



Little Hearts Matter

**SUMMING+IT+UP**

School life with half a heart



**Parent** guide  
to presentations

## Powerpoint presentations

The enclosed DVD contains a series of Powerpoint presentations.

Presentations one and two have been created to help parents explain their child's heart condition and their needs in school to staff members. If you can present during a staff meeting, or to as many members of staff, that would be ideal.

Presentations three and four are assembly presentations aimed at a child's peers.

There is one for primary school and one for secondary school.

# Summing It Up

## How to raise awareness of your child's heart condition needs in school.

Over the past ten years the LHM team have worked to create a tool box of information that parents and teachers can use to gain a greater understanding of the needs of a child with a single ventricle heart condition in school. Age appropriate booklets, advice about accessing Healthcare Plans and added support for an educational need as well as individual advice and support have been welcomed by families throughout the country.

However, families have expressed a need for a bit more help in ensuring that school teams really understand their child's heart condition.

The Summing It Up project is a collection of new ways to raise half a heart awareness with teachers and school staff and ultimately pupils. The project aims to empower parents, and eventually the children themselves, to explain the needs of their child in every school situation.



**Suzie Hutchinson**  
**Service Lead and Chief Executive**

# How to use the presentations

## Teacher presentations (numbers 1 and 2)

This presentation can be adapted to tell your child's story. Add in or take away slides to create a personalised presentation that explains your child's needs.

### Slide 1

Introduction - explain why you are doing the presentation and what you hope to achieve.

### Slide 2

Include the diagram of your child's heart condition. Discard the other diagrams.

### Slide 3

Fill this slide with information about your child's heart, treatments, medications and explain how well they cope with their heart condition on a daily basis.

### Slide 4

Talk about the need to find a balance between your child achieving and not over stretching their heart. Talk about the things they are good at and enjoy.

### Slide 5

Use this slide to explain your child's lack of energy in comparison to their peers.

### Slide 6

Explain why a lack of energy affects their ability to concentrate. When a child has an attention deficit they often don't sit still which confuses teachers. Take time to explain their needs.

## Slide 7

This slide offers an opportunity to talk about participation and inclusion.

## Slide 8

Explain any mobility needs and talk through how they travel to school.

## Slide 9

Include this slide if you have any concerns about your child's ability to learn or if they seem to show any signs of developmental delay (lagging behind their friends).

N.B. In the secondary school presentation there is an added slide here that talks more about inclusion.

## Slides 10 and 11

These slides relate to how to keep a child safe in school. The sort of information that must sit in a Healthcare Plan.

## Slide 12

Sets out the need for a Healthcare Plan (HCP). This plan must be in place as it is the law for any child with a long-term medical condition to have those needs recognised in school.

## Slide 13

Concentrates on making sure that teachers remember the mental health of your child.

## Slide 14

This last slide lists all the other resources that are available for teachers and school teams. They can all be accessed online.

If you have any questions about the presentation just give the LHM team a ring on 0121 455 8982 and we will lend a helping hand.

## Assembly presentations (numbers 3 and 4)

The assembly presentations, as you would expect, are aimed at your child's peers. There are two presentations, one for primary and one for secondary school. This presentation should be made as personal to your child as possible, but as a general rule, don't get bogged down by the detail. It is aimed at children, so a quick overview is going to be more engaging than anything in-depth.

### Slide 1

Introduction - explain why you are doing the presentation and what you hope to achieve.

### Slide 2

Heart Quiz - this is an easy way to engage with the children. Try and involve the children in the assembly by getting them to put their hands up. The answers appear on a click.

### Slide 3

Your child's story - this is entirely up to you whether you feature this slide - delete if you wish. Stick to the basics, share as much as you're comfortable with and don't make it too long. When did you find out? What difference has it made to your lives? Add your own photo and add some bullet points if you wish.

### Slide 4

Spot the difference - a simple and engaging way of explaining having half a heart. Again, keep this simple and don't get bogged down in detail and go through it in as much detail as you're comfortable with.

### Slide 5

Explain your feelings here as well as what your child had to go through.

### Slide 6

Depending on whether your child has had the Fontan, briefly explain

what the operation is and how it can help your child. Again, use your own photos if you have them.

## Slide 7

Briefly go through this list and add your own symptoms (or take them away if not applicable to your child) if you wish as well as photos.

## Slide 8

Focus on what your child is going through and add or take away any on the list given.

## Slide 9

If you can, find and match the school's values to this slide as that would be preferable. If you want to remove this slide, that's fine, but it does link to the school well and the school will appreciate the link to their values.

## Slide 10

If you can, summarise what LHM means to you and your family. Use the three main themes we have put here, but add in your own feelings on how LHM has helped you.

## Slide 11

Most of these are self-explanatory, but please contact LHM or visit [www.lhm.org.uk](http://www.lhm.org.uk) if you need further information.

## Slide 12

Please push this as much as you can and (knowing the school, or having already spoken to the school), you can suggest certain initiatives and encourage the school to get involved.

## Slide 13

Thank you - ask if there are any questions, but try and limit them.

If you have any questions about the presentation just give the LHM team a ring on 0121 455 8982 and we will lend a helping hand.



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