

H. PORTER & SONS
INDEPENDENT FAMILY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Respectful. Professional. Personal.



Arranging a funeral for a child

If you sadly need to arrange a funeral for a child, we are here for you, guiding and supporting every step of the way. For a child up to the age of 18 years or if you should have suffered the loss of a baby during pregnancy, our services are free.

Our funeral director and caring team will spend time with you, making sure we provide you with exactly what you need for an appropriate and touching funeral.

Our 'Forget-me-not' service for children

Caring for children up to and including 18 years of age.

H. Porter & Sons waives the funeral director's fees for the funerals of children under the age of 18 years. This has always been our policy - our service is free of charge - we will take care of everything, giving you the time to grieve and focus on other important matters.

We're here for you all day, every day, along every step of the way, to support you in any way that we can, helping you make decisions, while being looked after and cared for by our experienced team. We are privileged to have been looking after local families for 180 years.

Our free service includes:

- Funeral service arrangement support
- Provision of a hearse for the funeral
- Provision of bearers for the funeral
- Eco coffin
- Chapel of rest visits within office hours
- Standard design service sheets x 20
- Flowers - neutral coloured silk flower coffin spray
- Into our care service

Local crematoriums and places of worship

- Our local crematoriums at Stourbridge, Gornal Wood, Wyre Forest and Waseley Hills all waive their cremation costs for under 18s.

Additional Services (please refer to our main price list for additional costs)

- Long distance removals over 20 miles
- Limousines
- Taking your child home to spend their final night at rest with close family members
- Horse-drawn hearse
- Additional service sheets
- Book of condolence
- Memorial cards
- Floral tributes
- Visual tributes
- Keepsakes
- Special coffin chosen from a wide range
- Catering and use of The Lounge function room
- Ashes casket
- Purchase of ashes or full burial plot
- Memorial stone



Please note, a fee for some disbursements (fees that the funeral director pays on your behalf) may still be applicable. Our children's funeral package applies to funerals taking place in England.

Financial support

Details of government support for children's funeral costs (Children's Funeral Fund – CFF) are here: www.gov.uk/child-funeral-costs

The Child Funeral Charity can also provide support.

www.childfuneralcharity.org.uk

We hold copies of their booklet at our office, for you to take away.



Charities

There are several charities that can support you at this time:

Child Bereavement UK helps children, young people, parents and families to rebuild their lives when a child grieves or when a child dies. This site also has animated films to help understanding. www.childbereavementuk.org

The Compassionate Friends support bereaved parents and their families, host a helpline, weekend retreats and online sessions. www.tcf.org.uk

4 Louis supports anyone affected by miscarriage, stillbirth or child loss. H. Porter & Sons is able to provide the 4 Louis Memory Box free of charge, to help you at this time. <https://4louis.co.uk>



The Lullaby Trust offers emotional support to those bereaved by sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) and also raises awareness. www.lullabytrust.org.uk

Sands supports the families of those affected by baby bereavement. We stock Sands' 'Always Loved Never Forgotten' packs and boxes, available free of charge to bereaved families. www.sands.org.uk



Winston's Wish provides practical and emotional support to children and young people affected by the death of a sibling or parent. winstonswish.org

The Good Grief Trust provides comfort, information and support. www.thegoodgrieftrust.org/i-have-lost-a/child

Aching Arms brings comfort after pregnancy and baby loss. www.achingarms.co.uk



Keepsakes

We can help you turn your child's clothes into beautiful keepsake bears and/or cushions, lovingly made by a local craft company.



What to do with ashes

Following the funeral, if it has been a cremation service, families face the delicate but important decision of what to do with the ashes.

There are a range of meaningful options for paying tribute to a child.

In the UK, ashes can be scattered almost anywhere. However, on private land it is important to get the landowner's permission first.

Where to scatter the ashes is a personal choice. A key consideration is whether you want to scatter nearby, for example, in a local park or even your garden, or perhaps somewhere a bit further afield at a place your child loved, such as the seaside or a national park.

Sports grounds are also popular locations for ashes scattering but each venue will have its own policy, so it's essential to check first.

Alternatively, ashes don't have to be scattered at all. They can be kept at home in a beautiful urn or buried in the crematorium grounds or a local cemetery in their own plot or as part of a family grave.

A lovely way for a person's memory to live on is by planting a tree on top of the ashes. Watching it grow year after year can bring great comfort.

There are lots of things you can do with ashes to honour your child's memory. But if you're unsure, a member of our team will gladly advise on everything from local and national regulations to burial and scattering processes.

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