

Cardinal Newman Catholic School Eco Ambassadors

Guide to running a Freegle event at your school

Our experience

On Saturday 25th March 2023 we ran a Freegle event, with 315kg of goods donated. 160kg was taken by happy customers on the day and the remaining goods went to the free shop which runs at the Open Market on Fridays and Saturdays. This means we collectively saved roughly £157 and kept roughly 315kg of CO2 out of the atmosphere! Not to mention making lots of people happy.

The planning required

- We had to put this in our school “Super Saturdays” calendar months in advance so that the caretakers could open the school for us.
- We made a flyer (using a template from Freegle – see below).
- We used classrooms so the event was not weather dependent.
- We asked people not to park on site as we have lettings on Saturdays. Instead they were asked to come on public transport or to park across the road at our partner primary school.
- Staff and student volunteers signed up using a shared Google sheet.
- We used a taxi to transport the remaining goods to the Open Market so budgeted for that.

What went well

- We advertised the event through our weekly newsletter to parents and email to staff and our partner primary school (Cottesmore St Mary’s).
- We received a great range of donations (clothing, books, games, DVDs, household goods and toys).
- We had a system (thanks to Cat Fletcher from Freegle) where we weighed all goods then sorted them into different areas so it was easy for customers to browse.
- We had reusable bags available for customers.
- The Eco Ambassadors were brilliant with setting up, helping customers and packing away.
- We made up parcels for each House (clothes, books etc) which students were able to get the following week from their House leaders.
- Aside from those parcels, all remaining goods were taken (by taxi, paid for out of our budget) to the free shop at the Open Market.
- Any items not wanted by students in each House were then donated to charity.

What we will do differently next time

- Collect and sort donations in the days leading up to the event e.g. having clothes by size rather than just gender, books by fiction/non-fiction and toys by age.
- Have a cut-off time for donations on the day – we were packing up with more people still arriving with donations!
- Research the formula for working out the carbon footprint of different items so we can see more clearly the impact we are having.
- Remove the word “bring” from our marketing – we noticed that some of the more deprived members of our school community did not come to the event, perhaps because they felt awkward about taking if they had nothing to bring.

We will put these tweaks to the test at our summer fair!

"FREEGLE BRING & TAKE"

free jumble sale
Saturday 25 MARCH
10am to 1pm

BRING UNWANTED THINGS!

TAKE NEW-TO-YOU ITEMS FOR FREE

Cardinal Newman Catholic School,
Upper Drive, Hove, BN3 6ND
** Enter via Top Field by College **

#ConsumeLess #ShareMore #SaveMoney #ChooseToReuse



YES PLEASE!

Donations that one person can carry e.g. stationery, small electrical items, cables, kitchen stuff, clothes, cleaning stuff, books, CDs, DVDs, toys, tools, craft materials, cosmetics, jewellery, games, coat hangers, baby things, strollers, toiletries, musical equipment, bags, plants, tiles, towels etc.

NO THANKS!

Large items like furniture that requires two people to carry it.

