

Welcome to Rainbow Place

Hospice Waikato's Rainbow Place is New Zealand's only specialist children's and young person's hospice service.

It's a very special place that's dedicated to providing the very best care and support for children and young people and their families who are living with a life-limiting or life-threatening condition.

Our Vision

At Rainbow Place our vision is to provide sensitive and caring, specialist palliative care and support, working closely with the Waikato District Health Board, Starship Children's Health, community agencies and GPs, to provide this service.



rainbowplace.co.nz



334 Cobham Drive, Hillcrest, Hamilton 3216
PO Box 325, Waikato Mail Centre, Hamilton 3240
Tel: 07 859 1260, Fax: 07 859 1266





Who can be referred to Rainbow Place?

- Children and young people who have a life-limiting or life-threatening condition (see definition of terms).
- Children and young people affected by the serious illness of a loved one who is under the care of Hospice Waikato adult services.
- Children and young people affected by the sudden or unexpected death of someone close to them.

Who can refer?

- Healthcare professionals
- Families, friends and relatives
- Schools
- Social services

Support is available at Rainbow Place, in the home or other community settings.

The Rainbow Place team offers...

- Specialist nursing care and support
- Multi-disciplinary team approach
- One-on-one counselling
- Group workshops
- Family therapy
- Teen support group
- Art therapy
- Memory making
- Sandplay therapy
- Child-centred play therapy
- Inpatient respite care in the Inpatient Unit Rainbow Place room.

Age-appropriate, sensitive but honest communication with children is the cornerstone of our children's and young person's palliative care.

What is a life-limiting or life-threatening condition?

A life-limiting or life-threatening condition is an illness where the child or young person is either not expected to live far into adulthood, or their condition may result in premature death. This may include:

- Life-threatening conditions for which curative treatment may not be feasible, for example cancer.
- Conditions where premature death is inevitable, for example Cystic Fibrosis, Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy.
- Progressive conditions without curative treatment options, for example Batten Disease.
- Irreversible, but non-progressive conditions causing severe disability leading to susceptibility to health complications and likelihood of premature death, for example severe cerebral palsy.