What is Cerebral Palsy?

Cerebral palsy is a condition that affects muscle control and movement. It is usually caused when a child has had a brain injury in early life, this may be before, during or after they are born. Children will always have some difficulty with their movement; this may be very mild or so severe that it affects all aspects of their life. They may also have other difficulties; these may affect their learning, hearing, vision, feeding etc. Children with cerebral palsy are all individuals, although each of them will have had some injury to their brain in early life, how this expresses itself might change as they grow.

Support organisations

- Scope-information and support to people with Cerebral Palsy, their families and the professionals working with them. Regional Worker can offer home visits if your child has received a diagnosis of cerebral palsy-call for more details.
  www.scope.org.uk
  0808 800 3333 • helpline@scope.org.uk

- HemiHelp-a membership organisation providing support and information to people with hemiplegia and their families in the UK.
  www.hemihelp.org.uk

- Bobath Centre-National charity for children with cerebral palsy.
  www.bobath.org.uk • 020 84443355

- Sense-if your child has hearing/visual problems as part of their cerebral palsy
  www.sense.org.uk • info@sense.org.uk
  0300 330 9256

Resources

- Using signs to aid communication
  www.makaton.org
  www.singinghands.org.uk

- Disabled Living Foundation- helpline providing advice on equipment and gadgets, and where to find them
  www.dlf.org.uk • 0845 130 9177

Additional information available from Early Support coordinators

- Early Support information on Cerebral Palsy
- Positions for Play leaflet

You may also be interested in:

Search Facebook for:
- Scope
- Cerebra

Other online groups/forums:
Scope Online Community
www.scope.org.uk/Community

Search Google/Bing for role models:
R J Mitty-actor
Francesca Martinez-comedian
Nicolas Hamilton-racing driver

cambridgeshire.gov.uk/disabledchildren