

Brew can do it!

Here are some useful hints and tips to get you started with fundraising for Rainbows.

Thank you for choosing to fundraise for Rainbows!

This pack will give you some handy hints and tips on how to run a successful event. Because of our supporters, Rainbows can be there for children and young people who'll live short lives; providing a place for children to play, laugh and receive the best care possible. We support mums, dads, brothers, sisters and grandparents - because life-limiting illnesses affect the whole family.

Our incredible team help relieve symptoms, improve quality of life, care for children at the end of life and support parents and siblings through their bereavement.

As the only hospice for children and young people in the East Midlands, we step in when families need us most - and stay with them for as long as they require. Over 300 families rely on Rainbows every single year. That's a lot of very poorly youngsters and even more anxious and exhausted families. Rainbows costs over £6 million per year to remain open 24/7, relying almost entirely on voluntary funding. In truth, Rainbows only exists because of our supporters' generosity.

Thanks to this generosity, Rainbows continues to be committed to caring for the East Midlands' children and young people - across Leicestershire, Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Northamptonshire, Rutland and South Lincolnshire.



**Thank
you**





Brew can do it!

There's nothing better than good friends, a freshly brewed cuppa and plenty of cake! Why not organise an event for Rainbows? You can catch up with your friends and know you're doing good at the same time.

This pack should give you plenty of ideas, but feel free to get as creative as you like. Don't forget to download our bunting and poster templates, too! Download all of these from rainbows.co.uk/fundraise/download-resources

Our top tips:

Send out invitations or save-the-dates early!

Make a poster (we have some templates with our logo on, if you'd like to use them!), call, email or text your friends to invite them, and you could even set up a Facebook event to let people know you're holding an event. Ask everyone to RSVP so you know how many mugs and slices of cake you're going to need.

Decide how you're going to make money:

Will you ask friends to make a small donation on entry, or charge for each piece of cake or drink?

Bake or fake, it doesn't matter!

For the bakers amongst you, this is a great time to try out some new recipes or dust off an old favourite. Don't forget to offer savoury options too – and check if any of your guests have allergies or special diets. If baking feels too daunting, consider buying some cupcakes and decorating them yourselves (a twist on the event theme: get loads of different coloured icing and decorations and have a cake decorating party!)

Don't forget to consider a cold drink option too, would this suit those who don't like tea/coffee?

Make sure you've got everything you need.

Do you need to borrow a second kettle from a friend? Have you got enough mugs? What about plates and napkins?

Create the atmosphere!

Use our bunting and poster templates (downloadable from rainbows.co.uk/fundraise/download-resources), or get creative and make your own. What about a rainbow theme for your party? Grab some bunting, some balloons or some colourful tablecloths to brighten up your gathering.

Know your obligations!

This includes clearly marking any allergen information on food labels and ensuring you observe best practice in food hygiene. Follow the government's advice for providing food at charity events, which can be found at www.food.gov.uk/safety-hygiene/providing-food-at-community-and-charity-events



Ideas for a community event...



Think about where to host your event.

It could be at home, in a village hall, church hall or another venue with plenty of space and a kitchen.

Spread the word in your local community.

Contact your local newspaper or pop it in your local village / town newsletter.

Put up posters.

Many towns and villages have community notice boards and lots of community centres, coffee shops, cafes and pubs may let you put up posters too.

Consider other ways to raise money at your event.

Consider a raffle, or a “guess the weight of the cake” competition, as well as selling off any surplus cakes at the end for guests to take home.

Ideas for a work place event...

Send a calendar invite in advance.

Tell everyone to bring a treat to share (shop bought or homemade is fine) and some pennies for the collection pot.

Get competitive!

Have a baking or cake decorating competition. Ask your boss to judge the contest, or have a tasting session and put it to the vote.

Combine your event with a dress-down day.

Ask everyone to pay £2 to take part. Maybe even ask each team to wear a different colour of the rainbow?

Raffle off a special cake.

Got a baking aficionado in your mix? Get them to bake a cake and raffle it off!



Ideas for a school event...



Make some decorations ahead of time.

Perhaps an art lesson could be dedicated to colouring some of our rainbow-themed bunting and posters?

Set up a cake decorating corner.

Get everyone involved – parents, children and teachers.

Combine your event with another fundraiser.

Perhaps a non-uniform day or a bring-and-buy sale?

Have a teachers vs students bake off.

Or challenge the children to a cake decorating competition and ask the headteacher to judge.



After your event

Please send your money in as soon as you can.

Ideally, have two people count and verify the amount. You can send us a cheque or pay the money in online at rainbows.co.uk/donate. Don't forget to let us know what event you've held!

Celebrate your success!

Phone your local newspaper and let them know how it went and how much you raised in support of Rainbows.

Please send us some photos.

We love seeing the photos of all the things our supporters have been up to. Send photos of your event to supportercare@rainbows.co.uk



rainbows.co.uk

Rainbows is registered as Cope Children's Trust in England and Wales. Registered Charity No. 1014051.
Registered Office: Lark Rise, Loughborough, Leicestershire LE11 2HS.