Thank you for choosing to fundraise for Royal Blind!

About Us

Royal Blind is Scotland’s largest visual impairment organisation. We create life changing opportunities for visually impaired children and adults from across Scotland and the rest of the UK. Royal Blind is a service provider and the funds that we raise are spent directly on caring for, educating and empowering visually impaired people. We support people of all ages - from babies and toddlers at our pre-school playgroup, children at our school and after school club, young adults through our supported accommodation and respite care, and elderly people in our care home.

Our key services include:

**The Royal Blind School**

The Royal Blind School is Scotland’s only residential school specialising in the care and education of visually impaired children and young people, including those with complex needs. We offer day and weekly residential places for pupils from P1 to S6. There is a free pre-school playgroup for under 5s.

**Kidscene**

Kidscene is an after school and holiday club that caters for children with and without disabilities between the ages of 5 and 16. We are based in the Morningside area of Edinburgh and have access to excellent facilities including a swimming pool, sensory garden and multi-use games area. We welcome children of all abilities and priority places are available for visually impaired children.
The Royal Blind Learning Hub provides training courses, support, advice and workshops to teachers and educators of visually impaired children and young people across Scotland. Our support focuses on the key skills required by children with visual impairment in order to access the curriculum.

Forward Vision is a transitional service that supports young adults between the ages of 17 and 25 who have a visual impairment as well as other disabilities. We offer 24 hour residential care as well as short breaks for respite.

Royal Blind currently runs the only nursing home in Scotland that specialises in caring for blind and partially sighted older people, Braeside House. We are expanding our services and will shortly be developing a second care home for visually impaired older people in Paisley.

The Scottish Braille Press is a leading UK provider of accessible media. We transcribe text for a range of business clients into large print, audio and Braille formats to enable written materials to be accessible to blind and partially sighted people, enabling their education, knowledge, empowerment and inclusion. We produce our own range of Braille magazines and provide employment for people with disabilities.
Your fundraising pack

Enclosed in this pack you’ll find everything you need to get started. This pack contains:

- Sponsorship form
- Pay in slip
- Top ten fundraising ideas to earn badges
- Blindfolded challenge tips
- ‘Where your money goes’ - Examples oh how the money you raise will aid Royal Blind service users

Contact us

Should you have any questions, or if you would like to arrange for us to come and give a talk to your members, please don’t hesitate to contact Natalie from our Marketing and Fundraising Team.

T: 0131 229 1456
E: natalie.reid@royalblind.org

Happy FUNdraising!

Did you know?
Significant sight loss affects around 188,000 people in Scotland
Fundraising ideas to earn badges

These fun fundraising ideas can be used by any age group to help earn badges.

• **Non – uniform day** - Group members pay £1 to ditch their uniform.

• **Bake Sale** - The classic! You could add an awareness element by decorating the cakes blindfolded, to see the challenges of living with a visual impairment.

• **Beat the Goalie** - Pay to try and get one past the goalie! Best done with your group leader as the goalie.

• **Car Wash** - The parents are sure to love this one!

• **Dance-athon** - A twist on the usual sponsorship events. Get the children to decorate the hall and dress up!

• **Guess the number** - Members pay to guess how many sweets are in the jar, winner/closest wins the sweets.

• **Sponge Throw** - Members pay to throw wet sponges at a group leader.

• **Fun Run** - Sponsorship events are a really effective way to raise both money and awareness, and help get your members active.

• **Blindfold Challenge** - Let your group see the difficulties of living with sight loss by blindfolding a group member for an activity, and make it a sponsored event. This one requires some careful planning but is a great way to demonstrate why Royal Blind is such a worthwhile cause. There is a blindfolded challenge suggestions page included in this pack.

• **Guess the name of the Teddy Bear** - The children pay to guess the name of the teddy bear, winner takes home the teddy! You can request a template sheet for this from our fundraising team, or make your own.
Blindfolded challenge tips

Introduction
• Begin by asking the group to name the five senses. Explain how you are going to discuss ‘sight’ and people who are not fortunate enough to have full use of their sight.
• Have a discussion with the children about what it must be like to have little or no sight and what they would miss most about this sense.
As a group, you could compile a list of daily tasks e.g., eating breakfast, getting dressed, etc, and go through each one and discuss the difficulties a blind person may face.

Potential Activities
Some examples of the tasks your blindfolded child/staff member could undertake:
• Making a drink of squash
• Writing a party invitation to a friend
• Drawing a picture
• Identifying an object

Safety
Ensure the responsible staff member is always sighted, plan ahead, and do not utilise sharp or dangerous objects in your activities.

Did you know?
60 - 70% of children with sight problems have additional disabilities, usually linked to neurological conditions.
Where your money goes

£10 – an adapted dinner plate with high sides which helps reduce the stress and embarrassment of eating for people who cannot see their food

£29 – an ultra-light cane to help with mobility with vibrating buttons in the handle which sense objects and obstacles

£32 – a talking clock which announces the time and date in a clear voice and has multiple alarm settings to help schedule a busy day

£47 – a set of talking kitchen scales which the young people at the Royal Blind School use in Home Economics lessons and their independent living flat

£120 – a special car transit wheelchair for our elderly residents, ensuring that they continue to enjoy their life as actively and fully as they can

£180 – a pressure relieving chair, which helps to improve the posture of residents of our services

£275 – a pressure relieving chair, which helps to improve the posture of residents of our services

£300 – a music therapy session at Braeside House

£1,510 covers the cost of one hour of Royal Blind’s services.
Case Study

A primary 4 class at Flora Stevenson Primary School in Edinburgh raised £361.20 for Royal Blind.

The class was visited by Royal Blind staff, who gave an overview of the charity's work and an insight into what it is like to have a visual impairment. We can do similar visits for youth groups and discuss how your members can earn badges whilst raising money for Royal Blind.

What is it like to be blind?

Glenn Watson, a support worker at the Royal Blind School, asked the pupils if they’d ever met anyone with a visual impairment. How did they know that person couldn’t see? Did they have a cane, or dark glasses, or maybe a guide dog? Glenn explained that not all blind or partially sighted people had a cane or glasses, so it’s not always easy to tell if someone is visually impaired.

The pupils were put into pairs. One was blindfolded and led around the room by their partner, under careful supervision. Shouting and confusion ensued! The class then discussed the difficulties faced by the person blindfolded and the person leading - it was too noisy, there were too many obstacles, and it didn’t feel very safe.

The pupils were then taught the correct way to lead their blindfolded partner. It was much safer and the person being led felt much more secure and in control.

Natalie Reid from Royal Blind’s fundraising department asked the class if they had ever heard of Braille. She then told the class what it was and how it worked, and passed around some Braille books for the children to...
see. Natalie asked the children about their favourite subjects at school, then got them to imagine how much more difficult it would be to learn these subjects with a visual impairment. Even something as simple as reading a story could become very difficult! Visually impaired children have to work very hard.

Glenn then passed around the SIM specs. These are special glasses that simulate a range of different visual impairments, such as peripheral vision, blurred vision, tunnel vision and complete blindness. The SIM specs are passed around the room for the children to try on, under supervision.

The class were then shown some of the tools blind people use to help make their everyday lives easier, including a specially designed kettle, and a device that whistles when a cup is full. Some volunteers from the class got the chance to try and pour a “cup of tea” using these special aids.

**Pause for thought**

The class then got to ask questions about what they had learned. As always there was a sea of hands in the air! The children asked questions on everything, from how blind children do their homework to how they get dressed and pick out their clothes.

**Time to fundraise!**

The class then hosted their own fundraising afternoon based on what they had learned. The children were split into groups and given a series of tasks to complete while blindfolded. They had to complete as many as possible on the list within 25 minutes. Each pupil got a sponsor form to take to friends and family. They also held a “guess the name of the bear” competition.

Once the class had completed their fundraiser and collected the money, Royal Blind came back to see them, bringing along a pupil from the Royal Blind School, Reece. The children presented Reece with a giant cheque and asked him a few questions about life with a visual impairment. The class got their photo taken with Reece and were presented with a certificate to put up pride of place in their classroom.
### Sponsorship Form

Name: _______________________________________________________

Address: _______________________________________________________

........................................................................................................ Postcode: _____________

Event and Date ___________________________________________________

The above named person is participating in a sponsored event to raise funds on behalf of Royal Blind, Scotland’s largest visual impairment organisation, based in Edinburgh and working to create life changing opportunities for blind and partially sighted children and adults across the country. If your sponsorship donation is from taxed income, please place a tick in the box provided. Royal Blind will then be able to reclaim tax on your donation from the Inland Revenue at no inconvenience or cost to you.

For every £10 you donate, Royal Blind can reclaim £2.50

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Pay in Form

Please complete this form (in block capitals) and send it to:
The Fundraising Department, Royal Blind, 50 Gillespie Crescent, Edinburgh EH10 4JB.

☐ I enclose a cheque (made payable to Royal Blind)/Postal Order
☐ I enclose cash

I wish to pay by (please tick one)
☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Switch ☐ Delta ☐ Maestro ☐ Solo

and authorise you to debit my credit/debit card account

Card no. _______ _______ _______ _______ Exp Date. _______ _______

Security no. _______ Issue No. _______ or Start Date (Switch and Maestro only): _______ _______

Personal Details

Title: _______ Name: ________________________________

Organisation (if applicable): ________________________________

Address: ____________________________________________ Postcode: __________

Home telephone number: _______________ Mobile: _______________

Your Event

Type of event: ________________________________________

Date of event: _______________ Total amount raised (£): _______________

Any comments about your event: _______________________________________

________________________________________ Postcode: __________

Please send any photographs of your event to fundraising@royalblind.org.

☐ We may like to use them in future marketing material. We hold your details on our database to keep you informed of future Royal Blind activities. Please tick here if you would prefer not to be contacted.