

### Endorsements

*“A quick personal response with the bare minimum of red tape. In the midst of all the sorrow, exhaustion and confusion, React’s fast, appropriate and caring response can make such a difference”.*

**Sister Frances Dominica, OBE – Founder**

**Founder of the world’s first children’s hospice, Helen House in Oxford**



*“React has always responded professionally in a very pleasant and helpful manner. Importantly this is very rapid, usually within one working day. React is an essential service providing basic essential care items ranging from something as simple as specialist vests to more expensive items including beds, hoists and baths”.*

**Dr Mike Miller – Honorary Medical Consultant**

**Consultant in Paediatric Palliative Medicine**



React works in partnership with numerous leading organisations, including:

**Great Ormond Street Hospital; the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Edinburgh; Bristol Royal Children’s Hospital; the University Hospital of Wales; the Royal Belfast Hospital for Sick Children and all Children’s Hospices in the UK**



**Founders:**

**SISTER FRANCES DOMINICA OBE**

**IRVING YOUNG**

**Patrons:**

**BARONESS van DEDEM**

**SIR DEREK JACOBI CBE**

**SAMANTHA BOND**

**Trustees:**

**RUPERT WILES - (Chairman)**

**DEBBIE BROWNLEE**

**JUDY BURDETT**

**RICHARD CLIFFORD**

**KEITH ENTWISLE**

**PAUL MELLOR**

**DR MIKE MILLER**



## Introduction To React

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Website: [www.reactcharity.org](http://www.reactcharity.org)

**Rapid Effective Assistance for Children with potentially Terminal illness**

Registered Charity No. 802440 (UK) / SC038067 (Scotland)

## The Need

Many clinicians report that as a result of advances in medical science, children and young people receiving treatment for terminal illnesses are living longer. This means, many more children receiving palliative care are cared for by families in their own home.

The needs of children, young people and their families are likely to be varied and complex. In addition, the mobility of a child may change over time, resulting in the requirement of a wide range of essential specialist equipment that may not be available through the limited budget of the local authority.

## Our Achievements

Working with medical professionals specialising in paediatric and palliative care, React can respond to specific, identified needs. The charity's remit is broad enough to ensure that the range of support is as diverse as the many illnesses that thousands of children are living with across the UK.

Each year React supplies a wide range of equipment ranging from specialist wheelchairs, beds, baths, and mobility aids, to essential everyday homecare items like washing machines and tumble dryers.

React is unique in its ability to respond quickly to urgent requests for help, within hours if necessary. React's children simply do not have the time to wait for the essential support they desperately need – support which is often unavailable from any other source.

## React's Mission

- to improve the quality of life for terminally ill children living in financially disadvantaged families throughout the UK
- to provide families with the specialist care or equipment that will enhance their lives, following recommendations from medical professionals who have identified specific needs
- to respond with practical and sensitive support within days, if not hours. When a child's life is short, an immediate response is vital
- to support those families who are unlikely to receive the assistance they need from any other source in sufficient time
- to provide assistance throughout a child's lifetime. Many life-limiting illnesses are degenerative and a child's needs may change constantly
- to eliminate red tape and bureaucracy, allowing aid to be given quickly and without fuss, keeping administrative costs to an absolute minimum

## Future Objectives

Building on its achievements, React aims to assist more terminally ill children who deserve a greater level of care.

This goal, however, involves two objectives:

- the need to raise more funds in order to meet the growing requirements of families who are already known to React.
- to raise awareness to ensure that all families who could benefit from React's service have access to its care.