

Donation Guidelines - Donating Toys and Books to Patients

The Monash Health Foundation warmly accepts donations of toys, books, knitted goods and crafts from the community year round. The Monash Health Foundation will manage distribution throughout the hospital according to needs.

Your gifts will make a significant difference to the spirit and morale of children during treatment and recovery but our young patients are at a vulnerable time in their lives and as such we need to make sure the gifts they receive have no chance of compromising their health.

- All toys, books, accessories and clothing must be new. Many patients have trouble fighting infections so the hospital created this rule to reduce the chance of bugs entering the hospital. Please note that we cannot accept items that have fabric parts on them due to infection control regulations.
- Please do not wrap your gifts – we need to see the gift to decide where it will be best distributed. If you like, you could put it into a gift bag instead or provide a roll of wrapping paper for us to use on your present.
- We are not able to give out items that are suitable for consumption as food.
- We are not able to give out any gift that is political, controversial, religious or offensive, nor can we give out toy guns or weapons.

TOY SUGGESTIONS

Babies 0-2 years - Play gyms, rattles, musical toys, early manipulative toys such as plastic rings, blocks, stacking cups, activity centres, push along toys, play mirrors, light plastic balls, hard books or plastic books, cot mobiles, musical toys, cot side activity centres, etc. (all toys that are able to be cleaned).

Toddlers 2-3 years - Pop up toys, shape sorters, crayons, cars, books, pull along toys, dramatic toys such as doll houses, tea sets, large plastic animals, petrol stations, car ramps, large cars, simple jigsaws, beach bucket and spade, plastic bath toys, dolls without hair (due to infection control regulations), play dough cutters and rolling pins, etc.

Pre-School 3-5 years - Art materials (pasting, painting, drawing materials), train sets, blocks, Duplo or other simple building sets, simple board games, (eg memory, lotto, picture dominoes), small doll houses, trucks, cars, farm or jungle animals. Plastic dinosaurs, jigsaws and puzzles that are fairly simple, car mats, puppets, books, imaginary play such as shopping baskets and plastic food, cash register, doctors sets etc. Quoits, threading beads, Magna Doodles and books.

School Age 6-10 years - Lego, computer games, construction kits, wooden kits such as model cars or planes, jewellery making kits, art kits for older children, harder puzzles and jigsaws, books, sewing kits, board games, footballs, basketballs, skipping ropes, hula hoops, craft books, board games such as Monopoly, Twister, Scrabble, Connect 4, etc.

Adolescents - Teenagers are often overlooked. Suggestions include current CDs or DVDs (please check cover for warnings - PG highest rating), diaries, stationary sets, photo frames, photo albums, baseball caps, hair accessories, costume jewellery, cards (Uno, etc.), craft kits, scrapbooking, card making, design a T-shirt, jewellery making, model making, books and puzzle books, jigsaws, board games, good quality drawing materials such as Derwent pencils, journals, art pastels.

All gifts are to be posted to/ brought to:

Att: Monash Health Foundation
Monash Medical Centre
246 Clayton Road
CLAYTON VIC 3168

If you require further clarification, please contact Monash Health Foundation on foundation@monashhealth.org or 9594 2700.