



A green city

The location of the Children's and Young People's Hospice in Bethel provides lots of leisure opportunities. It stands at the edge of a nature conservation area with footpaths through the woods and meadows. At the same time, Bielefeld city centre is only a few minutes away by public transport. There are lots of attractions including the museum of modern art, the theatre, numerous cinemas and restaurants and an extensive pedestrian precinct. Olderdisen zoo and a climbing park are only a few kilometres distant from the Children's and Young People's Hospice. For more information go to www.bielefeld.de



Bethel



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Kinder- und Jugendhospiz
Bethel



It is impossible for a person
to look at the sun without their
face lighting up.

Friedrich von Bodelschwing

Bethel





Breathing space

Families with a child with a life-shortening illness are experts at organising and improvising. But everyone needs a breathing space from time to time. The Bethel Children's and Young People's Hospice provides a chance to retreat from the demands of everyday life, right from the time of diagnosis. The whole family can stay there and have all their needs attended to. Parents can rest, catch up on their sleep and recharge their batteries. Children will be cared for, brothers and sisters looked after.

The aim is to take the strain off the families, for a few weeks of the year at least. At the same time, the hospice is a place where one can meet others in a similar situation and swap experiences.

The road the families travel together may be long or short. The Children's and Young People's Hospice is there for them at times of crisis too, or at the final stage of life. Help and support are tailored to individual requirements and to people's spiritual and moral values.

Caring for children and young people

Sick children, teenagers and young adults receive integral care at the Bethel Children's and Young People's Hospice. That includes play and leisure opportunities together with loving, professional care and alleviation of pain and other distressing symptoms. The individual life situation is always the primary consideration. The staff are committed round the clock to the well-being of the children and young people. Optimum medical advice and care is ensured with a paediatrician attending and the Bethel Children's Hospital is nearby.

Staff also work in close cooperation with the Out-patient Children's Palliative Team (specialised outpatient palliative care), which is based at the Children's and Young People's Hospice.

In day-to-day life, siblings are often expected to show consideration and understanding. Not only does the hospice give the parents more time to do things with them, but age-appropriate activities are also planned, according to individual interests. Reading aloud and painting, a treasure hunt or a computer game, a climbing adventure or an afternoon's bowling – there are plenty of ideas and possibilities.

Space for living

The hospice is located in a lovely green setting in the Bethel district of Bielefeld. It has space for ten families. For the sick children and young people there are spacious, cheerfully decorated individual rooms. The accommodation for parents and other family members is upstairs. These rooms have their own bathroom and are equipped with TV, phone and Internet connections. Each room has a balcony with a view of the Teutoburg Forest.

As well as the children's and young people's rooms the ground floor also houses a central care point and a large care bath. A whirlpool is also available for parents and brothers and sisters to use. Daily meals cooked on the premises, meeting spaces and play areas are all opportunities for mixing and meeting other people. A dedicated area provides calm and space to say goodbye when a child or young person dies.

The Children's and Young People's Hospice has a lovely garden with play areas and space to relax. Cosy evenings round the fire are a feature in winter.