Spotlight: Meet the team raising £10k to make a children’s ward homely

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So far, they have raised £2,500 towards the project through various fundraising events arranged through Addenbrooke’s Charitable Trust (ACT) and have more in the pipeline.

Hannah Nunn, ward manager, said the main improvements they want to make to the ward - which deals with paediatric surgical patients ranging from special cleft lip and palate surgery to complex orthopaedic and neurosurgery - is an outdoor play area.

“A lot of our children really need to be outside, it makes them feel so much better,” she said. “When children come into the hospital their life stops - when they come into hospital we take control of their life.

“So just to be able to go into an outdoor play area where they can run around in the sunshine, just 10 minutes where they forget about being poorly and being in hospital where we are not doing blood tests or cannulas, they leave it at their bedside and it gives them freedom.”

Hannah said the parent room was also in need of updating - and would offer parents a bit of respite. "We want to make it more home from home," she added, "We want to make it really relaxed and somewhere where they can have some space. At the moment it looks quite outdated.

"At the moment the parents' room is quite clinical. We would like to put a computer in there with internet access, radio and TV so they can de-stress.

"The teenage room we want to make more age appropriate for them. It will be nice to paint it and put some pictures on the walls. There’s a sofa in there but it's quite clinical. It's little things like that which make all the difference.

"We're also going to invite the teenagers to make suggestions about what they would like as well."

Hannah said: "I'm really passionate about the ward. Doing a job like ward manager is not just a job, it's kind of a way of life. I love coming to work and want to make a difference - and the
nurses all really want to as well. It's a really passionate team on here."

Pictured - the D2 team: Fiona Tideswell, Emma McCrum, Anna Wallis, Erin Lerner, Hannah Sargeant-Smith, Steph Partington, Wendy Bell, Niki Window and Hannah Nunn