



Action Cerebral Palsy is the only charity solely campaigning on behalf of the estimated 30,000 children in the UK living with cerebral palsy, a disabling lifelong condition caused by damage to the immature or developing brain before or after birth, and that affects children from all social backgrounds and ethnic groups. Cerebral palsy is a lifelong neurological condition which impacts the body's ability to move normally and on many related aspects of health, learning, development, social participation and wellbeing.

Action Cerebral Palsy works to improve public, professional and political awareness of cerebral palsy and the issues facing children and young people living with cerebral palsies and their families.

Our aims are:

- 🎯 To engage with policy makers in order to promote the creation of a national strategy and care pathways for intervention and provision for children with cerebral palsies
- 🎯 To be a source of informed advice on cerebral palsy for policy makers and the public
- 🎯 To represent the best interests of the cerebral palsy community
- 🎯 To facilitate the development of best practice for intervention, care, education and support for children and young people with cerebral palsies across the United Kingdom
- 🎯 To facilitate and disseminate research on cerebral palsy and therapeutic and educational intervention

For the past six years, Action Cerebral Palsy has sought to establish the facts about what early care is available for children with cerebral palsy, sponsored the very first All-Party Parliamentary Group meeting on cerebral palsy and launched a public awareness campaign about the early warning signs of cerebral palsy to improve detection and diagnosis rates. Action Cerebral Palsy has achieved this by working in close collaboration with parents, healthcare practitioners, clinicians, educationalists, and policy makers.

In spite of the fact that cerebral palsy is the most common physical disability in childhood, the experience of many families with children with cerebral palsy is of being inadequately supported and informed at the critical and devastating point of diagnosis and of having to fight throughout their child's growing years for the level of service and care their child needs to thrive. There is still a profound lack of understanding of the needs and challenges facing children with cerebral palsy and their families, a lack of training for frontline professionals or information available to parents, and very poor data about the instances, diagnosis, medical history, developmental needs and outcomes of children with cerebral palsy in the UK. This lack of knowledge and understanding is the most significant barrier to delivering effective healthcare, education and funding for families with children with cerebral palsy. As the only charity focused solely on advocating on behalf of children with cerebral palsy and their families in the UK, Action Cerebral Palsy recognises the need to improve our collective understanding of this lifelong condition.

Our work is therefore dedicated to levelling the playing field for all children with or at risk of cerebral palsy by raising awareness with politicians, professionals and the general public about the issues facing children and young people with cerebral palsies and to push for improved access to care and support, to share and develop models of best practice and ultimately have a lasting positive impact on the lives of the estimated 1,800 children born each year who will be diagnosed with the condition.

Our vision is that every child and young person in the UK with cerebral palsies is able to access from birth onwards the best possible intervention, care, education and support which meets their complex and changing needs.

How you can get involved



We are a small but aspirational charity which is committed to improve the daily lives and life chances of children with cerebral palsy and their families through our campaigning, advocacy and awareness raising activities.

We thank all our supporters who have played an invaluable role in establishing and building Action Cerebral Palsy over the past eight years and call on supporters, old and new, to stand with us as we set our ambitious agenda for the years to come.

Parliamentarians

- Follow the work of the [APPG on Cerebral Palsy](#), consider becoming an officer and support the policy recommendations from the reports.
- Use the [Guide for MPs and Caseworkers](#) on our website to help inform families with children with cerebral palsy.
- Follow up with your local councillors to see if they intend to take up the Cerebral Palsy Covenant. [#CerebralPalsyCovenant](#)

Cerebral Palsy Professionals

- Follow the the [APPG on Cerebral Palsy](#), and consider providing evidence to the Group where appropriate.
- Endorse our public awareness campaign about the early warning signs of cerebral palsy: [If In Doubt, Check It Out](#)
- Provide expert advice, or support the development of training materials on cerebral palsy
- Help to disseminate and facilitate information, data and research about cerebral palsy

Families, children and young people with cerebral palsy

- Share your experiences and aspirations to help us raise awareness of cerebral palsy
- Become part of a parent mentoring support group to help other parents and children with cerebral palsy.
- Support us with fund raising activities and events.
- Follow us on social media.

Funders

Could you help us fund our key projects?

Campaigning and policy work:

£40,000 would pay for a year of targeted input to progress the implementation of vital policy recommendations

Awareness raising and education:

- £25,000 would enable us to send our signs of cerebral palsy poster and leaflet to every GP practice in the UK and to share it online: [If In Doubt, Check It Out](#)
- £20,000 would enable us to build and produce support resources about cerebral palsy for front line health care professionals such as health visitors, GPs and early educationalists

Advocacy, parent and family support

- £10,000 would enable us to provide parents with practical information about the care, help and support available to them and their child via our website
- £15,000 would enable us to run monthly virtual parent meetings on focused topics of interest, and an online closed parent chat forum and support group
- £25,000 per annum would enable us to provide a help desk advisory service

With your help, we can improve the daily lives and life chances of children with the condition both now and in the future.

Action Cerebral Palsy is grateful to Enable Law for their support.



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