

the
children's
hospital at Westmead



think. kids.





inspiration & determination

- Suffering with painful ankles, Grace's doctors thought she had juvenile arthritis.
- When her condition worsened she was admitted to Intensive Care at The Children's Hospital at Westmead where after two weeks she was diagnosed with vasculitis – ruling out juvenile arthritis
- There was no known reason why Grace developed this condition and as gangrene developed all of her toes and the tip of her left index finger were amputated.
- After three more operations, Grace faced the devastating news that both her feet needed amputation.
- A inspirational young lady – determined to live life to its fullest. Her wounds healed and prosthetic feet were fitted. Grace endured months of intensive physiotherapy and strengthening exercises.
- Today, Grace attends for regular check-ups and will continue to receive expert care over the coming years as new prostheses are required as she grows.

Grace is a courageous little girl who displays maturity far exceeding her ten years.

“The Children’s Hospital at Westmead is like a big tree. On that tree there are big leaves, medium sized leaves and tiny leaves. I’m just a tiny leaf. There are lots of other children who are far worse off than me”, she said.

- 9 year old Mason Dixon and his dad James may have made medical history, but their story of selflessness and determination continues to inspire.
- Mason contracted a virus, which triggered acute liver failure, and without a liver transplant he would die within a week.
- Mason's father James took a chance to save his son's life, donating 25% of his own liver.
- This revolutionary procedure will keep Mason alive until his own liver begins to work again.
- Transplant surgery is extremely complex with patients relying on immuno-suppressant medication to prevent rejection.
- Mason remains under the watchful eye of doctors at The Children's Hospital at Westmead and it is hoped that in a year, Mason will be able to stop his medication.



sharing a very special bond



circle of friends

It's simple and easy to become a partner in the Circle of Friends program which:

- Offers a system for regular donations
- Guarantees an income for the Hospital – which helps plan for future needs of sick kids especially through the development of vital research and clinical programs
- Accommodates automatic deductions, which are easy for you and means less administration for the Hospital – resulting in more direct benefits for sick children.
- Is tax deductible.

a history of caring

We've been caring for kids for over 120 years. Originally known as the Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children, we were located in Camperdown before moving to Westmead in 1995 to be closer to 70% of the State's children.

The Children's Hospital at Westmead is a teaching hospital of the University of Sydney and University of Western Sydney. It is a leading institution in children's clinical research – turning today's research into tomorrow's medicine.

"fast facts"

- 339 beds.
- Over 3,000 staff.
- 50 departments.
- Eight operating theatres (two in day surgery).
- 17 wards provide spacious accommodation for our inpatients (including a special ward for adolescents) with views of gardens or courtyards.
- 50 intensive care beds.
- \$4 million Critical Care Information System in Intensive Care for monitoring and instant access to patient information.
- 24-hour Emergency care for over 100 patients a day.
- 24-hour national Poisons Information Centre.
- 24-hour Child Protection Unit services.
- National Liver Transplant unit for children.
- National Centre for Immunisation Research
- Our Hospital outreach teams take "care in the air" to country and regional centres.
- Kids Health - the Hospital's child health promotion unit - a bookshop and resource centre for parents, children and professionals.
- The State's only Burns Unit for children, supported by the New South Wales Fire Brigade.
- Outpatients clinics in all common specialities.
- Accommodation for parents on the ward and in the Parents' Hostel.
- Ronald McDonald House accommodates families from outside Sydney.
- Our volunteer-run radio station, Radio Bed Rock, and the Starlight Express Room provide fun and entertainment every day.
- Hospital outreach teams from 18 departments, takes clinics to 26 non-metropolitan centres to minimise disruption to the lives of children and families to ensure that sick children and their families living in the country are not disadvantaged by distance
- Bear Cottage, our children's hospice – the first in Australia constructed at Manly.

in the last year...

- 26,222 admissions occurred
- 525,631 patient visits occurred in outpatient clinics
- 13,210 operations were performed
- 13 liver, seven kidney and 20 bone marrow transplants were performed
- 60 children received a cochlear implant to aid hearing

why we need your help now

- Community support enables us to provide the very best for our children and their families
- Donations, sales of merchandise and bequests pay for new equipment, research, and services for sick kids, as well as funding almost 200 staff positions in frontline patient care and research activities.