



# A Year to Remember at Sheffield Children's

Annual Report Summary 2021/22

## About Us

Sheffield Children's NHS Foundation Trust is one of only three dedicated children's hospital trusts in the UK. We provide integrated healthcare for children and young people, including community and mental health care, as well as acute and specialist services.

We provide a full range of services for residents of Sheffield and South Yorkshire plus specialised services for patients from further afield.

## Welcome

This year's Annual Report has been prepared in the context of another challenging year for Sheffield Children's, the NHS and the world.

During a second year of uncertainty and disruption caused by COVID-19, children have not stopped needing our services, whether that's vaccination, life-changing specialist surgery, mental health support or ongoing outpatient care.

Our colleagues have continued to be flexible and innovative in the way they deliver care and kept patients and families at the heart of what we do.



Ruth Brown,  
Chief Executive



## Our aims and values

We are a specialist centre for children's health supporting children and young people from across the region, and in some cases nationally and internationally. We provide physical and mental health care in hospital, in the community, at home, in school and even in the skies, and are driving the future of children's healthcare through pioneering paediatric trials and research across a wide portfolio of clinical specialties. Our mission is to create a healthier future for children and young people.

£2.6m  
surplus



## Outstanding Patient Care: Reducing waiting times

Funding through the national elective surgery programme enabled us to collaborate with partners across the South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw integrated care system and the specialist paediatric trusts, as part of the Children's Hospital Alliance, to reduce time to treatment and delays in accessing elective care and to tackle health inequalities.

Children's trusts across the UK delivered 38,000 additional episodes of care compared with the year before COVID-19.

### At Sheffield Children's:

- over 200 projects approved
- 130 new colleagues temporarily recruited
- five new permanent Outpatient rooms created
- improvements made to theatres
- a new joint model for clinics established
- a free Health Bus launched to reach deprived communities
- up to 65 international nurses will be recruited in 2022



## Super Saturdays

We led on the creation of the Super Saturday concept with children's hospitals across England and our events in October 2021 and April 2022 took our 'Take care of your teeth' message out across South Yorkshire to ensure children don't develop unnecessary tooth decay post pandemic.

Extra clinics, theatres and activities helped to reduce waiting times and Health Buses visited sites across the city. Colleagues went the extra mile and engaged with more than 1,000 families in the process.

We're also supporting school tooth-brushing clubs for a year which will help an anticipated 2,300 Sheffield children to maintain healthy teeth.

Our  
Year in  
Numbers

10,732

Inpatients were admitted on to one of our wards for a total of 37,846 nights

213,699

Patients attended an outpatient appointment (including over 25% virtual appointments)

↑  
9%



60,720

Patients treated in our Emergency Department (94.55% were seen inside the target four hours!)



## Outstanding Patient Care: A medal-winning performance

We have great teams who demonstrate their adaptability and creativity to put strong plans in place quickly to keep our essential services running to care for our urgent and most vulnerable patients.

Nurse Adele Hague, normally 0-19 team leader, was awarded a British Empire Medal in the Queen's Birthday Honours for her community work but also for being a crucial part of the team that set up a COVID-19 testing service and city vaccination clinics. That allowed critical services to continue safely and kept our colleague sickness rates lower than they might otherwise have been.

Adele decided to have her ceremony at Sheffield Children's and Her Majesty's representative in South Yorkshire, Lord Lieutenant Professor Dame Hilary Chapman DBE, came along to present her with her medal.



Our Year in Numbers

# 23,341

COVID-19 vaccines provided to protect children, young people and staff



## Brilliant Place To Work: 'We Care – Thank You' Fortnight

We've continued to support our colleagues through these difficult times. We know they can only provide support for children and young people or undertake their role if they have the right health and wellbeing support.

In January 2022 we held our first 'We Care – Thank You' fortnight. Colleagues were encouraged to take the opportunity to say thank you to others through virtual cards – and over 1,600 were downloaded. Coffee trucks and treat trolleys with free refreshments visited all our sites, and treats were sent to those working at home, while the Trust recognised everyone's extraordinary efforts with a one-off £200 payment to each colleague and an extra paid CARE day off.

The 2021 NHS Staff Survey indicates that our colleagues are positive about their experience of working at Sheffield Children's – 1,636 of them completed the survey, a 46% response rate, and our results were above average in all of the new NHS People Promise themes, as well as Staff Engagement and Morale.

## Making progress on equality, diversity and inclusion

We are working hard on making progress on equality, diversity and inclusion, which will be supported by development of our Inclusion Strategy in 2022/23. It's so important we hear all voices, ensure people feel safe and keep identifying areas where we can take action together to keep improving.

In 2021 the Trust received its first Bronze certification as part of the Stonewall Workplace Equality Index, and we achieved Disability Confident Standard Level 2. We also established a race experience research project to investigate and better understand the lived experience of ethnic minority colleagues working at the Trust.

Our three network groups continue to develop and thrive. They have led on celebrations including Race Equality Week, LGBT+ History Month and International Day of People with Disabilities.



## Leader in Children's Health: Responding to global events

There's no question that children and young people's mental health has seen significant and lasting consequences as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, so it is vital that we continue to invest in mental health via our Becton Centre and services in the community.

The last year has seen us launch a new NHS England-commissioned CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services) Provider Collaborative, with partners from the independent sector. It's currently working hard to repatriate children staying in Tier 4 beds from outside the area so they can be nearer their own families, whilst also freeing up more capacity for young people from South Yorkshire.

Our psychology teams provided tools for parents to support young people who are feeling anxious or impacted by events in Ukraine.

Events in Ukraine have also had a huge impact on us all. We responded rapidly, sharing supplies and equipment and arrangements are in place to help oncology patients who need care if required, which could be easily replicated to help patients in other specialties too.



Our Year in Numbers

**26,255** Mental Health (MH) Community Contacts

**7,642** MH inpatients (Bed days)

↑  
30%

Our Year in Numbers



**100%** of Trust-owned vans are now electric



## Leader in Children's Health: Improving our facilities

In December 2021 we opened our new £2.75m haematology and oncology Ward 6, which is bigger, brighter and better equipped and will help provide comfort and make things easier for families staying on the ward during their care.

Immeasurable thanks are due for the support of our incredible charity which had a record-breaking year raising over £4m from activities including the Bears of Sheffield Sculpture Trail, which was on display between July and September 2021 and featured 61 bear-sized sculptures sponsored by local businesses and designed by acclaimed artists.

There were also 100 small bear sculptures sponsored and decorated by schools, nurseries and colleges.



## Greening the Trust

Turning to our green agenda, we've replaced our old diesel van fleet with new fully electric vans called 'Theo's Green Machines', enabling an annual reduction in our carbon emissions of around 2.3 tonnes CO2.

We also launched our Green Energy Promise which encourages colleagues to make small changes to their day-to-day lives to help us drive down energy consumption, whether they're working on site or at home. And we planted 200 trees at our Becton Centre in partnership with NHS Forests.

We were delighted that our Green Plan, which has the ambition for the Trust to be in the top 10 greenest NHS providers in the country, was a finalist in the HSJ Environmental Sustainability Awards.



## Leader in Children's Health: Innovation

Millie, aged 14, was the world's first paediatric patient to have the new Stretta scar-less acid reflux procedure to treat her gastro-oesophageal reflux disease.

Month-old Markuss was the first patient in Yorkshire to receive the potentially life-saving Zolgensma drug that can prevent paralysis and prolong the lives of children with Spinal Muscular Atrophy.

In partnership we launched an immersive VR (virtual reality) platform to help children with a muscle-wasting disease.



Our  
Year in  
Numbers

**1,558** patients, staff and healthy volunteers participating in research



Active research studies

## Looking to the future

A key aim is to develop our Clinical Strategy ready to be launched at our next Caring Together event in October. It will set out some bold and ambitious plans about how we improve our services over the next few years, how we resource them and what our future estate looks like.

We welcome the opportunity to play an even greater role as a system leader at Sheffield, South Yorkshire and North East Yorkshire levels following the statutory implementation of integrated care systems and changes to specialised commissioning.

And, finally, we are very excited about the National Centre for Child Health Technology – the most advanced child health technology centre in the world, to be built right here in Sheffield in partnership with academia and private sector innovators.

**You can read the full Annual Report 2021/22 and our Quality Account 2021/22 on our website at [www.sheffieldchildrens.nhs.uk/about-us/publications](http://www.sheffieldchildrens.nhs.uk/about-us/publications)**

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