

Is there a charge for this cast?

No, the service is provided by a company called *Forkeeps* and is funded by CHI at Crumlin or Heart Children Ireland.

Can I order more casts

If you wish to purchase additional casts, please contact *Forkeeps* directly:

☎ Louise on 0860883945 or

✉ www.forkeeps.ie.

There is a charge for additional casts.

The clay imprints will be stored for approximately nine months by *Forkeeps* after which they may no longer be useable.

Remember: Ask a staff member if you are unsure about anything.

Additional information

The End of Life Care Committee

The End of Life Care Committee in CHI at Crumlin promotes and supports good practice in end of life care for children and their families.

The work of the committee is focused on ensuring that end of life care is organised around the needs of children and their families. Members of the committee organise many activities to support the parents and families of children who have died, including bereavement support services, hand/foot prints, memorial booklets and an annual Remembrance Day.

If you have any suggestions or feedback for us about any aspect of end of life care for children and their families, please contact:

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Developed by: The End of Life Care Committee

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Information for parents or guardians on

Ceramic Casts

when a child dies in
CHI at Crumlin

We understand that this is a very difficult time for you and your family. Please accept our sincere sympathies.

Children's Health Ireland (CHI) at Crumlin, would like to offer ceramic casting of your child's hand and / or foot prints.

What is Ceramic Casting?

A Ceramic Cast is a print of your child's hand and/or foot print, which you might like as a memento of your child.

*Those whom we have loved,
Who have touched our lives
even briefly,
We hold in our hearts
forever.*

How is the cast made?

The casting process is quick and simple: your child's hand and / or foot will be placed and pressed gently into soft clay for less than 30 seconds.

This cast is then sent to a professional organisation, called *Forkeeps*, to be completed.

They will returned to the hospital approximately 4-8 weeks later.

What information is given to *Forkeeps* about my child?

When the cast goes out to *Forkeeps* your child's name, date of birth and HealthCare Record Number will be passed on also. This is to help *Forkeeps* and the hospital identify whose print it is.

If you are not happy for this information to be shared with *Forkeeps*, please discuss with your nurse or social worker.

How do I receive the cast?

You can receive the cast in a number of ways, which ever suits you best:

- When you return to the hospital for your follow-up meeting.
- A representative nominated by you can come and collect it on your behalf.
- It can be posted to you by registered post.

What happens if I do not collect the cast?

Unfortunately, CHI at Crumlin does not have storage capacity to safely keep your child's cast indefinitely.

If we have not been able to contact you, or you have not had the opportunity to collect it after 6 months, we will post the cast out to you at the last address we have on record. We will send the cast by registered post.