



Royal Society for Blind Children



**This is the
difference
you make!**

Life Without Limits

**Your supporter
newsletter**

**Life
Without
Limits**
For Blind
Children

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Thank you to our fabulous fundraisers

Wow. Just wow. Every week, we are bowled over by the fabulous fundraising of people like you.

Thank you to everyone who has raised funds for us, like our marathon runner Claire.



"I decided to run the London Marathon for RSBC as I work with the mum of a visually impaired child, and I see the struggles first hand. The marathon itself is fantastic, the crowd pulls you along, I thoroughly recommend it

RSBC has been to the school I work at to meet Toby the child I ran for, so I'm getting to see the work they do with the money I raised, which is really great."

Claire, London Marathon runner, 2023.

If you would like to fundraise for RSBC or take part in the TCS London Marathon, you can visit our website:
www.rsbc.org.uk/support-us/fundraise/

Meet Chloe!

Chloe is just about to finish her first year at secondary school. She has ocular albinism, a genetic condition which increases sensitivity to light and decreases the sharpness of vision. Chloe also has nystagmus which causes her eyes to move uncontrollably and makes it difficult to focus and to see the world in three dimensions. We caught up with her on nystagmus international awareness day.

Chloe has been supported by RSBC for a while. She worked with our Family Practitioner Jody in year six. Jody helped her transition from primary to secondary school. **“I was able to tell her when things were not working at school,”** Chloe says. Mum Rachel describes the sessions as **‘one of the highlights of Chloe’s week.’**

Chloe says secondary school felt odd at first. It took a while for all the teachers to understand her sight loss and help her by making her work accessible. **Jody helped give her the confidence to speak up and it got better over time.**



She also has to contend with a big road by the school, so her mum walks with her. This must be hard for Chloe when others her age can be more independent.

However, Chloe won’t be held back. **She plays football, trampolines and swims.** She also attends Guides and plays the drums. And she’s just scored herself the part of Eugene in the school production of Grease.

Her first loves are trampolining, because she takes part in competitions, and football, as she plays for a disability football team and gets to meet others with nystagmus. **She’d like to give everybody with nystagmus or sight loss the message that it doesn’t have to stop you.**

Please help more children like Chloe

Bring on the fun with our little learners!

Providing specialist support for blind and partially sighted children in their early years is absolutely life-changing, and your donations make it possible. Discover how you're giving this little lot a big confidence boost.

See how a little learning goes a long way

Our **Little Learners** sessions are all about helping little ones to learn and connect through

play, while having fun with other blind and partially sighted children. Children explore the sensory skills they have and develop new ones.

These sessions are an amazing chance for carers to have fun with their baby or child. There are lots of sensory toys and tactile items to play and make a mess with. Watch out for the noise and singing too!

Discover stories like no other

Sensory Stories are used to bring favourite stories and tales to life, such as We're going on a Bear Hunt and Wheels on the Bus, using creativity, toys and props. These activities help children (and parents!) to build confidence in storytelling as



they experiment with different sensory tools, helping the little ones learn and have fun at the same time.

“It was also really lovely to see the children and their families making friends together here at the centre. The children and families were enjoying music, stories, messy play and our range of new early years sensory toys and soft play.”

Carla Rose-Hardman,
Services Director

“Within these sessions you can see the children’s faces light up with immense joy. Many parents comment on how the confidence of their children continues to increase over time in these sessions. Some children start off not being comfortable with the way things feel or smell and by the end of the



activities are initiating contact with the sensory props on their own.”

Inez Bawa, Community
Support Worker



Braille blocks

Thank you from our Youth Forum



By supporting RSBC, you're making long term positive changes possible for blind and partially sighted teenagers and young people. Our Youth Forum is a place for them to voice their opinions and instigate lasting change. Find out more in our Q and A with Chairperson Kaya.

Q What does your role involve?

A My role involves organising and chairing Youth Forum meetings. I ensure each member of the Forum is fully involved and given an opportunity to voice their own opinion. I'm visually impaired myself and have volunteered for RSBC since 2019.

Q How has it made a difference to your day-to-day life?

A The Youth Forum has made me realise that, even though I have a disability, I can still have a life without limits. When I first joined, I didn't know what I wanted to do, but now I want

to become a counsellor for children and young adults with a visual impairment. I have just completed my second year at University, where I am reading Psychological Studies.

Q Can you give us an example of one of the Youth Forum's projects?

A We have had really good success with making podcasts which can be listened to on the RSBC website, Spotify and Apple Podcasts. A podcast allows blind and partially sighted people to sit back, relax and listen, without having to worry about navigating written information.

Q What would you say to supporters of RSBC?

A Thank you so much! The activities the Youth Forum offers are incredible because of you. Your support makes the lives of children and young adults at RSBC much happier ones.

Creative corner



Being creative is a great way for blind and partially sighted children to express themselves. Just look what a creative bunch they are!



Thank you on behalf
of all our creative super stars!



Leave a lasting gift for blind children

Did you know around a third of our support every year is only possible due to the kindness of people who include a gift to RSBC in their Will? Find out more about how you could help in this very special way.

Many people are now choosing to leave a gift to charity in their Will. This can be through giving a specific amount, or a percentage of what they own, such as just 1%.

If you are planning to write or update your Will, we recommend using a solicitor



or a member of the Institute of Professional Willwriters.

After you have provided for your loved ones, please consider helping children with sight loss by including a gift to RSBC in your Will.

You simply need our charity name: The Royal Society for Blind Children, our Registered Charity Number: 307892 and your chosen amount/percentage to leave.

Through your lasting legacy, you could help provide specialist support for children with sight loss and be a life-changer. Whatever your gift, it will transform lives. Thank you.

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**Charity No. 307892
Company No. 139928**

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