



Fundraising Fact Sheet for those who would like to support Lives Not Knives

There are lots of ways you can get involved with fundraising for Lives Not Knives, from holding a cake fest, to organising a Mufti day at school, we will be here to help you make your fundraising activities a great success.

By fundraising for Lives Not Knives, you can help us educate young people and their families across the UK about the consequences of carrying or using a knife. Your support is invaluable to us, so join us today and get involved! We are more than happy to use our fundraising knowledge and expertise to assist you, whether you are supporting us as an individual or as part of a school or local club.

Some simple fundraising ideas that you could implement by yourself or with the help of others:

- **Book Sale** - Ask a group of people to bring in an unwanted book and then pay to buy another.
- **Cake Fest** - Bake your own or ask for cake donations and then sell them at school or at a stall.
- **Car wash** - Weather permitting, you could get the sponges out and get a group of people involved in washing cars.
- **Fête** - Get involved and represent us by setting up an LNK stand at your school summer fete.
- **Mufti day** - tried, tested, and loved by pupils everywhere! Ask pupils to pay a set donation (£1 or £2 each) to wear their own clothes to school.
- **Sponsored activity** - Walk, swim, run, sing, dance, skip or whistle - and ask for sponsorship while doing so!
- **Wig Wednesday** - Don a colourful wig and make a donation in return.
- **Host a contest or competition** - Ask all participants to pay a fee and award the winner!
- **Sell LNK t-shirts** - Email info@livesnotknives.org for further information

Please find below useful links for fundraising online:

<https://bag2school.com/>

<http://fundraisingexpert.com/make-sell-fundraising-ideas-charities/>

Share the LNK story!

People are more likely to support your fundraising if they know about the cause and how their money will be used.

Here is a brief background of what we do, as well as our mission statement:

Lives Not Knives (LNK) is an innovative, youth-led charity that works to prevent knife crime, serious youth violence and anti-social behaviour by **engaging**, **educating** and **empowering** young people who have been affected by socio-economic factors and supporting them to improve their future prospects.

We aim to do this through educating and mentoring the young people in our community who most need our support, and have an extensive track record that demonstrates the positive changes that can occur by helping young people to recognise their potential and then make positive steps towards fulfilling it.

In line with our aims expressed above, we summarise our mission statement into three clear goals:

- **Engage** - To successfully engage as many young people as possible through: school Roadshows, workshops, referrals from schools & PRUs, and to further develop these relationships through the Youth Hub and Summer Programme.
- **Educate** - To use workshops, Roadshows, one-to-one mentoring and group mentoring to educate 9-18 year olds in schools and PRUs as the instruments to inform young people about the effects of knife crime in order to discourage them from engaging in anti-social activities, particularly serious youth violence.
- **Empower** - To empower young people and the wider community towards a more positive future by delivering training, offering mentorship and relationships advice, preparing them for work, and supporting successful engagement in education, apprenticeships or employment.

Top tips

- **Make it personal** - Let everyone know why you are choosing to support Lives Not Knives, what the charity means to you, and exactly what your fundraising is all about - including any training you might have to do. The more people can relate to what you are doing, the more likely they are to support you!
- **Contact local press** - Get in touch with your local newspapers and ask them to share your story. They will get lots of requests like this so make yours stand out with an interesting angle or fun pictures. Email them initially with all the details then follow up with a phone call if you don't hear back.

- **Use social media** - Post your fundraising link on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn - it's free and it's quick. You may need to ask people several times before they donate, but posting around pay day at the end of the month can help.
- **Take photos** - In the run up to your event, take pictures to help tell your story. Photos of you and participants before, during and after your fundraising day.
- **Always say thank you** - Make sure you thank your supporters, keep them posted on how much you have raised and what a difference this will make to LNK.

Sending in your sponsorship

There are various different ways to pay in the money you have raised and the sooner it is with us, the sooner it can be put to good use.

- **Online** - Anything you have raised via an online sponsorship site will come through to Lives Not Knives automatically so you don't need to do anything else.
- **By post** - Please make cheques payable to "Lives Not Knives" and post them to: Lives Not Knives, LNK unit, Upper Mall Centrale Shopping Centre, Croydon, CR0 1TY . Please also attach a covering note with your contact details and how you have raised the funds.
- **By electronic bank transfer** -(BACS) Please email us on: info@livesnotknives.org so we can provide our bank account details.

Keeping it legal

Fundraising should be fun, but it's also governed by a few rules and regulations that you must abide by:

- **Collections** - If you're planning on holding a collection on private property (including supermarkets), make sure you have permission from the owner first.
- **Raffles** - To ensure your raffle is legal, you must either sell your tickets and draw the raffle on the same night or, if you want to sell tickets in advance, make sure it's a 'Free-Prize Draw'. All this means is that you can't demand payment for a ticket, but instead, state a suggested donation.
- **Insurance** - If you organise a fundraising event, you are responsible for making sure it does not pose a risk to others. Depending on the activity, you may need to look at public liability insurance, but let us know if you need advice on this.
- **Gift Aid** - By gift aiding donations, we are able to claim an extra 25p for every pound donated, which can add a significant amount of income for LNK. If people are sponsoring you online, they will automatically be given the option to gift aid their donation. However please note gift aid cannot be claimed if your supporters are receiving anything in return for their donation e.g. event tickets.

Social Media

To subscribe and hear the latest news regarding our events and our work to reduce knife crime in London, please follow us on the following accounts:



@LNK charity #LivesNotKnives



@LNKcharity #LivesNotKnives



@lnkcharity #LivesNotKnives