

Fundraising with young people

Children make wonderful recruits to charity work. They have an enthusiasm and energy not often matched in adults. Fundraising is also an excellent opportunity for children to learn why other people need help. They will also learn new skills and have fun at the same time. If you are fundraising at school, it can often be interlinked with the national curriculum, for example through Citizenship lessons.

Children may either fundraise at home, where written permission from a parent or guardian is necessary, or at school, where the approval of the Head teacher is required.

Keeping young people safe

The most important element is to maintain children's safety.

- They should be supervised by at least one responsible adult at all times.
- They should not be allowed to wander off and collect jumble or seek raffle ticket buyers in private houses.
- Parents must be made aware of the need for children to approach only friends and relations for sponsorship.
- Children under 16 are not permitted by law to make street or house to house collections.
- Children should be told not to approach strangers for money and that to go knocking from door to door is against the law.
- In terms of their physical safety, areas where there is insecure equipment, hot pans for cooking, electrical equipment etc. should be out of bounds to younger children. Similarly children should not be asked to help lift heavy equipment.

Keeping young people engaged

Children become very bored, very quickly! One way to counteract this is to give them responsibilities. For example, one group could be asked to decorate tables, another to wrap tombola prizes, while others could make models to sell or arrange and staff a stall. Encouraging responsibility allows children to see how their contributions can make a difference to the outcome of the event.

When choosing fundraising events directly aimed at children, try to be as imaginative as possible. Choose themes which will amuse and captivate them.

We also appreciate that when a school agrees to do some fundraising for a charity, they need to choose a type of event or activity which will suit the time of year, school calendar, and the local area.

Below are a few ideas, plus suggestions of how to involve children in wider fundraising events.

An easy A to Z of fabulous fundraising ideas

We hope that our A to Z will help to provide inspiration for all The Christie's young supporters who want to fundraise. Whether you are looking for a quick, quiet, sporting, fun, long-term, educational or any other sort of fundraising idea – you can find it here!

Activity pay (e.g. pay to cook/paint for the afternoon), auction, aerobics session, arm wrestling competition

Bring & buy sale, bike ride, Christie beanie sale, book fair, backwards walk, beetle drive for children, bingo, back to front day

Card design & sale (especially for important seasonal/religious dates), comic-strip competition, cake sale, collages, car boot sale, conker championship, Christie information stall, concert

Dance-a-thon, disco (themed?), dress-up dare

Easter egg sale/hunt, Easter bonnet competition, Easter egg decorations, end of year ball

Funny hair day, fashion show, food stall, fancy dress competition, sponsored fast, fireworks display for Guy Fawkes Night (charge for entry), fete, fun run, fine box

Guess the object, guess the teacher from baby picture, games challenge (board games, sports games or the latest school craze), garden tidy, guess the weight, height &/or amount, give-up a treat day

Halloween party, heritage walk, hair beading, historical figure day (or choose an era)

Inter-class quizzes, inter-school event, international evening, ice-skating, ice-cream sale

Jar of coins fill, organised jog for Christie's, juggle-a-thon, jumble sale, **Junior Great Manchester Run, jar of goodies (guess the number)

Karaoke session, kite make/flying competition

Learn a poem, foreign language vocabulary or song....., line dance, leap frog, limbo competition

Music-a-thon, matchbox collect (sponsored per item in a box), musical evening, May Day Fair, mathathon, maths quiz, magic show.

Non-uniform day, name the Christie Bear, nature trail, Number Draw (e.g. 100 numbers, 20p per number, £10 winner & £10 Christie's).

Odd job help, origami, open day (charge for entry)

Pay-to-play, pantomime, party, portraits for charity, pancake flip/race, penalty shoot-out!, plant grow (e.g. cress, sunflowers...), pool competition

Quizzes (sponsored), Quaser

Read-a-thon, recipe book, refreshments for sale, ramble (sponsored class nature walk), raffle, rounders tournament, rowing, rugby tournament

Sponsored sporting event (swim, walk, run, bike ride, obstacle race, any athletic activity), school play in aid of Christies, sponsored silence, save-a-little-give-a-little week, sponsored spell, Scalextric Grand Prix, Summer Fayre stall for Christie's

Tidy school lunch hour, tacky tie day, talent contest, tennis tournament, three legged race/footie match, times table challenge, tombola, tug-o-war, Twister-a-thon, themed fancy dress day

Used stamp sale, unicycle race (well you never know)

Valentine's ball, video at lunch-time, variety show

Word search, welly throw, wheelbarrow race

Xmas party (or hold a party for your local youth group/juniors party), Xmas Fayre or Xmas Christie Stall, Xmas Card/Beanies sale for Christie's

Yoga challenge, all yellow day, yo-yo competition

Zany dress day, zoo nature trail, zoo-themed day

The Mini and Junior Great Manchester Run is open to all children aged between 3 and 8 and 9 and 14 respectively. Adult permission is needed.

Further detailed information can be found in The Institute of Fundraising in Schools Code of Fundraising Practice, which provides guidance and best practice for organisations that want to engage schools and young children in fundraising activities. www.institute-of-fundraising.org.uk

Please contact your Community Fundraising Officer for more advice and guidance on fundraising with young people.