

Organising your charity meeting

We know that when students meet a representative from their class charity they are more likely to become passionate about their charity and social issue, and fully engage with all elements of First Give. This guidance sheet should give Class Teachers all they need to organise the meeting.

In light of the current climate for charities, it may be difficult to organise this meeting, so please be understanding of their circumstances if so. We recommend requesting an in-school meeting in the first instance; if this can't happen, try to arrange a video call with the representative. Failing that, some charities will respond very well to a list of questions over email.

Remember, your First Give Programme Manager can also help if a charity is being particularly incommunicative.

How to contact the charity

An email template is provided for making contact with the charity (Lesson 2, Teachers' Hub) but it can be quicker and more effective to simply call – **as soon as possible after lesson 2**.

If the charity is large, you should ask to speak to the Community Fundraising Team or the Community Engagement Team.

You could also reach out on social media if you've no immediate response.

Don't forget to mention...

1. That with their support, you could win the charity £1,000 in the School Final.
2. All students in your class will be planning and undertaking a Social Action project to support the charity – the meeting can help make the Social Actions relevant and impactful.
3. Charities who engage are more likely to establish relationships with passionate young people – a new generation of supporters.

What will happen?

The meeting should take place in either lesson 3 or 4, and can last between 10 and 60 minutes depending on timetable and charity availability.

Students should use pages 14-15 in the coursebook to plan their questions.

A Guidance Doc is available in Lesson 2 on the Teachers' Hub, to send to the charity rep ahead of the meeting so that they can prepare.

What if the meeting can't happen?

Don't panic – a small percentage of classes each year have no comms with their charity despite all efforts, but run a successful social action and have fantastic outcomes from the programme. We have a separate guidance document available under Lesson 4 of the Teachers' Hub.