



**Jessie May**  
Children's Hospice at Home.



# Bereavement Support



# What is Bereavement Support?

At Jessie May, we know that loss, grief and bereavement start at the time of a life-limiting diagnosis and continues through a child's life and after their death.

This is why our bereavement support service is available for the parents of children on our caseload from the point of a child being accepted onto the Jessie May caseload. Our support continues for up to five years after a child has died. If you choose not to have support from Jessie May at the moment, the invitation to use the bereavement service remains open should you wish to make contact at a later time.

## What we can do

Jessie May works in partnership with parents alongside other services to provide contact and support to parents at the end of their child's life.

Parents may choose to use any of these following services:

- Support during their child's life and for up to 5 years after their child has died
- Additional support during end of life care
- Practical and emotional support before, during and after their child's funeral
- Bereavement support visits and phone calls following their child's death
- Anniversary remembrance cards
- Purple Group Meetings
- Invitations to the Tree of Light Celebration
- Invitations to family social events, such as Christmas Parties & Fun Days
- Signposting to other support agencies.

## What we cannot do

- Bereavement counselling
- Relationship counselling
- Bereavement support for siblings, grandparents, or other family members
- Offer an on-call service.

## Purple Group Meetings

The Purple Group is a peer support group started by parents, for parents on the Jessie May bereavement caseload. The group meets in Bristol approximately four times per year.

The meetings are very informal and have no set agenda. Parents are able to share stories about their children with others who have been through, and are going through similar experiences.

Invitations are sent out to all bereaved parents unless you have asked not to receive them.

## Tree of Light Celebration

Once a year, Jessie May invites all family members to a non-religious, but spiritual celebration. This is an opportunity for all of our bereaved and current families, nurses, staff and trustees to come together to remember and celebrate all of our Jessie May children. You are able to bring along any family or friends you wish.

During the service parents will have the opportunity to place a star on the tree in memory of their child.

Invitations will continue forever, unless you have asked not to receive them.



# Additional Support

If you need further help or advice, the following agencies may be able to help you [help](#)

## Cruse

Bereavement Care, including support and advice for children and young people

Tel: 0117 926 4045

National Helpline: 0808 808 1677

[www.cruse.org.uk](http://www.cruse.org.uk)

## Jewish Bereavement Counselling Service

Bereavement counselling for Jewish families

Tel: 0208 951 3881

[www.jbcs.org.uk](http://www.jbcs.org.uk)

## Compassionate Friends

Support after the death of a child of any age

Tel: 0345 123 2304

[www.tcf.org.uk](http://www.tcf.org.uk)

## Off the Record Bristol

Support for young people aged 11-25

Tel: 0808 808 9120

Text: 07896 880 011

[www.otrbristol.org.uk](http://www.otrbristol.org.uk)

[www.offtherecord-banes.co.uk](http://www.offtherecord-banes.co.uk)

## Children of Jannah

Support to grieving Muslim parents and families who have lost a child

Tel: 0161 480 5156 – available

Monday-Thursday, 10am-2pm

[www.childrenofjannah.com](http://www.childrenofjannah.com)

## Relate Relationship Counselling

Counselling and support services for couples, families and young people

Tel: 0300 100 1234

[www.relate.org.uk](http://www.relate.org.uk)

## The Harvey Hext Trust

A Siblings Wish

Bespoke memory boxes for siblings

[www.asiblingswish.com](http://www.asiblingswish.com)

## The Samaritans

Confidential support and someone impartial to talk to

Tel: 116 123 (free to call)

[www.samaritans.org/branches/bristol-samaritans](http://www.samaritans.org/branches/bristol-samaritans)

## The Harbour

Free counselling and psychotherapy to people affected by life-threatening illness

Tel: 01179 259 348

[www.the-habour.org.uk](http://www.the-habour.org.uk)

## Winston's Wish

Bereavement support for children who have lost a sibling or parent

Tel: 0845 203 0405

[www.winstonswish.org.uk](http://www.winstonswish.org.uk)

 0117 958 2172

 [careteam@jessiemay.org.uk](mailto:careteam@jessiemay.org.uk)

 [www.jessiemay.org.uk](http://www.jessiemay.org.uk)



\* Memory bears and boxes are purchased from Colourful Coffins and Winston's Wish.

Registered charity number 1086048