bibic
changing children's lives

Georgina, Gareth and Bonnie Hunt outside bibic's national centre in Langport, Somerset

What families say about bibic

Forewords

bibic is a small charity making a big difference.

With over 46 years of experience in developing and delivering bibic's innovative therapy, the charity has supported over 15,000 children and young people with disabilities and learning difficulties to lead better and more fulfilled lives.

bibic's work has never been more in demand. Statutory services have been cut and families are often forced to wait for years for any kind of help. The families that come to bibic are often desperate and have nowhere else to turn.

In response to this ever-growing demand, bibic will now be delivering our unique therapy in the homes of families as well as offering new services including screening assessments. We are also expanding our support to deliver training to a range of professionals who work with children including schools and the youth justice system.

Without our amazing supporters and donors, none of this would be possible. bibic receives no Government funding and relies on grants and the generosity of the public to provide our service.

Every penny at bibic goes directly towards helping a child that needs it.

Emily Brett
Chair of bibic Trustees

As an NHS consultant caring for children with epilepsy and other neurological conditions, I have seen first hand the frustration that many families face in accessing the wider support they need.

In particular, the children who don't have a specific diagnosis and therefore do not neatly fit into a diagnostic group, and the young adults who face a gap as they no longer qualify for support that is available for children.

This is where bibic makes a life-changing difference to families. They take a truly holistic approach which is so important, and so often lacking.

They look beyond diagnostic labels and instead assess the person and everything that is unique about them.

As a result, they offer a truly individualised programme of support. And crucially, they can teach the family this programme so this is sustained outside the clinical environment.

I have been blown away by the dedication and work of the team of therapists at bibic.

The difference they make for children, young people and their families is crucial and needs to continue and grow.

Dr Amit Bali
bibic Trustee
Consultant Paediatrician with expertise in epilepsy
Clinical Leadership Fellow, Young Epilepsy
Honorary Research Associate, UCL Great Ormond Street Institute of Child Health

Our History

bibic has been transforming the lives of children and young people for almost half a century. It was first established by Keith Pennock, a father trying to find services for his daughter who had suffered a brain injury. In 1980, after developments in therapies, we became the British Institute for Brain Injured Children and started delivering therapy.

We have continued to develop our services to meet the needs of families, which has led to us providing programmes for children with a variety of needs. As a result, we are now known as bibic.

Our Mission

Our mission is to support children and young adults with conditions affecting their development, social, communication, independence and learning abilities. We believe every child has the right to reach their full potential.

What we do

bibic delivers individualised developmental therapy to children and young people aged from 6 months to 25 years who have neurological or genetic conditions. This includes, but is not limited to, Cerebral palsy, Down's syndrome, Autism, ADHD, Dyslexia, Dyspraxia as well as children with no diagnosis.

We also provide a programme of practical support, training and strategies for families and professionals - giving them the insight to understand the child's world better and empowering them with the skills and techniques to help the child reach their full potential.

Our Impact

100% children show progress in one or more developmental areas on re-assessment	***"bibic has offered us support that no other professional has been able to do."***	**69%** families said their individualised bibic report helped them to access other services.
"The bibic report meant school could implement the recommendations and our son is now more likely to engage in education."	**77%** parents felt more confident in their ability to manage their child's behaviour	***"bibic provide us with strategies and approaches that enable us to get the very best from our students."***

Matthew’s story

Matthew was just six when we first went to bibic for help.

Every aspect of his development was covered over two whole days. No stone was left unturned.

For the first time, I understood what was going on in Matthew’s mind, how I could help him to learn, how he perceived the world and how I could help him cope.

As time went on, the bibic programme improved Matthew’s listening and learning skills.

The bibic report and therapy programme was also used to get Matthew through primary school and he actually left looking forward to the challenges secondary school would bring.

Matthew is 13 now and is aware that he has to work harder than others to organise himself, listen in school and keep up with his peers but he is doing really well. The school keep an eye on Matthew’s progress using the professionally written bibic reports and we continue to visit bibic regularly for re-assessment and therapy programmes.

We are so happy that Matthew is now able to enjoy life despite his problems and that is because bibic have stood by us all the way.

Thanks bibic! I don’t know where we would be without you.

Matthew, 6 years old

Matthew, now 13 years old

For children and young people

bibic provides a holistic assessment, using tests and methods to understand each person's unique strengths and challenges. This will include looking at language, motor skills, memory, cognitive skills, executive functioning and visual perception.

This 2 day assessment will be carried out by one of our specialist team of therapists at the child's home or in our national centre.

Assessments conclude with an individualised bibic therapy programme and 6 months of on-going key work support. The programme is specifically tailored for each child's needs and no two programmes are the same.

A shorter screening option is also available where therapists assess whether a child has a specific condition such as ADHD or dyslexia, as well as the option of an IRLEN screener to support children with visual processing difficulties.

bibic also offers Johansen Individualised Auditory Stimulation - an auditory stimulation programme for those children who specifically struggle with auditory processing and listening skills.

For families

Caring for a child with additional needs can place a huge strain on relationships and the family as a whole. bibic's approach is to look at the family unit and provide all the expertise a family needs to better understand their child.

The individualised bibic therapy programme is based on empowering parents. Each family is given training and provided with an individualised file of information to help support their child at home. Programmes contain practical tools and strategies, which can include information for key challenges including developing independence, improving communication, sleep and behaviours.

After the assessment, we offer families six months of key work support to help them with their home-based therapy programme. bibic is here for as long as families need our help and can come back for as many reassessments as a child needs.

Mia’s story

Thank you for giving me the opportunity of being able to help my daughter Mia.

Until we came to bibic, I had no idea how to improve her situation and now, bit by bit, Mia’s life is getting better. You have no idea what that means to me.

We didn’t even know if Mia could see six months ago and now she’s starting to follow objects and hold eye contact with me.

It’s the best feeling in the world.

Because of bibic, she’s developed more in the last six months than she has in her whole life.

I don’t let myself think about Mia’s future. It’s too hard. But, what I do wish for, is that Mia would smile more. She deserves to be happy.

For the first time, I believe that she will be and that’s because of bibic.

For Local Authorities and schools

On average, 3 children in every UK classroom have some form of learning or developmental difficulty and less than 8% of disabled children receive regular support from the government. With limited funding in statutory services for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), thousands of children are not receiving the support they desperately need.

bibic offers bespoke plans for schools depending on their needs. This can include specialist training, seminars, observations and assessments in the school environment, and training for educators. The information we provide can support with the development of an Education and Health Care Plan (EHCP) if required.

For young offender institutions and community justice

Children in the youth justice systems often have complex needs with many suffering from communication, behaviour, learning and development issues. bibic offers bespoke seminars and training for any professionals working with youth offenders. This can also include observations and assessments and specific training for staff on behavioural strategies.

For other organisations

Our team of developmental therapists have a wealth of expertise and a wide variety of specialisms, accreditations and qualifications. We can work with any organisation that shares our goal to enable children with additional needs to lead better lives.

For CPD

All of the training bibic provides is fully accredited under the Continuing Professional Development certification service. This means that attending bibic seminars and training workshops allows professionals to evidence development. We offer sessions including Understanding Sensory Processing, Managing Extreme Behaviour, Working Memory and Understanding Autism and associated Behaviours.

Ben’s story

When Ben was 12, it was suggested by another mum, who also had a child with disabilities, that we contact bibic for help, which we did. That day bibic changed our lives.

The therapist spent time playing with Ben, carefully encouraging him to see what he could and couldn’t do. The afternoon feedback session was illuminating. We were told about Ben’s strengths and weaknesses - physically and intellectually.

bibic helped us move forward as a family, giving Ben the tools to cope with the world and what life threw at him. And I learned how to see the world through Ben’s eyes.

When Ben hit 16, a new set of challenges arrived. Our ‘disabled’ child entered adulthood with a whirlwind of emotions. He was extremely vulnerable when it came to relationships, safety and work. Once again, we turned to bibic for guidance on how to weather this storm, how to try and manage our son and keep him safe while giving him the tools with which to survive.

With bibic by our side, our journey so far has had more positives than negatives.

bibic has to raise in excess of £600,000 each and every year to be able to provide the life-changing support that families need. We receive no government funding and exist purely because of the generosity and goodwill of our supporters.

Our Supporters

bibic is lucky to be supported by our families, the local community, donors, corporates and many trusts and foundations. Together, they volunteer, fundraise or donate to keep our vital services accessible to those who need it the most.

Fundraising

From baking cakes, hosting coffee mornings to jumping out of planes, running marathons and climbing mountains, our loyal supporters are always finding new and imaginative ways to raise vital funds that change children's lives forever.

Donations

As well as the generosity of many individuals, we are also lucky to be supported on an on-going basis by those who participate in monthly donations, regular payroll giving, the 'sponsor a child' initiative and our lottery scheme.

We are also honoured to have received legacies from individual's estates through wills and as donations in the memory of a loved one.

Corporates

We are grateful to the many businesses which support bibic - from making us their fundraising focus as Charity of the Year and match funding staff fundraising, through to event sponsorship and Cause Related Marketing.

Feedback has shown that the relationship boosts staff morale, encourages team building, and demonstrates to employees and customers their commitment to an issue that affects many families.

Trusts and Foundations

bibic would not exist without the vital funding we receive from many Trusts and Foundations. We always work in partnership with both large and small organisations, ensuring that any funding meets their specific aims and objectives. This support allows us to expand our reach and improve our impact - supporting more children and schools, upgrading specialist equipment and running outreach clinics.

Strategic Priorities - 2018 - 2022

Our five-year strategic plan is based on four pillars:

Stability and Growth

Secure our long-term future by securing new funding streams and securing strategic alliances and partnerships.

Operational Excellence

Ensure our therapy and training are industry leading, in line with the latest research and externally recognised.

National Outreach

Increase the reach of bibic services to children and young people across the country, delivered at the National Centre and at key locations and/or through partnerships across the UK

Campaigning Voice

Work to ensure the rights and service needs of children and young people with developmental/learning difficulties are properly recognised and fought for, and that we are supporting relevant national campaigns.

Registered Charity Number: 1057635

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