

Together

Summer 2026

"WHEN I THINK ABOUT WHAT FUNDRAISING CAN DO FOR THE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SPURGEONS SUPPORTS, THE ANSWER IS SIMPLE: I WANT TO PUT A SMILE ON THEIR FACES."

"CREATING A SPACE WHERE A CHILD FEELS SAFE, ABLE TO TRUST AND BEGINS TO FLOURISH IS ONE OF THE MOST REWARDING EXPERIENCES YOU CAN HAVE."



Spurgeons services

Spurgeons supports children and families across the country in many different ways. This magazine opens with a snapshot of our key services, helping you see the breadth of our work. Everything we do is centred on *walking alongside families* through everyday challenges and the toughest moments, offering practical help, emotional support, and hope for the future.

Supporting families every step of the way

Our family support services work directly with parents, children and carers to help them navigate life's ups and downs. This might be one-to-one support, parenting guidance, or counselling where it's needed most. We walk alongside families to understand their needs and ensure they can access the support they need, so whatever they face, *they don't have to face it alone.*

Family Hubs: places for families

Across the country, family hubs are a lifeline for many parents, offering a *warm welcome* and *in-person support* for every stage of a family's journey. Hubs reduce isolation, build confidence and strengthen relationships so families can be supported.

Through Spurgeons Connect, we're helping churches take a frontline role by creating community hubs that support families. With training, practical tools and ongoing support, we equip volunteers to offer safe, welcoming spaces where families can connect, feel valued and find the help they need.

A safe space to talk

Our counselling services take a *whole family approach*, giving children and young people a safe space to talk and make sense of what they're going through. We support parents by helping them understand their child's experiences and feel more confident in how to respond. Our trained counsellors provide support online, in person and through sessions in schools.

Supporting families impacted by the justice system

We walk alongside families affected by imprisonment, helping them stay connected during incredibly challenging times. At HMP Winchester, our Dad's Together group brings fathers into a safe, supportive space where they can talk openly about fatherhood. By *strengthening relationships*, we help children feel connected and supported during separation.

Digital support when it's needed most

Not every family can access support face-to-face, which is why our Digital Family Hub service provides practical, compassionate advice, guidance and courses presented in accessible formats that are easy to access online. Last year, we reached *2 million people* through our online content.

We couldn't do all this without support from people like you. Together we are strengthening families so children and young people have the chance to achieve their hopes and dreams.

Thank you for partnering with us.

If you have questions or want to find out more about any of our projects, please email supportercare@spurgeons.org.uk.

Meet the Team

Every day, Spurgeons counsellors step into schools to offer children and young people something invaluable: a safe space to talk, reflect and be heard. Meet James, one of our school-based counsellors, his work is shaped by creativity, calm and a deep commitment to helping young people feel supported.

What is your role at Spurgeons?

I work across both primary and secondary schools, supporting children from Year 1 all the way to Year 13. Most of my time is spent offering 1:1 counselling sessions, but I also check in regularly with parents, school staff and other agencies to make sure each young person receives the holistic support they need. I offer children, adolescents and young adults a space where they can talk, reflect and feel supported.

If you could describe your typical workday in three words, what would they be?

Creative, because every session is tailored to the individual. Busy, because counselling always comes first, and everything else fits around it. Safe, because once a session begins, the room becomes a sanctuary where a young person can open up and feel held.



Outside of the office, what's a hobby or passion project you're involved in?

Recently, I've discovered a real love for tabletop gaming. I've always been a gamer, but board games have become my new way to unwind and it's a hobby I now share with my four-year-old daughter. Our collection is growing so quickly we're running out of space.

What's your favourite part of your role?

My favourite part is watching confidence grow. Creating a space where a child feels safe, able to trust and begins to flourish is one of the most rewarding experiences you can have.

Scan to find out more about our counselling services



Services update

Celebrating Volunteers week in Erdington!

The team hosted a Volunteer Marketplace on 1st June, bringing together amazing local organisations and connecting people with opportunities to give back.

Lots of great conversations and interest – and plans are already in motion for future events. They also welcomed a new volunteer to their team, she's chosen to stay anonymous but is super excited to get started, supporting local families, and make a difference.



Wiltshire Teen's Idea Inspires First Secret SEN Campout

In Wiltshire, our team has been supporting an inspiring 13-year-old girl with autism whose ideas have led to something truly special. Working in partnership with event organisers and SEN Sanctuary, Spurgeons helped shape a more inclusive experience that has resulted in the very first Secret SEN Campout, taking place on 25–26 August.

A runner with a bigger purpose

How it started...

When the team at Highfield Investments learned about Spurgeons' work supporting families facing challenges they were moved to act. Among those inspired was Ben, a passionate runner who decided to turn his next marathon into something meaningful. Instead of taking a charity place, he chose to **"pay it forward"** by fundraising independently for Spurgeons. On 12 April, he completed the Enschede Marathon in an astonishing 2 hours and 58 minutes, a personal triumph paired with a powerful act of generosity.

Why Ben ran...

Ben describes his motivation simply: supporting Spurgeons "is something I believe in and want to be a part of." His fundraising target represents more than a number, it's a chance to make a tangible difference for families who need support the most.

Reaching or surpassing that goal, he says, **"would mean the world to me... and real support for families who need it."**

He also encourages anyone considering fundraising to get involved!

Help Ben cross the finish line...

Last year alone, we supported more than 27,500 children and families, yet the need continues to grow. Every contribution fuels Spurgeons' vital work with children and families navigating some of life's toughest challenges. If you're inspired by Ben's story, **could you take part in our brand new summer fundraising challenge, 27.5 hours for families?**

Your summer, your challenge.

Last year, Spurgeons supported over 27,500 children and families. Can you help us support more children and families by fundraising this summer?

Walk, bake, run, read, garden, swim, cycle, dance, something you love or something you dread — anything goes! Just do it for 27.5 hours, 1 hour for every 1,000 families reached, and fundraise what you can.

Do it solo, as a family over the summer holidays, or as a team — every hour counts.

Sign up today and you will receive:

- A welcome email from our fundraising team, here to help every step of the way
- Your free fundraising starter kit, straight to your inbox
- A printable challenge tracker
- An activity ideas inspiration sheet

Once you've completed your challenge we'll send you:

- A thank you certificate to share with your supporters
- Raise £50 and we'll send you a thank-you gift in the post

Do something amazing this summer for families!

Scan the QR code to sign up or email supportercare@spurgeons.org for more information.



Spurgeons Churches Network

Spurgeons Churches Network is a growing community of churches united in helping every child have a hope-filled life. From creating welcoming spaces and running activities to giving and praying, churches support families in many ways—and every church can make a difference. Join the network today.

Sign up for free and you will receive:

- Regular newsletters and updates with ways that your congregation can pray, support and get involved.
- Worship & ministry materials on the themes of family, hope and transformation.
- Access to network opportunities that connect churches with Spurgeon's work and mission.

Scan the QR code
to join or email
supportercare@spurgeons.org
to find out more.



Parenting courses for churches

Parents Connect is Spurgeons set of ready to run parenting courses designed by our experts for your church to run. We provide all the training and materials; you provide the volunteers and set up the groups.

We offer sessions for families with primary-aged and teenage children, along with an introduction to supporting neurodiverse children at home and school. Parents gain practical tools to build calmer, more connected family lives—from managing emotions and routines to strengthening communication and understanding their child's needs.

Rooted in over 150 years of experience supporting families, we train your volunteer facilitators online so you can start running groups when you're ready.

To find out more,
visit our Parents
Connect page
on our website.



Together with you

We are so encouraged to see the ways supporters are putting love into action in your own communities. One inspiring example is Cippenham Baptist Church in Slough.

Through taking part in Spurgeons Connect and establishing a family hub in their building, Cippenham Baptist created a welcoming space offering stay-and-play sessions, baby groups and holiday activities. By providing these family-focused activities, the church has been able to build relationships with families in their community and the church has become a place where parents feel supported, are able to build confidence and can connect with others.

Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive.

"Meeting up with other mums and getting out of the house has been really helpful."



"My little one has been learning new skills every time they go"



100% of families who attended groups said their children benefitted socially and emotionally through building relationships, learning new skills and growing in confidence.

We are thrilled to report that the church's efforts have been recognised by the local authority as a delivery partner for its Best Start in Life work—a testament to the important role churches play alongside local services.

Cippenham Baptist is continuing to support parents in their community and is also considering delivering our Parents Connect parenting courses.

We'd love to hear what is happening in your community. Get in touch at supportercare@spurgeons.org to share your story or let us know if you'd like to get more involved.

Ask Spurgeons *Anything* reaching families where they are

Between 11th and 14th May, six Spurgeons' colleagues came together online to offer parents a safe, accessible space to talk through the challenges of raising a teenager: looking at puberty, school avoidance, SEND, online safety, family relationships and behaviour.

Our team offered support for issues including teenagers not sleeping, young people out of school for extended periods and the impact of family breakdown.

Short sessions, big conversations.

Families responded warmly. Many were keen to share just how overwhelming parenting a teenager can feel and how simply having the chance to be heard made a real difference. Crucially, every parent left knowing how to make a referral to Spurgeons' family support, and at least one dad has already taken that step.

Nicola Baldwin, Family Support Training Lead, reflected on what the week showed:

"It was really exciting to take this new opportunity to use digital to reach more families. Sometimes it is hard to find the support you need, or to be brave enough to reach out and this platform offers a simpler and safer way to find out more about Spurgeons' family support. Families can feel very alone and even small moments of connection can make a real difference."

Jo Higgins, Family Support Practitioner, echoed this from the ground level:

"The parents found it a positive experience they had good conversations and appreciated someone listening to them."

Scan to join in on the challenge



Raising teenagers is a lot, and these families know it. It was good to be able to make such a difference in their lives. We're already planning further **Ask Spurgeons Anything** themed sessions throughout the year - watch this space!

Donate today to help children and families in urgent need of support

Donate online at
spurgeons.org/donate

Donate by phone on
01933 417059
(Mon-Fri, 9am-4pm)

Donate by post **sending this form and cheque or card details to our office**

1. My details

Complete this form, detach and send to the following address:
Spurgeons, Unit 3, Burnt Oak Business Park, Waldron, Heathfield, East Sussex, TN21 0NL

Title:	Firstname:	Surname:
Address:		
		Postcode:
Email:		

If you share your email address we would like to send you updates about the impact your donation has made by email, as well as occasional updates by post. If you do not want to receive updates by post or email you can change your preferences at any time by calling **01933 412412** or emailing **supportercare@spurgeons.org**. We promise we will never sell or swap your personal data with any other organisations and we'll store your details securely. For further details on how your data is used and stored see our privacy policy at www.spurgeons.org/privacy

2. I would like to make a donation today of

☐ £20 ☐ £50 ☐ £100 ☐ Other £ _____

☐ I enclose my cheque made payable to Spurgeons **OR** ☐ Please debit my Mastercard / Visa debit / Visa Credit / Charity Card

Card number:																			
Expiry:	M	M	/	Y	Y	Security Code:													
Date:	D	D	/	M	M	/	Y	Y											
Signature:																			

Please turn over to Gift Aid



3. Gift Aid will boost your donation by 25p for every £1 you donate

giftaid it

☐ I want to Gift Aid my donation and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past four years to Spurgeons Children's Charity. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Date:	D	D	/	M	M	/	Y	Y
-------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

4. I would like to donate regularly

You can set up a direct debit to provide regular support for children and families via our website, over the phone or by post. Request a paper direct debit form, call our donations hotline on **01933 417059** or email **supportercare@spurgeons.org** and we will send one to you.

SUMMAG26



Spurgeons, 74 Wellingborough Road, Rushden, Northants NN10 9TY United Kingdom. Spurgeons is a registered charity (1081182). Registered Company No. 03990460 (England and Wales).

www.spurgeons.org