

A-Z of Fundraising Ideas

A

Aerobics-athon

To stay fit and healthy, organise an aerobics-athon. It'll make you feel good about supporting us.

Arts and crafts fair

Put your creative talents into action and sell your works of art at a craft fair.

Auction

Organise your own fundraising auction. Why not auction off your talents for the day?

Art exhibition

Instead of selling your art, charge your friends and family to look at it!

B

Bad Hair day

Fed up of being nagged about your untidy hair? Organise a Bad Hair day to raise us money.

Bad Tie day

Look in your dad's wardrobe for those outdated ties and dazzle your friends. Pay to display the outrageous tie. Your friends could pay to have the offending tie removed.

Bag packing at local supermarket

Ask your local supermarket if you can hold a bag packing day. It's a great way to provide a service to the local community while supporting us too.

Battle of the bands

Challenge those budding musicians to a battle of the bands and put on a concert to raise money. You could also raise money with a "pay to leave" policy.

Bring and buy sale

Sell donated goods on a stall. Cakes, books, home-made jam, bric-a-brac and fairtrade goods are firm favourites.

Bike ride

Pedal for poverty! Why not organise a bike ride and turn it into a sponsored event?

Beat the goalie

Challenge your friends to a beat the goalie competition. Pay to play.

Bingo

Organise a bingo event – devise your own calls for the numbers. Charge a fee per game.

C

Cake sales

Cake sales are a great way to raise money and awareness too, if they are made from fairly traded products. To ensure a healthy eating dimension have a variety of cakes like carrot cake and banana bread. Don't forget to sell your products to teachers too, if you're doing it in school. Ask your priest about setting up a stall after Mass. You could even make tea and coffee!

Coppers for BB

Collect all those unwanted coppers that weigh down your pockets – small change can make a big difference.

BB T-shirt sales

Get creative and design a BB T-shirt, and then sell your fantastic designs. Go the extra mile and make sure the T-shirts are fairly traded too.

BB Christmas cards

Design your own BB Christmas cards to sell to your friends and family. Make sure your card is recycled or sourced sustainably.

Colour theme days – everyone wears BB Blue

Bring a bit of colour into your day and raise money at the same time. Get all your friends to dress in the same colour and make a real splash.

Collections

Put those empty jam jars to good use and turn small change into a big difference.

Cross country bucket run

Feel good through exercise and through supporting us. Map out a course for your run and make sure you get sponsored too.

Create a cookbook and sell it

If you're a budding Master Chef, put your recipes into a book and sell them to friends and family. Why not think about making it a fairtrade recipe book?

Competitions

Devise your own competition, or use tried and tested ideas such as 'guess who the baby in the picture is.'

Concert

Gather all the talented people you know under one roof and put on a concert for friends and family. Think about a "pay to leave" policy too.

Cricket match

Challenge your peers or teachers to a cricket match. Each team pays a fee.

Car wash

Charge your teachers, friends and family to wash their cars.

Chocolate ban

Give up chocolate for a day, a week or a month and give the cash you saved to CAFOD.

D

Doughnut sale

Delight all your friends with a delicious doughnut sale. Shops like Krispy Kreme let you buy their doughnuts at special low prices so that you can sell them on for a fundraising profit!

Disco

Put on those dancing shoes and disco the night away. Remember to charge an entry fee.

Dance-athon

Dance all day in a sponsored dance-athon.

Dress down day

Ditch the uniform or the suit and dress to impress.

E

Enterprise Days

Put on your Apprentice heads and come up with the marketing idea of the century! Create and sell the product you have designed.

Eco day

Dress green and do good deeds for the day, like litter picking and recycling your rubbish. Remember to get sponsored for all the activities you do.

Eating baked beans with a cocktail stick

Challenge your friends to a baked bean eating competition – how many can you eat in a minute using only a cocktail stick?

Egg and spoon race

Are you up for an egg and spoon challenge? Race your friends and family. No cheating now!

Egg painting competition

Don't waste those eggs after the race – turn them into works of art. Sell them to raise money.

F

Fairtrade stalls

Go for an ethical angle to your stall and sell fairly traded goods – why not ask if fairtrade products could be sold in your tuck shop or canteen too?

Fancy dress

Go crazy with the fashion ideas and create a zany masterpiece to wear for the day. Prizes for the most outrageous and colourful costumes.

Fancy dress football

Turn a regular game of football into something rather special with colourful costumes. Challenge your peers, teachers or other adults to a crazy match. Pay per game.

Five a side football

Challenge your mates or your teachers to a football tournament. Each team pays to play.

Fast Day lunch

Create a simple lunch in solidarity with people living in poverty. Donate the money you save.

Fast Day fun

How long can you go without playing your favourite computer game or watching the TV? Why not give up something you really enjoy for a set period of time? Get sponsored too.

Fashion show

Put your creative talents to the test and organise a fashion show – why not use recycled clothes and make it an eco-show? Invite the wider community to see your fabulous designs, and don't forget to charge an entry fee.

Family fun day

Get the whole family on board and arrange a fun day full of the activities mentioned throughout.

Face painting competition

Put your artistic talents to good use and paint people's faces. You could have a themed face painting day such as of animals or characters from a book. Remember to charge for your works of face painting art.

Film night

Create your own cinema and hold a film night for family and friends. Sell popcorn and drinks and charge an entry fee.

Fun run

Dust off your running shoes, add a green tutu and run for fun. Get a team together and create your own theme for when you run. Get sponsored too.

G

Give it up!

Get sponsored to go without something. Give us speaking for a day, computer games for a week, chocolate for a month, or give up magazines for the whole of Lent! Donate us the money you save or raise.

Guess the number of ... (balloons in a car, sweets in a jar)

Have a lot of fun challenging your friends to guess the quantity in the jar or car.

Guess who the baby is (from photos)

Ask for baby photos and get your friends to guess who they are. Pay to enter.

Guess the weight of... (cake, teddy)

Quiz your friends on the weight of the cake – 50p a guess.

Games: scrabble, chess, trivial pursuits etc

For all those who love the challenge of a board game – why not have a marathon board game tournament? Either pay to play or get sponsored.

Green day

With everyone talking about climate change and the importance of looking after our world, why not organise a Green Day? Dress in green, hold an eco fashion show, litter pick and create a recycled materials art exhibition. Invite friends and family too. Remember to charge a fee to take part.

H

Hula Hoop Contest

How many times can you spin the hula hoop? Organise a hula hoop-athon. Don't forget to get sponsored by the spin, or the length of time you keep the hoop going.

Hair beading, braiding and plaiting

Put your creative talents to good use. Make your friends look cool and raise money.

Hopscotch

Organise a Hopscotch contest in the playground, and challenge your friends. Pay to play.

I

Indoor games

Organise an indoor Olympics. Rain won't stop play and you'll have fun challenging your friends and raising money for us too.

International evening

Hold a themed night representing countries across the world. Decorate your hall with flags from across the globe. Bring an international flavour to the food with different national dishes and entertain your guests with world music. Why not also hold a quiz and test your friends' geographical knowledge? Charge an entry fee.

It's a Knockout

Organise an It's a Knockout competition – fun for all the family. Either make it a sponsored event or pay to play.

J

Jumble sales

Reduce, reuse and recycle – the perfect opportunity to hold a jumble sale.

Jelly races

Have loads of fun with a jelly race – why not try different jelly moulds too, or even an obstacle course? Remember, you pay to play.

Jewellery making/selling

Put your creative jewellery making skills to good use and hold a sale with what you make. Share your skills with others and teach your friends how to make that perfect accessory.

Jigsaw marathon

Have you got an eye for a jigsaw? Challenge your friends to a speed jigsaw puzzle race. Get your friends and family to sponsor you too.

Joke-athon

Have your friends in stitches with a joke-athon. How long can you keep your friends laughing? If the jokes are really bad, make them pay a fee to leave.

Juggle-athon

With three, four or five balls – how long can you keep them in the air? Challenge your friends too.

K

Kite flying

When the wind is right get those kites into the air. The kite that stays up the longest wins. Why not design your own kites and get sponsored too?

Karaoke

Impress your friends with your singing ability – try out your favourite tunes. Pay per tune.

Knitting competition

How long is that scarf? Challenge your friends to a knit-off. You could sell or auction your work of art too.

Knobbly knees competition

Expose those knees – who in your group of friends has the knobbliest knees? Pay to play.

L

Lonely coins collection

Find a coin in the street – put it to good use and add it to a collection. Unsure what to do with those spare coins? Add them to your money box and turn your small change into a big difference.

Leapfrog

Leap into action and have a leapfrog competition.

Line dancing

Friends and family can have hours of fun with a line dancing event. You could even organise a line dance-athon. Charge a fee to take part.

Line of coins

Set yourselves a challenge to see how long you can make your coin collection. Watch as it grows.

Litter picking

Get yourselves sponsored on a mass litter pick afternoon and look after the local environment too.

Loud tie day

Look to make a difference amongst your friends: see who can wear the most outrageous tie. You could even design your own tie. Only those who have paid to display can take part.

M

Magic show

Put your magical talents to good use and organise a show for all your friends. Remember to have an entry fee.

Matched giving

Double the money you raise fundraising by asking local businesses to support your cause!

Money boxes

Take home a money box, or make your own, and collect your spare change - or have a classroom box.

Mile of coins

Set yourself the mile challenge - what is the longest distance you can reach with a line of coins? (Bronze, silver and gold categories)

Musical evening

Show off your talents and organise an evening of musical entertainment - from singing to playing instruments. Pay what you think it's worth.

Mini Olympics

Test those budding Olympians and hold a mini Olympics. Pay to play.

N

Nominate a teacher – to have their legs, beard or head shaved.

Challenge a teacher / youth leader to have a shave or wax for a good cause. Remember to get sponsored too, or charge people a fee to watch it happen.

Non-Christmas card money raiser.

Fed up of sending out Christmas cards to people you sit next to? Ditch the cards and the money you save. You could also create one large Christmas card and get everyone to sign it.

Nature trail

Organise a nature trail, learn about your local flora and fauna and raise money too.

Nearly new sale

Outgrown those jeans? Only worn something once? Why not sell or swap your unwanted things with your friends? Pay £2 for each item you take.

Name the teddy

Does your mascot need a name? Charge your mates to come up with the most interesting suggestion. You could raffle the teddy at the end too.

Netball tournament

Challenge your friends, teachers or parish to a netball tournament. To add an air of interest, why not play your matches in fancy dress too? Remember it's pay to play.

O

Obstacle course

Have fun with an obstacle course and get sponsored too.

Odd clothes day

Turn your non-uniform day into an odd clothes day – mix up those socks and clash for cash.

Odd job Day

Charge a fee for all those odd jobs around the house that need doing.

P

Penalty shoot out

Show off your football skills in a sponsored shoot out.

Photo competitions

If you're a budding photographer, hold a competition for interesting snaps. All entrants to pay a fee.

Pancake race

Hold your own pancake race – challenge your friends and family.

Pin the tail on the donkey

Challenge your friends to a pin the tail on the donkey. Remember to blindfold them - and no cheating! Pay to play.

Pantomime

Putting on a pantomime? Why not take a collection for us as people leave?

Plant sale

For those with green fingers, sell your produce in a plant sale.

Poetry reading

Organise a poetry recital and invite your friends and family. Why not hold a themed poetry event, or use poems from your favourite poet? Set yourself the challenge of reciting your poem from memory. £1 per line – the longer the poem the more you raise.

PTA coffee morning

Get the Mums and Dads to organise a coffee morning – and why not make it a Fairtrade event too? You could combine it with a 'bring and buy' sale.

Q

Quiet in the classroom - sponsored silence

Make a teacher happy by remaining quite for a few hours, or even a whole day. Remember to get sponsored too!

Quizzes

Download the Quiz from a website or create your own to test your friends' knowledge. Hold a quiz night and raise money by charging per entrant.

R

Rich man poor man meal

Organise a simple lunch with a difference – a small number of randomly chosen people get an upgrade from a simple lunch to a sit down meal. Help to demonstrate inequality in the world today.

Raffles

Get friends and family or local businesses to donate prizes and raffle them off.

Read-athon

How many books can you read over a short period of time? Get sponsored per page or, for fast readers, per book.

Relays

Organise a sponsored relay race. Add a bit of variety into the race and create an obstacle relay.

Rounders tournament

Challenge your friends and teachers to a rounders match. Remember it is pay to play.

Recycling – phones, ink cartridges etc

Upgraded your mobile and unsure what to do with your old one? You can turn it into money. You can also recycle spent ink cartridges, and donate left over foreign coins from your holiday too. (Special collection envelopes and boxes available.)

Recipe swap

Interested in cooking? Why not set up a recipe swap? You can even share the produce you have made.

Rugby match

Challenge your friends and teachers to a rugby match. Each team pays to play.

S

Soak the priest/teacher

See if you can convince your Chaplain, teachers or BB leaders to get in the stocks and get wet! Get people to pay per sponge.

Students vs. staff – fancy dress tug of war

A fun way to compete with staff at school – challenge them to a tug of war. Each team pays a fee.

Stalls

Set up a variety of stalls, from plants or cakes to recycled goods, and create your own mini £1 bazaar.

Sponsored ideas / events – dye hair green

Remember when organising a fundraising event to think about adding a sponsorship element – it's a great way of collecting your money. Think of clever ideas that your friends and family can sponsor you for.

Salsa Dancing

Put on those dancing shoes and find a salsa partner – and dance away.

Staged events/performing arts

Thinking of putting on a show? Invite your friends and family and donate money from ticket sales to us. Get them to pay what they think it's worth.

Swap shop

Tired of your clothes, toys and books? Then organise a swap shop and exchange the things you are bored of with something different.

Swishing

Admire a friend's outfit – then engage in a new craze of swapping unwanted clothes for someone else's cast offs. Make an evening of it with snacks and drinks, and ask for donations to join.

Spell-athon

Do you have a head for spelling? Then organise a spelling competition or spell-athon. Challenge yourself to a certain number of words – and why not get sponsored too?

Scrabble contest

Challenge your friends to a Scrabble competition. Each competitor pays to play.

Swim-athon

Swim the distance. Get sponsored per length... or per mile!

Shoe shine

Do a good deed for the day and offer your shoe shining services for a fee.

T

Talent contest

Hold a contest to showcase the talents of your friends and family! Organise a collection or charge at the door for entry.

24 hour fast

How long do you usually go without eating? Why not give up something you really enjoy for 24 hours? Get sponsored too.

Tombola

Get friends and family to donate gifts and organise tombola. Only numbers ending in 0 or 5 will win a prize!

Treasure Hunt

Create a treasure hunt and challenge your friends to find what you have hidden. Pay to play.

Teddy bears' picnic

Organise a teddy bears' picnic and invite friends and family too.

Three legged race

Team up with a friend and challenge other pairs to a three legged race. To make it more fun, why not do it in fancy dress too? Each team pays to play.

U

Ugly face pulling competition

A prize for the most outrageous face – make sure you get photographic evidence! Each entrant pays to play.

Uniform free days

Ditch the uniform for a fee, and take the chance to wear something more casual.

V

Virtual village

Create your own virtual village by fundraising to buy World Gifts. Decide with your friends which gifts you want to buy and think of clever ways to raise money for your target gift(s). If you're fundraising in school, challenge forms, year groups or houses to see who can raise the most.

Volleyball

Challenge your friends and teachers to a volleyball match. Remember, you pay to play.

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W

Walk

Organise a walk for and get sponsored.

Welly throwing competition

Put your shot put skills to the test and see how far those wellies will go.

Walk-athon

Set yourself a goal and walk the world – shorter distances are OK too!

Word search

Create a themed word search and challenge your friends and family. Remember to charge a fee.

World food day

Get together with friends and prepare and sell different dishes from around the world.

X

X-Factor Competition

Celebrate all your talents by putting on a show – Britain's definitely got talent. Organise your own talent show and invite friends and family too. Have a "pay to leave" policy just in case.

Y

Yo-yo competition

Have you got a talent for yo-yoing? Then put your skill to good use and get sponsored.

Yodelling competition

If yodelling is your thing, then either get friends to pay you not to do it, or get sponsored instead!

Z

Zoo quiz

Create a zoological quiz and test your friends' and family's knowledge of the animal kingdom. Remember to charge a fee too.

Zany clothes day

Instead of a dress down day, dress up! Charge a fee and wear a zany costume that will brighten everyone's day!