



# About us!



**Our aims, missions & dreams**

**What does Happy Days do?**



# What is Happy Days?

Happy Days Children's Charity was established in 1992 as a national registered charity.

Happy Days has gone from strength to strength. To date over 350,000 children have experienced the gifts of happiness and hope these holidays and trips provide.

## Our Aims, Mission & Dreams

To provide holidays, residential trips, day trips and visiting theatre performances for children & young people who have disabilities or life limiting conditions or who have been abused and young carers who are resident in the United Kingdom.

The holidays & trips help to develop the children physically, mentally and spiritually and bring them happiness, excitement and fun!

## Days Out...

Our days out are legendary providing self-confidence, self esteem and an opportunity for social interaction. Every year literally 1,000's of children enjoy days out to Farms, Zoos, Theme Parks, Museums, Performing Arts Experiences and the seaside.

## Residential trips

Our residential trips are increasing year on year, giving 100's of children wonderful opportunities to participate in innumerable activities such as archery, canoeing and abseiling, whilst providing families much needed respite.



**...Whenever you doubt yourself remember you made a difference to me...**



**The Arts**  
**Residential Trips**

**Days Out**

**Respite Breaks**

**Holidays...**

## Some recent day trips

40 Children - Gulliver's World

24 Children - Chessington World of Adv.

35 Children - Barnstondale Activity Centre

50 Children - Lightwater Valley

9 Children - Alton Towers

60 Children - Drayton Manor Park

27 Children - Sundown Adventureland

105 Children - Diggerland

27 Children - Flamingoland

24 Children - Blackpool Pleasure Beach

45 Children - Laches Wood Activity Centre

12 Children - Chester Zoo

24 Children - Paradise Wildlife Park

18 Children - Conkers

48 Children - The Lion King

65 Children - Jump In

24 Children - Putlake Farm

## Day trips

The children go to all sorts of wonderful venues such as theatres, wildlife parks, theme parks, zoo's and places of interest in town's cities and the countryside.

Due to their circumstances the children rarely, if ever get to go out for day trips and these are such wonderful opportunities for them.



# Holidays & Trips

## Some recent holidays

Kieran - Haven Primrose Valley, N. Yorks

Hugo - Legoland, Windsor

Miriam - Haven Kiln Park, S. Wales

Nevaeh - Haven, Burnham-On-Sea, Somerset

Natalie - Butlins, Skegness

Ava - Center Parcs, Whinell

Theo - Center Parcs, Elveden

Harvey - Alton Towers

O'Niah - Butlins, Minehead

Rylan - Northern Ireland

Asa - Paultons Park, Hampshire

Aliyan - Haven Devon Cliffs, Devon

Brett - Haven Haggerston Castle, Northumberland

Amira - Haven Berwick, Northumberland

Nikola - Haven Craig Tara

Kenzo - Cornwall

Oscar - Chessington, Surrey

Lola - Dublin

Dominic - Combe Haven Sussex

Jelani - Center Parcs, Woburn

Leo - Center Parcs, Longleat

Zac - Center Parcs, Sherwood

## Some recent residential trips

23 - Stubbers Adventure Centre, Essex

10 - Danbury Outdoors, Essex

55 - Kingswood, Kent

15 - Hindleap Warren, East Sussex

37 - Butlins, Skegness

10 - Kingswood Colomendy, N. Wales

43 - Lyons Robin Hood Caravan Park, Rhyl

23 - Lodge Hill, West Sussex

37 - Osmington Bay, Dorset

11 - Skern Lodge Devon

## Residential Group Activity Holidays

The residential group activity holidays enable children with disabilities to achieve their true potential through the challenge of outdoor adventurous activities in the countryside.

The residential courses are individually designed to promote education, inclusion, independence and self-motivation for those with even the most severe and complex disabilities.

Every young person should experience the world beyond home and classroom as an essential part of learning and self-development, whatever their ability or circumstances.

According to research, people with complex learning needs are more susceptible to emotional and mental health conditions than the rest of the population. The growing body of evidence indicate that greater exposure to, or contact with natural environments and time spent on holiday is associated with better physical, social and emotional well-being.



# The Arts

## Some of the children who benefitted

- 90 children from Warrington, Cheshire
- 40 children from London
- 73 children from Ulverston, Cumbria
- 113 children from Alfreton, Derbyshire
- 149 children from Carlisle, Cumbria
- 70 children from Chelmsford, Essex
- 48 children from Reading, Berkshire
- 101 children from Par, Cornwall
- 174 children from Stevenage, Hertfordshire
- 31 children from Torquay, Devon
- 38 children from Exeter, Devon
- 240 children from Birmingham, West Midlands
- 40 children from Northampton
- 50 children from Redruth, Cornwall
- 100 children from Saltburn-by-the-Sea, N. Yorks.
- 160 children from Ipswich, Suffolk
- 75 children from Westbury on Trym Bristol
- 15 children from Haywards Heath, West Sussex
- 204 children from Sale, Gtr. Manchester
- 134 children from Edgware, Middlesex
- 125 children from Trafford, Gtr. Manchester
- 70 children from Luton, Bedfordshire
- 250 children from St Helens, Lancashire

## Feedback from Bamboozle's The River Family Day

"My daughter was very alert through the performance. She enjoyed the interaction with the performers and joined in with the singing. As always, she enjoyed the opportunity to attend a theatre performance with her peers that's tailored to her needs. Thank you"

"My son was very engaged. We noticed his eyes following Ben and Amy whilst they walked around singing. He reached out for the bird puppet as Ben sang to him, (AMAZING!). He vocalised when Naomi sang to him, too, which was brilliant. It was so nice to watch my son throughout a brilliantly inclusive and engaging performance I feel very emotional at seeing his reaction and the encouragement and involvement from the actors".

Amy's word: "Great job". Amy loved the show.



## Visiting Theatre Performances & Trips to the Theatre

The performances teach the children about the world, about history, about geography, about people and emotions. They promote empathy and help the children to understand themselves and others.

By experiencing live theatre children can enhance their creativity, imagination and understanding of different perspectives and emotions. The experience of music, drama and live theatre is not one that the children usually experience. It is a very positive experience that supports positive mental health and attitudes. The children join in and engage in a very immersive opportunity. The children, rarely, if ever get to see live performing arts and so these performances are a wonderful opportunity to introduce that magic into the children's lives.





# Who are we...

Staff, associates, advisors & patrons

## Staff



**Ryan Sinclair**  
Chief Executive



**Stephanie Sinclair**  
Head of Beneficiary Activity & Trust Fundraising



**Nicola Tamke**  
Senior Community Fundraising



**Rob Cox**  
Fundraising & Marketing Manager



**Ann Calver**  
Holiday & Trust Officer



**Suffia Shah**  
General Administration Officer



**Nurun Hoque**  
Gift Aid Administrator



**Theresa Marshall**  
Group Booking Officer

## Some recent benefactors

Thank you to everyone that helped us this year including...

Awards for All

Stagecoach Group

Freemasons

The Robertson Trust

Community Foundations Across The UK

John Lyon's Charity

Cash For Kids

## Solicitors

Taylor Walton Solicitors  
28 - 44 Alma Street,  
Luton, LU1 2PL

## Accountants

GB Accounting Solutions Limited,  
Building 115, Bedford Technology Park,  
Thurleigh, Bedford, MK44 2YA

## Bankers

The Co-operative Bank  
Luton Branch, Community Direct  
PO Box 250, Skelmersdale, WN8 6WT

## Our Patrons



Joan Plowright



Valerie Singleton



Joan Collins



His Grace Duke of Northumberland



Twiggy

Helping children experience what life has to offer...

it's easy to take for granted the simple things in life...

...but when you have special needs, life isn't so simple...

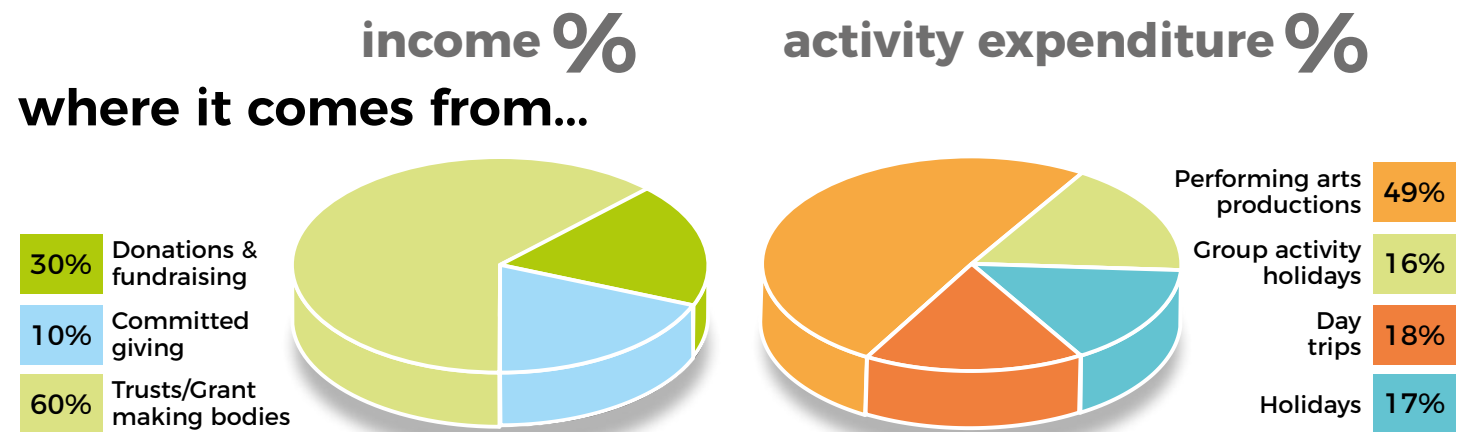
At Happy Days we believe that every child has a right to experience what life has to offer. Most of us are able to find the time we need to have a family holiday or enjoy a day out, to help us to re-group, bond, sort out problems and, of course, have some fun! However, families and groups caring for children with special needs face many barriers. Transport and venue facilities are often poorly designed to accommodate children with special needs, and the fact that many venue staff are untrained in the relevant issues can turn a seemingly unambitious trip into a truly demoralising event. Happy Days Children's Charity is here to help families and groups overcome the barriers to taking time out. Since 1992 we have been assisting families and groups by providing support and advice as well as organising day trips and holidays to enable families and groups to enjoy themselves together, rather than having to worry about how they are going to get to their destination and the support they will receive when they arrive. Our children and young people benefit from a range of activities, from day trips to the seaside and countryside to enjoying exciting theme parks. Arts trips to the theatre are also organised as are family holidays.



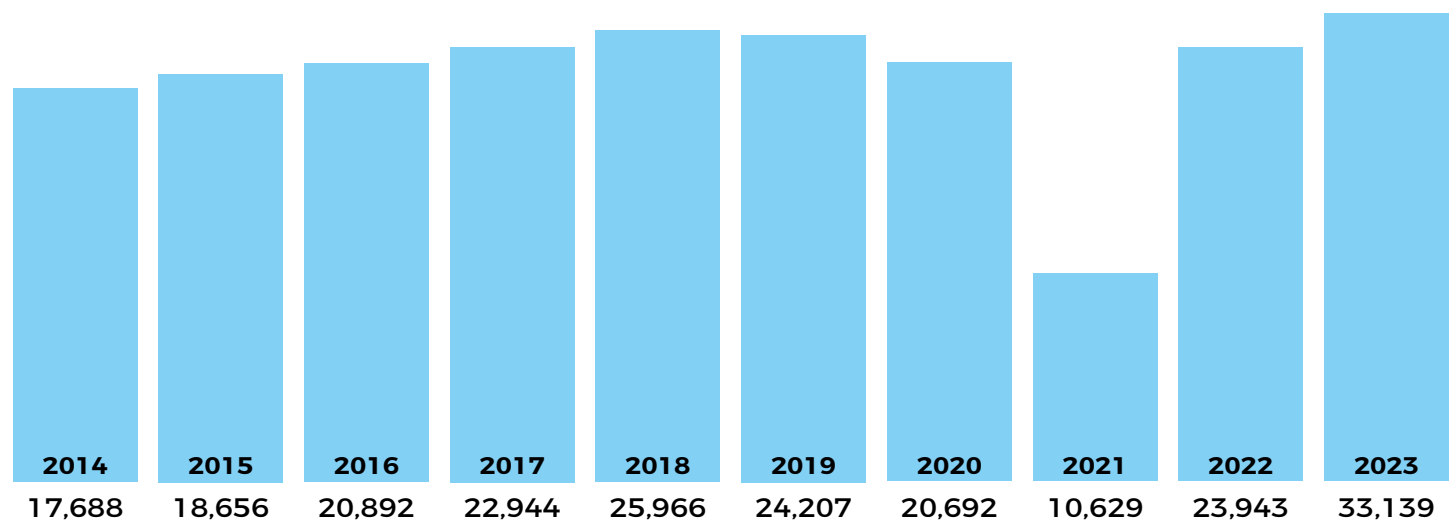


Children with so many difficulties respond so positively and with joy...

# Money matters...



# The last ten years...





# Our work continues...

Our waiting list consists of 1,000's of children with special needs including disabilities, life limiting conditions, or a history of abuse. Just some of the children on our waiting list are:



- David - has door & coffin siris syndrome
- Leon - has autistic spectrum disorder
- Jeremiah - has spina bifida
- Jasmine - has ADHD and learning difficulties
- Sammy - has noonans syndrome
- M - has been abused
- Alex - is profoundly deaf
- E - has foetal alcohol syndrome
- Ruben - has encephalitis & developmental delay
- Annabelle - has polycystic kidney disease
- Megan - has pitt hopkins syndrome
- Jessica - has type 1 diabetes
- Maya - has severe limb arthrogryposis
- Harvey - has quadriplegic cerebral palsy
- Phoenix - has severe language delay & selective mutism
- E - has PTSD arising from domestic violence
- Lloyd - has mental health issues
- Aayansh - has scimitar syndrome
- Ruby - has charge syndrome
- Lillie-Mae - has phelan mcdermid syndrome
- Zayn - has down's syndrome
- Marley - has perthes disease

...together we can make a difference...





**If children  
live with  
approval, they  
learn to like  
themselves...**

**helping  
children  
experience  
what life has  
to offer...**



**The National Charity Providing Holidays, Day Trips &  
The Arts For Children With Special Needs**

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