

## Hospital makeover gets Mark's support

Employees at John Lewis Milton Keynes have been honing their decorating skills this November, as they take part in a volunteer project to makeover the Children's Outpatients Unit at the hospital.

For a week starting on November 27, staff members from John Lewis, as well as the YMCA and Bedford charity SportsTraider, have been redeveloping the Children's Outpatients Unit, to enhance the facilities for younger patients and their families.

The Children's Outpatients Unit sees as many as 40,000 children every year, some of whom have long term conditions such as asthma and cystic fibrosis. The project will make a huge difference to both patients and their families, who regularly visit the unit for check-ups, clinics and assessments.

Carole Page, Matron for Surgical Services, is delighted to have the support. She says: "This project will really make a difference. For many children and their families, this is their first experience of a hospital environment and so making it as welcoming and friendly as possible is important. We are looking forward to working with such a highly-regarded company as John Lewis and can't wait to see the finished result!"

Anne Dodds, Community Liaison Co-ordinator at John Lewis, is delighted to be supporting the hospital in this way. She says: "We wanted to do something for the community that goes beyond just donating money – and this seemed like the perfect project. Staff are really looking forward to getting stuck into the work and making a real difference to children and families in Milton Keynes."

Mark visited the project to see the progress which has been made, commenting; ' A lot of work has gone into transforming the Children's Outpatient ward into a more child friendly place and I congratulate John Lewis and all the staff involved in the project for transforming the ward.'

The project is due to be completed on December 1.