



livewire.

powered by Starlight★

A safe and supportive online community for young people and their families affected by a serious illness, disability or chronic health condition.



- Blogs
- Music
- Articles
- Groups
- Fully-moderated chat room
- Create a profile
- Videos
- Connect with others

“People don’t understand how you can become friends with someone you have never met. But when you have shared so many highs and lows together the fact you have never met in person is irrelevant.”

“In that moment when we are all laughing, chatting and joking together, nothing else matters. The fact that perhaps we are stuck in bed, our hair is falling out or machines are breathing for us is completely irrelevant. In that moment we are teenagers laughing. And that is all that matters.”

Jess, Livewire member, aged 19



What is livewire.org.nz?

Livewire.org.nz is an online community specifically designed for young people aged 10 – 20 years living with a chronic health condition, disability or serious illness, and their families. It is a safe online space where members can connect and share experiences with others who understand.

Livewire.org.nz allows members to connect with others in a moderated chat room seven days a week; and meet other young people with similar conditions all over Australia and New Zealand.

Members can also:

- Create a blog about themselves and topics they are interested in
- Connect with other young people who have the same condition
- Read up on the latest news, reviews and interviews

Other features include:

- A music player with the latest video clips
- Groups and private messages



Benefits of livewire.org.nz

Livewire.org.nz creates a point of connection for young people aged 10 – 20 years, who often lack opportunities to interact socially with others their age due to a serious illness, chronic health condition or disability.

Connections

Livewire.org.nz also provides a space for those teens that may be socially connected, but feel they can't be open with their friends about their condition. Livewire.org.nz is a community where they can share experiences with other young people going through similar situations.

Personal and Social Wellbeing

Livewire.org.nz allows members to find a balance in their lives despite disruptions such as time in hospital or time away from school by encouraging social connection, friendship and community.

Third, A., & Richardson, I. (2009). 'Analysing the impacts of social networking for young people living with chronic illness, a serious condition or a disability: An evaluation of the Livewire Online Community. Murdoch University, Centre for Everyday Life, Perth WA.

“I can't walk, I am in a wheelchair. I see others running around and jumping around, I can't do it. However the thing I can do is be on livewire and if livewire.org.nz wasn't there I would have nothing to do.”

Andrew, Livewire member, aged 16



Security

Validation

Safety is of paramount importance in livewire.org.nz and every livewire.org.nz member undergoes a validation process by the livewire.org.nz membership services team before gaining access to the chat room.

Chat Hosts

Trained chat hosts are in the chat room at all times and constitute a unique feature of the Livewire 'chat' facility. Chat hosts are active participants, directly engaging in conversations and facilitating activities with the members. Their vital role provides a more integrated and fun community, while ensuring livewire.org.nz members are having a positive and enjoyable experience inside the community.



Join livewire.org.nz today!

Joining livewire.org.nz is easy. Just go to www.livewire.org.nz, click on 'Join Livewire' and complete the simple registration.

Livewire.org.nz also has a Parent and Not-For-Profit registration. Go to www.livewire.org.nz to learn more.

**Livewire.org.nz is also
who for young people
have a brother or sister
living with a serious
illness or disability!**

Have a question?

***To speak with someone at livewire.org.nz please call
(free call) 0800 000 680 between 11am and 7pm or
email member.services@livewire.org.nz***