

A Patient Journey



Detection



The LCHU is made up of several linking departments which help facilitate a typical patient journey - from detection to surgery, intensive care to outpatients.

Because of You, these vital services have the latest equipment and facilities, and both patients and their families have state-of-the-art care along the way from specialist nurses and psychology.



Jan Forster
Consultant Cardiac Sonographer

"An echocardiogram (echo) uses high frequency sound waves to assess the structure and function of the heart.

Echocardiography is perhaps the most important investigative

technique used in the routine, day-to-day management of congenital heart disease for all ages - from antenatal detection, throughout childhood to adulthood.

The technology involved in the technique has dramatically improved over the years. Nowadays the information obtained means that there is less requirement for invasive investigations such as cardiac catheterisation. We can also now obtain additional 3D echo images of your heart which can help in planning procedures on your heart.

The department has been supported by CHSF and supporters for many years providing specialist echo equipment and probes which has enabled us to have state of the art equipment and excellent diagnostic confidence. With your continued support we aim to continue to provide the best diagnostic echo images for all our patients."



Support



Mike Fresson
Children's Cardiac Nurse Specialist

"We support the CHD patients and their families across our region from fetal diagnosis through childhood, and the adult team support through adulthood. Your donations help fund the equipment we rely on daily - for instance, the distraction toys and stickers we use in our clinics and the INR (blood-testing) machines that patients can use at home. Because of You, we can attend meetings and conferences around the country. CHSF entirely funds the LCHU online pages - we are one of the only units to have our own dedicated website - covering fetal to adult care.



CHSF provides the resources we use to support the families - from financial support for extremely long stay patients, to the parent accommodation. You also funded the book Katie Bear Goes to Hospital, which is given to every patient due to have open heart surgery - which has proved a huge help to families too.

With your help, we are able to provide the holistic, family-centred support we have today, and it will remain for the years to come. Thank you CHSF for all you do, and happy birthday!"

