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**Themes:** Advocacy, , Counselling

**Aimed at:** All People

Blood cancer is a type of cancer that affects your blood cells. Leukaemia, lymphoma and myeloma are some of the most common types of blood cancer.

Blood cancer is caused by changes (mutations) in the DNA within blood cells. This causes the blood cells to start behaving abnormally. In almost all cases, these changes are linked to things we can't control. They happen during a person's lifetime, so they are not genetic faults you can pass on.

Some types of blood cancer affect children. Symptoms and treatment can be different between children and adults.

Over 40,000 people are diagnosed with a blood cancer each year in the UK, and over 250,000 people are currently living with blood cancer.

Blood cancer patients are more likely than any other cancer patients to leave their diagnosis appointment feeling they don't fully understand their condition. We want to change that. We provide clear information about blood cancer that people can trust, in a language they can understand. Every year, we deliver more than 40,000 booklets about blood cancer to hospitals and patients, and our online health information is accessed 350,000 times.

People also need advice and support on how to adapt to day-to-day life after a

blood cancer diagnosis. There are challenges that are quite unique to blood cancer, such as living with cancer as a chronic condition, being on 'watch and wait', having treatment that lasts for many years or having a fluctuating course of remissions and relapse. We support people through all of this.

This is why we have a phone line and email address where people can speak to one of our trained blood cancer support officers who can provide information about your blood cancer, and help with emotional and practical support. Every year, we respond to thousands of enquiries from people affected by blood cancer. We also run an online forum where people affected by blood cancer can connect, share experiences and give support to each other.

As well as information on diseases and treatment, we have helpful information on how to live well with blood cancer. We also have a website for young adults with blood cancer.

**Area:** Bassetlaw, Bolsover

### **Contact Details**

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<https://bloodcancer.org.uk/>

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