

Imagine if your whole world changed in a day.
Imagine having to leave everything you own
and everyone you know.



A matter of fact, you may be shocked to learn that
48,000 children require emergency accommodation in the UK each year.

Children fleeing violent situations often have to leave home quickly, without the chance to collect basic items.

These children arrive in emergency accommodation with just the clothes they are wearing.

Source: NSPCC web site Department of Education 2014

We have created The Buddy Bag Foundation in response to the rising number of children who enter emergency care after fleeing violent situations at home. Restoring a sense of safety and security into a child's life during a traumatic time is one of the first steps to recovery. By providing these children with a few essential items, we can help make the transition into emergency care a little easier.

What is a Buddy Bag?

A Buddy Bag is a backpack that contains all the essential items a child needs. They include **toiletries, pyjamas, socks and underwear**. They also include comfort items such as a **book, a photo frame and a teddy bear**. A Buddy Bag is something a child can call their own, no matter where they go.

Buddy Bags are tailored to suit babies, children and young people according to age groups and gender.

How can you help?

Due to the nature of our foundation and appeal, we're always looking for help from **individuals** and **businesses** alike.

Whether you have some spare **time** and **skills, items** or **cash to donate**, all is welcome. For more information, please see the '**How can I help**' document on our website or email hello@buddybagfoundation.co.uk

www.buddybagfoundation.co.uk/howcanihelp

Where did the Buddy Bag idea come from?

During a visit to Australia in 2014, our founder, Karen Williams, was inspired by an article about The Alannah and Madeline Foundation (www.amf.org.au) which has delivered more than 60,000 Buddy Bags to children in emergency care in Australia since 2007.

On returning to the UK, Karen researched the facilities available to children in emergency care and discovered a huge need for Buddy Bags in the UK.

To ensure as many children as possible can benefit from the Buddy Bag scheme, Karen set up The Buddy Bag Foundation and launched the Buddy Bag appeal in the UK, with the help and support of The Alannah and Madeline Foundation.