

# Inflammatory Bowel Disease Family Day

1st July 2017



## What?

Children suffering with IBD, their parents and siblings attended a family day at Marwell Activity Centre. Families were able to learn more about the illness and our current research program. In the afternoon, the children got to know each other during some outdoor activities, while all the parents had an opportunity to join an open discussion with the clinical staff about living with IBD.

## Why?

- To value and recognise that an IBD diagnosis influences the whole family, including siblings.
  - As a learning opportunity for families.
- To give children and siblings the opportunity to meet with others affected by the illness, and have fun together!
  - For the research team to feedback on the outcomes of the study, which many of the families have taken part in.



Worthwhile experience. You should be very proud of your team and their pastoral care of all of us.

thx so much, I really enjoyed myself

I want to do it again. I liked meeting new people.

Hugely appreciate the opportunity to meet the clinical staff and other parents in a relaxed environment outside of hospital

I LOVED IT SO MUCH!

Great for kids to go off alone and talk freely.

Very good event, was a relief to talk to other parents.

Wish we could do it every weekend



## How?

The day was conceived and led by Rachel Haggarty (Senior Children's Research Nurse) and Rachel Russel (Paediatric Gastroenterology Specialist Nurse). Collaboration between the research and clinical teams was integral to the days success and ongoing service development. Thank you to colleagues who volunteered their time to support the event. Time to start planning for next year!

We are very grateful for the financial support given by: the research team (through their Health Education England Award); our own local Gastro & Kids with Guts charity funds; Crohns and Colitis UK and Professor Mark Beattie. We also appreciate the gifts/vouchers given by friends, colleagues and local businesses (Costa and Subway) as tombola prizes.