



The Claire Furmedge Equipment Fund



FUNDED BY FAMILIES FOR FAMILIES



Claire Furmedge Fund Guidelines

In 2007, STEPS set up an equipment fund in memory of Claire Furmedge, who was sadly killed in an inflatable art structure at a park in County Durham. Claire was a dedicated supporter for STEPS, over many years, as her daughter was diagnosed with a hip condition as a baby. The fund provides a valuable grant towards purchasing a car seat. Without this support some families would struggle to afford what is an essential piece of equipment.

What grant fund is available?

A maximum grant of £75 will be awarded for purchase towards a hip spica car seat which must be purchased through our agreed supplier - In Car Safety Centre. Full price cost of a car seat (before grant given) is from £196. The car seat can be hired for the same price, although £86 refundable if hired for 6 months (grant will still apply). The grant **cannot** be given if you have already purchased your car seat.

How do you apply for the grant?

In the first instance, you need to complete our simple application form which can be downloaded from our website or call the STEPS helpline 01925 750271 and we can post one out to your home. We don't means test as we don't believe this is the best way to establish whether a family needs a grant or not. However, as a small national charity, funds are limited – we receive no government grants for the fund and rely on families' donations - so we do take a view of the whole circumstances of the family to help inform our decision and process. We therefore ask that you please complete the form honestly and include as much detail as possible. All applications need to be supported by a health professional (GP, consultant, health visitor) who can confirm that your child needs this equipment.

How will I know if I have received a grant?

We are restricted in the number of children we can help because of the limited funds we have available, so we only allocate a certain number each month. We ask that you give us as much time as possible to process your application and if you are unsure as to what car seat you will need e.g. your child has not yet had the operation, please talk to us and we will do our best to help you. We appreciate that it may not always be possible to give advance notice and in such circumstances grants can be awarded and processed urgently with a speedy turnaround.

If your grant application is successful you will receive a letter or telephone call confirming the grant and you will be given a reference number which you must quote when you place your order with the In Car Safety Centre. If you do not use your grant within 6 weeks, it will be cancelled, unless you let us know why there is a delay in ordering the equipment.

In the unfortunate event that your application has been unsuccessful we will notify you in writing as soon as possible and you may reapply but must submit a new application form. There is no appeals procedure; the Grants Panel decision is final.

We don't take walking for granted!

STEPS charity worldwide, Registered Charity Number 1094343, Company No 4379997
Warrington Lane, Lymm, Cheshire WA13 0SA **Helpline** 01925 750271 **Fax** 01925 750570
Website: www.steps-charity.org.uk **email:** info@steps-charity.org.uk



Claire Furmedge Fund Application Form

Please ensure that you complete the application form in full as missing or incomplete information may result in your grant being declined. If your application is urgent or you wish to ensure delivery please send the application by recorded delivery; this will cost a little more but it allows us to sign to say we have received it.

Any information you give on this form will be treated in the strictest confidence.

If you have any questions please contact us on 01925 750571 or email info@steps-charity.org.uk

CONTACT DETAILS

Name	Childs Name	Childs Age
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Address	
County	Post code

Telephone	Email
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TREATMENT & CONDITION

Which hospital are you being treated at?
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Consultant's name

What date is your child's operation and how long will they be in cast?	
Date of operation:	Time in cast:

Is there anything more you would like to tell us about your child's condition to support your application and how the grant will help you?
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Would you be happy to let your story be told/send a photo to help us promote our work and help raise funds for it to continue?

Yes

No

REFERENCE

Reference - This needs to be a medical specialist working with your child who can confirm your child needs this equipment (eg consultant, GP or health visitor)

Name

Job title

Hospital

Address

Telephone

Email

Medical specialist declaration – I declare that this application relates to a child under my care who will need specialist equipment

Signed _____

Date _____

DECLARATION

Parent declaration - I declare that the information I have given is correct and true to the best of my knowledge.

Signed _____

Date _____

Please return this form to:

Anna Dorman, Finance & Office Manager
STEPS Claire Furmedge Equipment Fund,
Warrington Lane, Lymm, Cheshire, WA13 0SA



“Madison would not fit in her baby car seat with her hip spica which meant a specially adapted car seat would provide the safest method of travel as it is rear facing. Without the grant from the Claire Furmedge Fund we would have struggled to afford what is an essential piece of equipment.”

Louise Taylor (Madison’s mum)

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