

Sophia's Story



sophia's
stepping
stones

Sophia was born on 7th December 2010, 8 weeks premature. After 4 weeks in the Special Care Baby Unit, we could take our little princess home – and she was perfect.

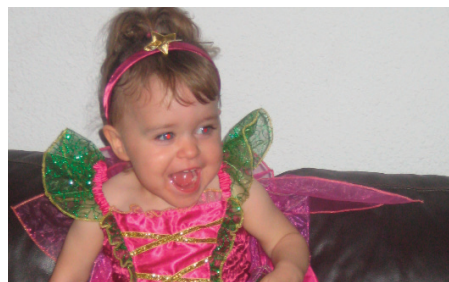


The first 8 months were wonderful, but then we noticed Sophia wasn't able to sit up, crawl or play with her feet like most babies, and her legs started to spasm. We took her for x-rays, which showed her hips were fine, but we were referred to a neurologist. Alarm bells started to ring – what could be wrong with our little angel?

Sophia was sent for an MRI scan and later diagnosed with spastic diplegia, a form of cerebral palsy. We couldn't believe what was happening. We cried (a lot), we talked (when we were strong) and did a mountain of research. Sophia is our world – there is nothing we wouldn't do to make her life the best it can possibly be.

Sophia is an amazing child. She is beautiful, intelligent, strong and loving – always trying her hardest in everything she does. She is incredibly strong-willed and determined, and this means she has already progressed beyond anything the professionals had expected.

Despite this, moving around is incredibly difficult for Sophia. She doesn't have the agility to reach things other children can, or the manoeuvrability to go where she wants. Her feet are very sensitive and the spasticity in her muscles causes her to walk on her tip-toes and with a scissor-gait. Her bones are likely to deform and



there is a strong possibility that Sophia will require orthopaedic surgery, on top of her usual treatments.



There is an operation – Selective Dorsal Rhizotomy (SDR) – that would reduce the pain in her legs, allow her to place her feet flat, and – with years of intensive physiotherapy – should mean she can walk independently. The operation will be carried out in America and the treatment will cost a massive £65,000. This is a very daunting amount to raise, but Sophia deserves this opportunity and we are determined to do all that we can to reach this target.

Please help us in any way you can.

To get more involved contact Andy or Tara on 01993 359046 or email 174Sophia@gmail.com



JustGiving

Scan the QR code with your smart phone to go to the Just Giving Page.

<https://www.justgiving.com/Sophias-stepping-stones>

Follow Sophia's story on Twitter
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