## **Our Purpose**

The Ethan Wright Foundation was created in loving memory of Ethan James Wright, a kind, sensitive, and brave young soul who believed deeply in justice, acceptance, and helping others find peace in who they are. In honouring his memory, we are committed to supporting charitable work that uplifts, protects, and empowers young people navigating mental health challenges and issues of identity, self-image, and belonging.

### **Guiding Principles**

Charitable funds will be distributed to organisations and initiatives that align with the following core values, which reflect Ethan's heart and legacy:

### 1. Compassion and Empathy

Funding will prioritise organisations that take a trauma-informed, person-centred, and non-judgmental approach to supporting young people.

### 2. Prevention and Early Intervention

Projects that focus on identifying and addressing issues early—before crisis point—are especially valued, particularly in the areas of body image, eating disorders, bullying, and mental health.

## 3. Inclusivity and Representation

We will support organisations that are inclusive and actively work to represent and uplift LGBTQ+ youth and those facing gender identity challenges, ensuring safe spaces for all.

## 4. Lived Experience and Youth Voice

Initiatives that are led by or meaningfully include people with lived experience—especially young people themselves—will be prioritised.

## 5. Holistic Support

Preference will be given to charities that provide wraparound support (e.g., counselling, peer support, family education, advocacy) rather than isolated interventions.

# 6. Accessibility and Equity

We aim to fund organisations that reduce barriers to access for marginalised, vulnerable, or underserved young people, including those from low-income families or minority backgrounds.

#### 7. Kindness in Action

Ethan believed in simple acts of kindness. We will support grassroots and community-based projects that may be small in scale but make a big difference in individual lives.

## **Priority Areas for Funding**

Grants and donations may be awarded to organisations working in the following areas:

- Body Dysmorphic Disorder (BDD) and body image issues
- Eating disorders, including anorexia and bulimia
- Anti-bullying initiatives, especially those tackling online and identity-based bullying
- Support for LGBTQ+ youth, including gender identity services
- Mental health services for children and young people (ages 10–25)
- Education and awareness campaigns around self-worth, identity, and resilience

## **Evaluation Criteria for Funding Decisions**

Applications, donations or funding proposals will be reviewed based on:

- Alignment with our purpose and values
- Demonstrated impact or potential for impact
- Evidence of need and reach among the target demographic
- Ethical standards and safeguarding policies
- Financial transparency and good governance
- Innovation and potential for replication or long-term sustainability

#### Final Word – Ethan's Heartbeat

At the core of every giving decision, we will ask: Would this have made Ethan smile? Would he have felt seen, heard, or helped by this? If the answer is yes, then we're honouring his memory in the best way we can.