

# Network NEWS

## Overview

The NW CC ODN is mandated through NHS England; and hosted through Manchester Foundation Trust (MFT) in partnership with Alder Hey Foundation Trust (AHFT) via the Northwest Paediatric Partnership Board. There is joint Clinical Leadership from Professor Bernadette Brennan (Royal Manchester Children's Hospital) and Dr Lisa Howell (Alder Hey Children's Hospital). The ODN is accountable to NHSE specialised commissioning.

The NW CC ODN circulates a newsletter issue quarterly. The newsletter focuses on sharing successes, identifying learning opportunities and signposting you to the wider network resources.

Please contact  
[info.nwccodn@mft.nhs.uk](mailto:info.nwccodn@mft.nhs.uk)  
For further information.

## Social Media

Follow us on our Social Media  
Platforms @NWCCODN



## Our Vision

Our vision is to continue to ensure that every child with cancer in the North West has access to world class, safe, high quality care & treatment, where, when and how it is required"

## Our Mission Statement

The aim of the NWCCODN is to work with all stakeholders to provide world class, safe, high quality care to all children with cancer across the North West Region, according to need.

The focus is to provide system and service oversight, support training and education and share best practice to improve, where required, access, quality and the experience of cancer care across the region by working together to maintain standards for all.

## Our Strategy Aims

### Access

Ensure equity of access to care for children with cancer across the NW

### Quality

Ensure quality of care to children with cancer across the NW

### Experience

Improve the experience of care for children with cancer across the NW

## Our Network Value

The ODN values have been developed based on the collective regional workshops and through listening to the experiences of children with cancer and include:

**Patient  
focused  
care**

**Honesty,  
integrity  
and  
compassion**

**Evidence based  
transformation**

**Collaborative  
working**

The NWCCODN is in the process of circulating the draft strategy for comments from professionals, patients/families. Please contact us if you are interested and have not received the document: [info.nwccodn@mft.nhs.uk](mailto:info.nwccodn@mft.nhs.uk)

# Working Groups

## Workforce & Education



The NWCCODN commenced the Workforce & Education working group in September 2023. The next meeting is 10<sup>th</sup> November. Meetings will then be quarterly.

Do get in touch via [info.nwccodn@mft.nhs.uk](mailto:info.nwccodn@mft.nhs.uk) if you are interested in being involved in either of the below:

- **Wider Group:** Workforce & Education Working Group
- **Task & Finish Group:** Workforce Mapping and Training Needs Analysis
- **Task & Finish Group:** Education Event (Children's, TYA and Radiotherapy Joint Event)

## Data & Digital



The Data & Digital working group is holding the first meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> November.

The Chair is James Hayden.

Get in touch via [info.nwccodn@mft.nhs.uk](mailto:info.nwccodn@mft.nhs.uk) if you are interested in being a member of this working group and contributing to this.

# New Member to the Team - Katharine

It is a pleasure to welcome Katharine Field, our new Project Innovation Officer, to the North West Children Cancer ODN.



Katharine has a 1st Class Masters Degree in Mechanical Engineering and a postgraduate diploma in Healthcare Leadership which she completed whilst on the NHS Graduate Management Trainee programme.

She has a wide range of experience working across Greater Manchester's Health and Social Care System, working in commissioning, operations and transformation.

Her work with Emmie's Kitchen and setting up the Pamper Hamper Project sparked a passion for supporting children and families affected by cancer.

Katharine loves traveling, having backpacked South America last year and with lots more places on the bucket list. She also loves Zumba and spending time with her friends and family in her hometown of Manchester.

# Social Media Platforms

Follow us our Instagram and twitter page @nwccodn.

If you have any **news or event** relating to **children's cancer** and you wish for us to post on our social media page, kindly get in touch with us [infonwccodn@mft.nhs.uk](mailto:infonwccodn@mft.nhs.uk)

# Collaborative Working



## CHICS

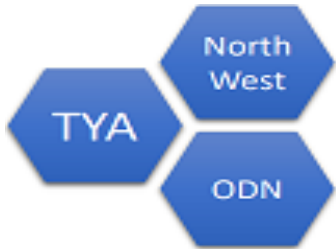
Children's  
Cancer Support

The charity was founded 38 years ago by a group of parents who recognised the need for a support group specifically for children being treated with cancer at Alder Hey.

Everyone involved with running and the administration of CHICS has had a child diagnosed with and treated for cancer. There are 3 separate charities under our banner that cover Liverpool and the wider NW area, The Wirral and North Wales.

The aim of the charity is to provide holistic support to the whole family, the sick child, parents or carers, siblings and extended family, from cancer diagnosis and continuing for as long as they feel they need our support.

CHICS offer all sorts to the families: Working on the Alder Hey Oncology Ward to support inpatients and meet new families, Supporting the Outreach and Palliative Care team at Alder Hey, Support for the Play Specialist on the Oncology ward - toys, vouchers, electronics etc, Bereavement grants and support for families who lose their young one and Hardship grants or specialist equipment for our most vulnerable families. For more information contact [chem.chics@gmail.com](mailto:chem.chics@gmail.com)



The North West Teenage and Young Adult ODN (TYA ODN) would like to celebrate the successful collaboration with the Children's Cancer ODN. This partnership has paved the way for the launch of the Florence Nightingale Foundation (FNF) Membership, an exciting

## FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE FOUNDATION

opportunity for all TYA and Children's Cancer nurses, AHPs, and other healthcare professionals in the region.

With FNF Membership, professionals gain access to invaluable leadership development resources and are eligible for elective placements and internships. This is a fantastic chance for individuals to enhance their skills

and contribute to the advancement of their careers. The FNF have developed a short video describing the benefits of joining the FNF Academy. Be sure to watch the video below. <https://youtu.be/5sArPCP-cE4>

To gain access to the FNF materials, simply reach out to Lucy McKie at [lucy.mckie@nhs.net](mailto:lucy.mckie@nhs.net) or Abi Abimbola at [abimbola.abimbola1@mft.nhs.uk](mailto:abimbola.abimbola1@mft.nhs.uk)



The Children's radiotherapy service, for patients in Cheshire and Merseyside, successfully transferred from The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre to The Christie on 31st March 2023 for all paediatric radiotherapy patients.

The introduction of Proton Beam Therapy to the UK and increased commissioned indications of PBT, saw a subsequent reduction in the number of children being treated with photons at centres like Clatterbridge, that would no longer be compliant with the service specification. This coupled with the risk of single handed practice supported a case to transfer the service.

A multidisciplinary team with members from providers, the Radiotherapy ODN and specialised commissioning worked together to secure a quality and resilient children's radiotherapy service.

For more information contact [daniel.hutton1@nhs.net](mailto:daniel.hutton1@nhs.net)