***Celebrate and shout about the impact of First Give for your students!*** *Creating and sending out a press release to your local papers is a great way to get positive coverage of your school, demonstrating the great work you're doing.*

*This press release template is designed for you to adjust and adapt. If you require assistance with this press release, please don’t hesitate to contact your Programme Manager or Programme Development Officer. If you have a Business Manager or Communications staff member in school or within your academy trust, they may also be able to help.*

*Ensuring that you have permission, we advise sending a* ***high-quality photograph*** *with any press release (of students completing social action or of your Final) to make the press release more compelling.*

*Remember that, sadly, local newspapers are often understaffed and if you can provide them with a well-written press release, with an image ready to go, you can really help them to produce copy with fewer staff. Make their lives as easy as possible and your piece is more likely to get placed!*

*Any sections to be edited are highlighted in yellow.*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**[ENTER A TITLE FOR YOUR PRESS RELEASE, OR USE THE FOLLOWING:] Young people at SCHOOL NAME are making a difference by supporting local charities**

Students from SCHOOL NAME have been tackling social issues by supporting local charities as part of a Programme provided by national social action charity First Give ([www.firstgive.co.uk](http://www.firstgive.co.uk)).

The whole of Year X at SCHOOL NAME took part in the First Give programme as students investigated social issues, and met with local charities that address them, in their local community. Supporting their chosen charities, students have engaged in social action by fundraising and raising awareness, and have competed in SCHOOL NAME’s School Final on DATE at TIME. At the School Final, judges watched presentations from the students about their chosen charity and what they've done to support them. The winning group was awarded a £1,000 First Give grant for their chosen charity, CHARITY NAME.

Students who supported CHARITY NAME, who work to XXX, and support XXX in the community, developed and delivered a number of creative social action initiatives, including XXX. The students' hard work and creativity resulted in them raising £X for the people that CHARITY NAME support.

STUDENT NAME, one of the students who took part in First Give said, “[INSERT QUOTE]”

The First Give Final at SCHOOL NAME was an inspiring event demonstrating young people's passion and dedication to support local causes that they care about,

**OR**

At the First Give Final at SCHOOL NAME, a panel of judges from within the school including X, X and X, were joined by X (name and role) from the local community.

HEAD TEACHER NAME, the Head teacher of SCHOOL NAME has commented “QUOTE.”

Louisa Searle, First Give Director, said “Over 198,000 young people have made a difference to thousands of charities across England and Wales, working across almost 200 schools as part of the First Give programme. Time and again they demonstrate how passionate, committed and capable young people are of making a positive difference and helping to tackle some of our most pressing social issues. We are keen to partner with more schools across England and Wales, providing the platform for more young people to support the causes they care about.”

CHARITY REPRESENTATIVE, from CHARITY NAME has said “QUOTE.”

//ENDS

For further information and interview opportunities please contact Louisa Searle at louisa@firstgive.co.uk or 07846886973

**Notes to the editor**

**About First Give**

First Give is a charity in partnership with secondary schools to inspire and equip young people to make a positive change in society. Together, they have empowered over 198,000 young people to make a difference to thousands of charities across England and Wales, working across almost 200 schools. If you’re interested in finding out more about the First Give programme, including information on how your school can work with First Give, please visit our website: [www.firstgive.co.uk](http://www.firstgive.co.uk/) or contact info@firstgive.co.uk.

**About SCHOOL NAME**

[YOU MAY WANT TO PROVIDE A PARAGRAPH ABOUT YOUR SCHOOL HERE]

**About CHARITY NAME**

[IF YOU HAVE MENTIONED A CHARITY IN YOUR PRESS RELEASE, YOU MAY WANT TO ASK THEM TO PROVIDE A PARAGRAPH HERE AS WELL]