

## To make a donation

The Bowley Charity trustees are aware of a high level of unmet need and are grateful for any donations which increase the funds available for distribution to families.

If you would like to make a donation, please send a cheque made payable to 'The Bowley Charity' to the address below.

The Bowley Charity is unable to accept donations of goods. Organisations that accept good quality used furniture, clothes, toys, etc are listed on the website.

## Contact details

Mrs Pam Hill  
Clerk to the Trustees  
The Bowley Charity  
c/o Hertfordshire County Council  
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*Thank you for your support.  
All donations directly help children.*

## Administration

The Bowley Charity is administered by six trustees who work voluntarily and receive no form of payment. The board of trustees is currently as follows:

Jan Sherlock – Chair  
Chris Bradley – Treasurer  
Barbara Summers  
Melissa Fox  
Ben Rawlings  
Pam Hill – Clerk to the Trustees (ex officio)

The Bowley Charity works in partnership with Hertfordshire County Council.

## Website

Further information and copies of this leaflet, the latest grant application form, and annual reports can be downloaded from [www.bowleycharity.btck.co.uk](http://www.bowleycharity.btck.co.uk).

# THE BOWLEY CHARITY



*For Watford and Three Rivers Children*

The Bowley Charity was founded in 1951 by Mrs Ethel Bowley to help deprived children living in south west Hertfordshire.

Over the years the Bowley Charity has helped thousands of families, originally with food and fuel, more recently with white goods, children's furniture and equipment.

## Who is eligible for a grant?

Disadvantaged children aged 0-16 years, and 17-18 years in full time education who are permanently housed or have a secure offer of housing in Watford or Three Rivers. Unborn babies within 3 months of due date.

## What items are funded?

Children's furniture such as cots, beds, bunk beds, clothes storage units. Baby equipment e.g. buggies. White goods that will ultimately benefit a child e.g. cookers, fridge-freezers, washing machines.

These items are not funded: tumble dryers, fitted flooring, computers/laptops, school uniform, school trips, car seats. Living room furniture and bedroom furniture for parents/carers is not usually prioritised.

## Who can apply?

A grant application form must be fully completed on behalf of the family by a practitioner (such as a social worker, health visitor or support worker) who:

- a) knows the family and their current circumstances; and
- b) has recently visited the family home and can describe why a grant and the particular item(s) are needed.

The application form can be downloaded from [www.bowleycharity.btck.co.uk](http://www.bowleycharity.btck.co.uk).

## How much is granted?

The aim is to help as many families as possible within the funds available. There is no upper or lower limit. In 2015-16, £11,380 was distributed between 52 families.

Grants are normally made in the form of Argos vouchers based on reasonably-priced items in the catalogue that meet the described need. The cost of delivery of large items is funded where necessary.

The submitted applications are considered four times a year, normally in March, June, September and December. The closing dates for submission of applications are displayed on the website.

The trustees meet to consider the grant applications two weeks after each closing date. The referring practitioners normally receive notification of the outcomes and the vouchers within a week of the meetings.

## Examples of help given

- A mother raising six children on her own was helped to get a new washing machine when her old one broke down.
- A grant to a 16 year old student who could not live at home enabled him to buy bedding and a microwave oven for his bedsit.
- A young family fleeing domestic abuse was helped to buy beds for the children.

*"Thanks to Bowley my boys are now safe and warm in their new beds."*