family rooms.

Other features will include a main kitchen, dining and living space, playrooms, a spa area inclusive of hydrotherapy pool, outdoor living, playspace, gardens and seating, clinical spaces, car parking, and office and administrative spaces.

Some examples of what the hospice may look like have been created by an architect to give you an idea. See below.

About the project

The Child and Adolescent Health Service (CAHS) and Perth Children's Hospital Foundation (PCHF) have entered into a partnership to provide the new children's hospice.

The construction, fit-out and ongoing non-operational costs will be funded by PCHF, with CAHS to provide the ongoing clinical, governance and overall management funding.

While the name of the new hospice is being decided and the project is underway, it is being called the Children's Hospice Project.

The project is now underway, with construction due to start in early 2021, ready for the hospice to open in early 2023.



Healthy kids, healthy communities

Compassion

Excellence

Collaboration

Accountability

Equity

Respect

Neonatology | Community Health | Mental Health | Perth Children's Hospital