

WITH DESIGNS ON CHANGING THE KIDS' CLOTHES MARKET

KIMBERLEY WALSH

ON KEEPING BUSINESS IN THE FAMILY AND GOING SOLO ON STAGE



When singer and West End star Kimberley Walsh was shopping for clothes for her sons, she couldn't find what she was looking for. "There's a lack of variety for boys," she tells **HELLO!**. "There's not much colour, no fun or bold prints. It's all really safe. I wanted them to be a little bit more expressive in their style."

Frustrated, she started to think about creating her own children's clothing label so she could get exactly what her and husband Justin Scott's sons Bobby, three, and Cole, 18 months, needed. And she knew the right man for the job: her brother Adam, managing director for a company that sells clothes to high-street stores.

"We decided to work together to create our own brand," the 36-year-old star says about her gorgeous new clothing range for children, Kimba Kids, so-called after the nickname given to her by her ex-Girls Aloud bandmates. "We are really proud of what we have managed to achieve."

Kimberley was starring in West End show *Elf: the Musical* when they hit upon the idea and two years on it has become reality, with the range going on sale through Next online from 12 July and the Kimba Kids website later this year.

The siblings also enlisted the help of their sister Sally and, to make sure the whole project was kept firmly in the family, Kimberley's boys were drafted in to model the outfits.

"I took my eldest Bobby to the first photoshoot to see if he wanted to do it and he didn't appreciate not being involved," Kimberley tells **HELLO!**. "So I let him be part of it. He loved it."

Although the range starts for three-year-olds, Kimberley made sure little Cole wasn't left out by getting some items especially made for him. She will also do the same for his best friend Bear, son of Cheryl Tweedy and Liam Payne.

"Cheryl asked me for some clothes the other day so I'll get some specially made up for Bear."

"They are friends. They are really cute together because they're a couple of months apart in age and they're both walking. They have just started to be interested in each other, it's really cute."

JUGGLING ACT

The singer, currently starring in Channel 4 school drama *Ackley Bridge* and shortly to perform a solo show, certainly has her hands full. But she wouldn't have it any other way.

"You just juggle it all, don't you? I do like being busy. But there's a point when I feel like my head's going to explode."

Acting is something she'd love to pursue, describing her time on *Ackley Bridge* as "exciting". But before she takes on more roles in front of the camera, she's preparing for her one-week residency at London's Brasserie Zedel – and says she's nervous about stepping out without the comfort of her Girls Aloud pals.

"I wanted to be back on stage and see the fans and do something a bit more intimate. But now I'm picturing myself alone on the stage... However, I'm a believer that sometimes you have to throw yourself in the deep end. Most of the time you swim, so hopefully I will. It will be weird without the girls. I may pretend they're behind me."

H

INTERVIEW: LAURA BENJAMIN



Singer and West End star Kimberley, 36 (right, with her Girls Aloud pals Cheryl Tweedy and Nicola Roberts) is excited to be doing a five-night solo show in London but says she will miss her bandmates on stage. "It will be weird without them," she tells **HELLO!**. "I may pretend they're behind me"

'Cheryl asked me for some clothes - so I will get some made for Bear'



Keeping it in the family: Kimberley with her adorable model sons Bobby, three, and Cole, 18 months, who wear 45 items from her new children's clothing range, Kimba Kids