

CREATING MEMORIES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS IN ACUTE HOSPITAL TRUST

Category: Personalisation of care

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BACKGROUND



Children were informed of their parents illness in a four bedded bay with only a curtain for privacy. The trust knew this was unacceptable



There was a growing need for a dedicated space for health care professionals to break significant news within a trusted and safe environment



CQC report highlighted concern that there was no private space to hold difficult conversations



Comments were received from staff, patient and families that there was no privacy when receiving significant news



METHOD



Communication with local hospice, national child bereavement charities how to implement bereavement tools and how to improve support.



Discussed concerns with staff, patients and relatives the impact of lack of private space when receiving significant news.



Discussion with both trust and charity board to gain support , promote importance of project



Memory boxes , books, tears and stars where promoted throughout the hospital trust



RESULTS AND LOOKING FOWARD



Our completion of memory boxes ,
books and workbook have
increased by 50 per cent since
opening of Dennis Den



Positive feedback :
A beautiful room to hold our
wedding....a day I will always remember
Thank you for giving me time and space
to tell my 10 year old my cancer had
return away from the ward



Families can now skype to be
involved in family occasions



Other specialist units are
implementing the importance of
memory boxes, private areas to
break significant news within the
trust