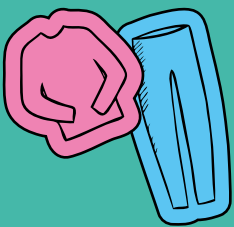
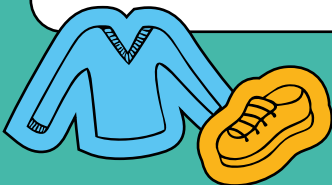


HOW TO SET UP A SCHOOL UNIFORM EXCHANGE



Combat climate change and save families money, one school uniform at a time



THANK YOU

Around 1.4 million school uniforms are thrown away every year. But these uniforms and other good quality school clothing could be reused, saving families money and helping to reduce carbon emissions which are harmful to people and the planet.

We want to say a huge thank you for setting up a School Uniform Exchange. You're helping to make Camden a more sustainable place to live.

This step-by-step guide will help you to get started.

WE'RE HERE TO HELP

We can help you to kick-start your School Uniform Exchange by providing funding for:

- Clothes rails, coat hangers and storage
- Communications materials
- Buying sew on badges
- Anything else that would be helpful.

Contact Dolly from Camden Council to discuss your ideas at dolly.akin-agunbiade@camden.gov.uk

DID YOU KNOW?

Reusing school uniforms can save families up to £348 every year per child.



IN THE SPOTLIGHT: RHYL PRIMARY SCHOOL



“We started ours to tackle the cost of living crisis. It’s really helping families to feel supported. I’d encourage other schools and parents to start one – it helps parents financially and it’s good for the planet too!”

Nicky, parent volunteer

“It really doesn’t take much to set one up and parents are engaged and want to make it a success. You could run yours in the playground after school or ask the school reception to offer you a space inside at drop-off.”

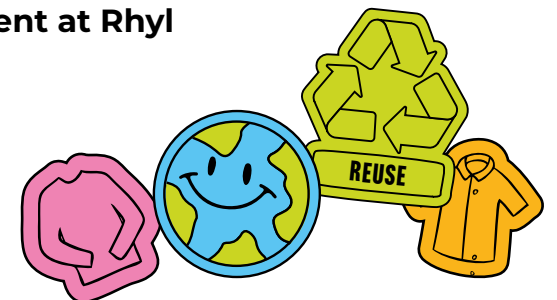


Zara, Family Support Worker at Rhyl Primary School



“It’s really handy for families like mine. My son has grown out of his trousers so quickly, so it’s great that I’ve been able to get some bigger ones here.”

Zarah, parent at Rhyl



STEP 1: FIND HELPERS

It only takes one person to get started but it's helpful and more fun to run an exchange as a group. Ask school staff, parents, carers, and students to get involved.

STEP 2: FIND A SPACE AND ORDER YOUR STORAGE CONTAINER

Find a space where you can store donations, the school might be able to help with this. You can also order a storage container from our partner Veolia – find out more at [WeMakeCamden.org.uk/uniform-exchange](https://www.wemakecamden.org.uk/uniform-exchange)

You'll need some tables for when the exchange is open to display the donations. You may want to think about using clothes rails and coat hangers too.



STEP 3: START COLLECTING DONATIONS

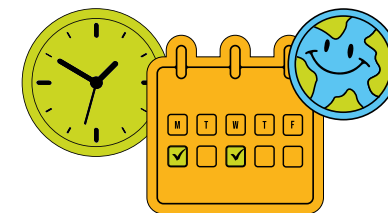
You'll need lots of school clothing donations to run the exchange. Use our editable flyer and poster templates to ask parents and carers for donations. If you will be creating your own promotional materials, be clear about the items you're looking for, where to drop them off and contact details for the organiser.

TIP!

Ask that uniforms are in good condition and washed before being donated. If you receive items that are in poor condition, don't throw them away, recycle them.

Find out how at [camden.gov.uk/WhatElseCanIRecycle](https://www.camden.gov.uk/WhatElseCanIRecycle)

STEP 4: CHOOSE YOUR OPENING TIMES



Decide when the exchange will be open – this could be one day a week or every day depending on your availability. It's a good idea to open at a time when parents and carers of primary school-aged children are most likely to be at the school, such as just after the school drop-off or at pick-up.

Parents and carers are not around so much at secondary school, so consider holding an exchange as part of a school fair or during parents' evenings.



STEP 5: SPREAD THE WORD

Now that you have donations and are ready to launch your exchange, it's time to tell people about it. Below are some ideas of how to get the word out.



Posters and flyers: Use our editable templates to share at school drop-off and pick-up, ask class teachers to give pupils flyers to take home and put posters up around the school.



School newsletters: Regularly include adverts in the school's newsletters.



Facebook groups: If the school has a Facebook group, ask to promote the exchange on the platform. Share posts regularly so people can keep up to date with what's in stock.



WhatsApp groups: Class WhatsApp groups are very popular, so ask parents and carers to promote the exchange in their groups.



Parent-teacher association (PTA): The school's PTA can help to spread the word across the school.



Find all of our helpful resources at [WeMakeCamden.org.uk/uniform-exchange](https://www.wemakecamden.org.uk/uniform-exchange)



MEASURING YOUR IMPACT

Hard work pays off! Keep a record of what clothing items are donated and how many have been exchanged. We can find out how many carbon emissions your school has prevented and how much money you've saved families at your school.

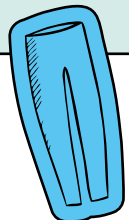
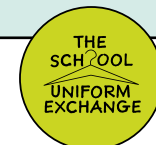


DID YOU KNOW?

Reusing one blazer could save around **67kg** of carbon emissions. That's the same amount as driving **297 miles!**

TIP!

Check the total regularly and use our editable milestone poster to celebrate the difference the exchange is making.



MORE SUPPORT

You can download our editable templates at

 [WeMakeCamden.org.uk/uniform-exchange](https://www.wemakecamden.org.uk/uniform-exchange)

NEED HELP PRINTING?

You can print all of the downloadable resources on any printer but if you would like us to print them for you, contact Dolly at dolly.akin-agunbiade@camden.gov.uk

In your email, please include:

- The poster or flyer to print, with the correct details in the editable sections
- How many copies you need
- Where to send them and who to address them to.

