



# Caitlin's Dream Appeal

Sanfilippo Syndrome (MPS III) affects about 1 in 25,000 children. It is a fatal disease that alas has no treatment or cure and cannot be regressed.

One such child is **Caitlin**, aged 3, daughter of Ben and Emma and sister of Chloe.

Children afflicted with Sanfilippo Syndrome are missing an essential enzyme that breaks down strings of a complex body sugar called heparan sulfate. The partially broken-down sugar, or mucopolysaccharide, accumulates in the brain and the body's cells and tissue causing progressive damage. The storage process affects children's appearances, bodily functions and development.

A Sanfilippo child appears normal at birth and seems to develop normally for the first year or two, but as more and more cells become damaged symptoms begin to appear. Eventually, the build-up of mucopolysaccharides will cause hyperactivity, sleep disorders, loss of speech, mental retardation, dementia and finally death. Life expectancy for a child with Sanfilippo Syndrome is between **10 to 15 years**.

From an early age, up until the end, they depend upon special needs and the love and support of family and friends.

Touched by this family's plight, their family, friends and colleagues have decided to join together to try and help young **Caitlin** enjoy her brief life

The aim of the appeal is to generate enough funds to send **Caitlin**, her parents and sister to Disneyworld in Florida while they still have enough time to share the moment as a normal family. Additional funds will be used to adapt their family home and to make **Caitlin's** life more comfortable.

We are organising many fund raising activities to achieve this and ask sincerely that you help us achieve our objectives.

If you would like to help by contributing financially please forward cheques made payable to Caitlins dream or visit our Web-site, or by donating gifts or services that could be used as part of the fund raising activities please contact Paul Ward C/O Hydrapower Dynamics Ltd, St Marks Street, Birmingham B1 2UN  
E-Mail: [pward@caitlinsdream.com](mailto:pward@caitlinsdream.com), Telephone: 0121-452 8307, **Web-site: [www.caitlinsdream.com](http://www.caitlinsdream.com)**

*Simply by donating or helping you too can become part of the 'Caitlin's Dream Team'*

