

Hospital Student Play Teams

- empowering children and students through play



Miss Claire Matthews
5th Year KCL Medical Student

The Problem



Only 34% felt they'd been
involved in decisions on the ward

Only 12%
felt they'd been involved in decisions in the A&E



The Challenge



The Variety Club **Children's Hospital** at King's College sees over 40,000 children every year



The Evidence

“Play is an important part of children’s growth. It contributes to the development of physically healthy and emotionally stable children. When a child’s health is compromised and leads to hospitalization, play is used as both a distraction and recreational tool. It helps the child understand, accept, and deal with the hospitalization. It also contributes to healthy growth and development”

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The Project



SMASHING SATURDAYS :-)

Sat A 10-12

Name	DOB	Subject	Email
Chai Yi Lai	09/12/1992	Medicine 1st year	chaiyi02@yahoo.com.sg
Bijal Patel	26/12/1995	Phd CDV research 2nd year	bijal.patel@kcl.ac.uk
Charlotte Hyres	07/01/1991	Child Nursing 2nd year	charlotte.hyres@kcl.ac.uk
Roseanna Henderson	14/07/1992	Biomed 1st year	roseanna.henderson@kcl.ac.uk
Zara Zeb	08/01/1993	Medicine 1st year	k1185309@kcl.ac.uk
Rachel Powell	10/03/1989	Medicine 4th year	rachel.powell@kcl.ac.uk



Rachel Chai Bijal Charlotte Roseanna Zara

Sat A 3-5

Name	DOB	Subject	Email
Dashya De Silva	19/03/1992	Neurosciences 2nd year	dashya_de_silva@hotmail.com
Maya Jehrochi	20/07/1994	Biomed 1st year	mayajehrochi@kcl.ac.uk
Azha Parma	09/12/1992	Biomed 1st year	azha02@hotmail.com
Hannah Kallil	05/08/1992	Medicine 2nd year	hannah.kallil@gmail.com
Alice Ewer	20/11/1992	Medicine 1st year	aliceewer@hotmail.com
Rebecca McKeever	28/04/1996	Nursing 1st year	rebecca.mckeever@kcl.ac.uk



Dashya Maya Azha Hannah Alice Rebecca

Sat B 10-12

Name	DOB	Subject	Email
Kate Potter	04/12/1994	Medicine 1st year	kate.potter@kcl.ac.uk
Shama Bhowar	01/07/1997	Cardiovascular research MSc	shama_bhowar@hotmail.com
Paal Geachanda	24/02/1999	Medicine ? Year	paal15@hotmail.com
Noa Karen	20/01/1989	Biomeds 3rd year	noa.karen@kcl.ac.uk
Cathy Bo	12/10/1987	MSc	cathy_bo@hotmail.com
Anshika Dyer	22/12/1997	Biomed 3rd year	anshika_dyer@hotmail.com



Noa Kate Shama Paal Cathy Anshika

Sat B 3-5

Name	DOB	Subject	Email
Abhinav(Abbi) Vira	16/03/1992	Medicine 2 nd year	abhinavvira@kcl.ac.uk
Darshanee Anandani	25/01/1992	Medicine 2nd year	darshanee.anandani@kcl.ac.uk
Rashmi D'Souza	23/10/1991	Medicine 2nd year	rashmi.d'souza@kcl.ac.uk
Sara Ajani	16/06/1992	Medicine 2nd year	k1006970@kcl.ac.uk
Changhan Yun	24/11/1990	Medical Physics 2nd year	changhan.yun@kcl.ac.uk
Sri Sathya Reddi	23/02/1992	Biomed 1st year	sri.sathya@kcl.ac.uk



Darshanee Abbi Rashmi Sara Changhan Sri

SUPER SUNDAYS :-)

Sun A 10-12

Name	DOB	Subject	Email
Darson Kader	20/10/1990	Human and Medical Bac 2nd year	darson.kader@kcl.ac.uk
Izra Khan	15/02/1991	Medicine 3rd year	izra.khan@kcl.ac.uk
Mat Francis	21/05/1990	Physiology 3rd year	matfrancis@kcl.ac.uk
Rhea Bhagdev	24/10/1992	Medicine 1st year	rhea.bhagdev@kcl.ac.uk
Olivia Ng	28/02/1992	Biomed 2nd year	oliviangu@kcl.ac.uk
Philippa Ingram	17/03/1991	Human Sciences 2nd year	philippa.ingram@kcl.ac.uk



Mat Darson Izra Rhea Olivia Philippa

Sun A 3-5

Name	DOB	Subject	Email
Ruphahat Mallett	10/02/1999	IBSc Maternal and Fetal Health	ruphahat.mallett@kcl.ac.uk
Francesco Piccini	25/10/1991	Medicine 2nd year	francesco.piccini@kcl.ac.uk
Luana Bloomfield	23/03/1993	Nursing with registration	luana.bloomfield@hotmail.com
Georgia Clark	08/06/1991	Child Nursing 1st year	georgia.clark@kcl.ac.uk
Shamee Hopeswath	25/05/1992	Medicine 2nd year	s.hopeswath@kcl.ac.uk
Betha Henry	20/12/1991	Medicine 2nd year	betha.henry@kcl.ac.uk
Razi Bushan	18/09/1991	Biomed 2nd year	razi.bushan@kcl.ac.uk



Razi Ruphahat Francesco Luana Georgia Shamee Betha

Sun B 10-12

Name	DOB	Subject	Email
Fatimah Dhorawa	12/02/1991	Human Sciences year 2	fatimah.dhorawa@kcl.ac.uk
Alex Maebum	08/03/1998	Medicine 2nd year	alexander.maebum@kcl.ac.uk
Yasemin Tahir	18/07/1992	Biomed 2nd year	yasemin.tahir@gmail.com
Sonalie Kotucha	08/07/1993	Biomed 2nd year	sonalie_kotucha@hotmail.co.uk
Fawziyah Rahman	08/07/1993	Human Sciences year 1	fawziyah.rahman@kcl.ac.uk
Hannah Beetham	12/12/1999	Physiotherapy 1st year	Hannah.beetham@kcl.ac.uk



Alex Fatimah Sonalie Fawziyah Hannah

Sun B 3-5

Name	DOB	Subject	Email
Sarah Finlayson	07/06/1999	Child Nursing 1st year	sarah.finlayson@kcl.ac.uk
Holly Vince	15/03/1998	Child Nursing 1st year	hollyvince@kcl.ac.uk
Leana Rosewone	03/04/1995	Child Nursing 1st year	leana.rosewone@kcl.ac.uk
Charles Holden	05/10/1990	Physiotherapy	charles.holden@kcl.ac.uk
Srinuja Uthayashar	24/10/1992	Biomedical Science, 1st year	srinuja.uthayashar@kcl.ac.uk
Lorna Campbell	25/03/1991	Medicine 2nd year	lcampbell@kcl.ac.uk
Parul Jha	28/06/1992	Medicine 2nd year	paruljha2006@yahoo.co.uk



Holly Sarah Leana Charles Srinuja Lorna Parul

Mobile KCH Allocation

793993952	Sun A pm LPE
778412566	Sun A pm LPE
7765704230	Sun A pm ROB
7705232369	Sun A pm ROB
7794677363	Sun A pm ROB
7715100796	Sun A pm TO
7738293713	Sun A pm TO

Mobile KCH Allocation

7918141962	Sun B am LPE
7525063203	Sun B am LPE
7834502202	Sun B am TO
7414671495	Sun B am TO
7956105010	Sun B am TO

Mobile KCH Allocation

772963	Sun L
798560	Sun L
780532	Sun L
79767	Sun L
74114	Sun L
77251	Sun L
7873	Sun L



The Idea

A QI project that's ...

- **Good for children** – autonomy, self-esteem, positive role models, energy outlet, distraction, normalisation, fun, enjoyable, promotes development, faster recovery
- **Good for families** – distraction for siblings, shoulder to cry on, chance to have a cup of tea, have time to explain things, someone to talk to, new game ideas...
- **Good for students** – communication, teamwork, work with other health care students from different disciplines, creativity, problem solving, ward exposure, explain things to parents, opportunity to learn from staff if quite and no one to play with ...
- **Good for the hospital** – ID's already sorted, CRB's already sorted, OH already sorted, FREE, positive feedback from parents as they get respite, loved by children nurses happier, continuity of play specialist services out of hours, a generation of more experienced and skilled future staff ...
- **Good for the university** – more learning opportunities at no extra cost, good publicity...



The Key



Key to success ...

- **Emphasis on sustainable benefits** – Initiative, Innovative and Inexpensive!
- **Emphasis on child-led play** – The choice is theirs; to play or not to play, to go to Mars or build a castle
- **Emphasis on a high social return on investment**– Not just for families but the next generation of healthcare workers



The Result



The Impact



425 hours of uninterrupted, purely creative,
child-led play a month

64 children engaged a week



The Effect

68% increase in patient satisfaction

52% reduction in children's perceived waiting times in A&E

93% increase in students confidence



The Opportunity



Thank you for listening!

