

Wishes and Trips Away for Patients with FA

Introduction

All of these organisations support trips for children with Fanconi Anaemia. Please note the age limits carefully. In relation to the 4 Wish-granting organisations listed below, we recommend approaching Starlight or Make a Wish Foundation first as you can then take advantage of the others later on. This is because not all of them will grant wishes if another organisation has been used previously.



www.raysofsunshine.org.uk

Who can apply for a wish?

A child with a life-threatening medical condition who is aged between 3 & 18 years (applications are welcomed up to a child's 19th birthday), is potentially eligible for a wish with Rays of Sunshine.

What if I have had a wish before?

Rays of Sunshine grant second wishes. All second wishes must be UK based.

Wish applications will not be approved for anyone who has had a wish granted by Rays of Sunshine or another wish granting charity in the past three years.



www.make-a-wish.org.uk

What are the criteria for receiving a wish?

To have their wish granted, a child needs to be a UK resident, aged between 3 and 17 years, and fighting a life-threatening condition. We speak to each child's consultant to establish whether their condition is medically classed as life threatening. In addition, a child should not have received a previous wish from us, or from another wish granting organisation – we're only able to grant one wish to a child.



www.starlight.org.uk

Who can apply?

Starlight grants wishes for children who are:

- 4 -18 years old (inclusive)
- Suffering from a life-threatening illness or a life-shortening illness
- Able to choose and communicate (verbally or non-verbally) their greatest
- wish for themselves
- UK residents



www.dreamflight.org

Dreamflight is a registered UK charity that changes young lives through taking children with a serious illness or disability on the holiday of a lifetime to Orlando, Florida. Once a year, 192 deserving children from all over the UK, accompanied by a team of medical carers, board a chartered Boeing 747 and head to Florida to spend 10 magical days of fun and excitement. Many children could not undertake such a trip without the support of the army of doctors, nurses, physiotherapists and non-medical volunteers who care for the children 24 hours a day.

What does Dreamflight do?

Dreamflight is not just a holiday, it does something that medicine can't. The children leave their families behind giving them an opportunity to discover independence, confidence, and a whole new outlook on life. Often for the first time, these children realise that they are not alone, and they are not the odd one out. They see children around them who have also suffered, they gain perspective, and experience things they never thought possible.

Dreamflight children have gone on to amazing achievements. In 2008, eight of the returning Paralympians from Beijing, many of them medal-winning, had been Dreamflight children citing the trip as a turning point for them.

How are the children chosen?

Dreamflight children are between the ages of 8 and 14 and are currently, or have been, seriously ill. Our aim is to select deserving children who will gain a real and lasting benefit from Dreamflight. We look for children whose problems have made their lives so difficult, so unpleasant, that they simply deserve a special treat like this. We invite medical professions throughout the UK to nominate children who they feel will benefit from Dreamflight. Our Medical Director - a paediatric consultant - ultimately decides who will be offered a place on the trip, but we don't let medical problems get in the way of having fun.



www.ellenmacarthurcancertrust.org/

The Ellen MacArthur Cancer Trust is a registered charity set up with its main aim to help children and young adults aged between 8-24 to regain their confidence through sailing. The four-day trips are for young people who have finished treatment for cancer and are sailing with the trust for the first time. These trips aim to help rebuild young peoples' confidence after treatment for cancer. The trips for those aged 18–24 are similar to that below, but they may sail further afield and moor for a night in Portsmouth or Southampton during their stay.