



Evelina Children's Heart Organisation

ECHO: PRE-NATAL SUPPORT

The moment that the doctor told you there was a problem with your baby's heart was probably the worst moment of your life. You might have been told there are other things wrong with your baby and you may need more tests to clarify this. Suddenly nothing is certain and the future seems very frightening.

You are not alone. Nearly 1 in 100 children are born with some sort of heart defect so there are many, many people who have experienced what you are going through. Prenatal diagnosis means that your baby will be in the best possible hands from the moment they are born. But for families this means many months of anxiety.

The Evelina Children's Heart Organisation (ECHO) is a voluntary organisation run by parents for the families of children born with heart conditions who are treated at The Evelina Children's Hospital (part of Guy's & St. Thomas' Hospital Trust).

We have found that it helps to talk to others who have had similar experiences to you and your family. We can put you in touch with families in your area or someone whose child has a similar condition as your baby. We also appreciate that many parents are not ready to talk to other families yet but might be interested to receive our free newsletter or look on our website www.echo-evelina.org.uk

Jo Rao with Kiran, Harry and Nina



If you need someone to talk to please call either Jo Rao on tel: **0208 6597326** or Fran Wintour on: **01322 864350** or email them at **prenatalsupport@echo-evelina.org.uk**

Both Jo and Fran (pictured with their families) have personal experience as they are both parents of a heart child and Jo's son Kiran was pre-natally diagnosed at Guy's and St Thomas'.

Fran Wintour with Harry



ECHO also sponsor regular one-day Ante-natal Education Days, specifically for parents who are expecting a heart-baby. These are held every six weeks at St. Thomas' Hospital and are run by the Thames Team midwives. If you would like to attend one of these sessions, then please contact our Administrator Jessica Cattermole on 01273 248948

If you would like to join ECHO simply complete this form and return it to: **Jessica at ECHO, PO Box 5015, Brighton, BN50 9JR.** Alternatively e-mail **admin@echo-evelina.org.uk**



ECHO MEMBERSHIP FORM

Child's Name _____ Child's due date _____

Parent's name(s) _____

Would you like to be put in touch with other parents? Yes / No

Address _____

Postcode _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Child's Condition _____