

Rubery Swop Shop

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

Providing free preloved school uniform to Birmingham and beyond!



Charity number 1199754

Our Vision

'All children and young people can access their right to education regardless of the uniform required'

Our mission

'Provide all children and young people the opportunity to access school uniform and reduce clothing waste by working in partnership with the entire community'

OBJECTIVE	ACTIVITY 2023		OUTCOME	<small>*2023 figures in comparison to 2022</small>
Raise awareness of service	3,109 Orders received	 +1,197	73 Referrals received	Orders received have increased by 1,197 (63%). The number of different schools has increased by 127 (77%).
Support more children	5,452 Children provided uniform	 +2,197	252 Children referred	We have provided uniform for 2,197 (67%) more children.
Reuse more school uniform	23,706 Items provided	 +9,384	2,045 Shoes / footwear	9,384 (66%) more items have been diverted from landfill and provided to support children and reduce waste.
Increase the schools we cover	291 Different Schools	 +127		We have continued to work with schools and have seen existing relationships strengthen. Our service has been added to many school websites and included in their uniform policy.
Secure funding for storage				In December 2023, we were successful in a national lottery community fund grant application for storage costs.

*"This year we have achieved our objectives, both to increase our impact and to secure funding for storage. We have supported more children to access their legal right to education by redistributing more items of uniform, reducing the impact of uniform waste on the environment. Our volunteers are the ones who make all of this possible, we have an amazing team which I am proud to be part of!
In 2024, we aim to support more children, install a fitting room to enhance service experience and increase partnership working for improved local access to pre-loved school uniform"*

Mark Harvey, Chairperson

Our team

Our volunteers make it all happen, their motivation, passion and commitment for the Swop Shop's purpose, cultivates an inspirational culture that supports both children and the environment. We are truly indebted to them for the impact they've made, and continue to make!

*'Volunteering at the Swop Shop has made such a difference to my life. All volunteer roles are important, but I feel that **what we do really helps the families who visit the shop.***

*When I send a child out with a beautiful coat or their first **school uniform and a huge smile**, I know that I have made a **difference**. Every uniform we provide, even 1 small item, can brighten someone's day.*

*In addition, the other volunteers have become like **family** – we work hard, laugh a lot and look after each other. I would definitely recommend!' (Rubery Swop Shop Volunteer)*

*'Volunteering for Rubery Swop Shop has been an experience that I **cherish**. Helping the charity has been an eye opener, knowing what is actually needed by our future selves, the **children**.*

*Whether it be through assisting with uniform or giving them the **confidence** knowing that they **won't feel excluded**, donating our time to fulfil this is a privilege.*

*There is a massive **satisfaction** knowing that a child will be able to attend school **without putting a financial burden on guardians**.*

*Discrimination is put aside, instead values are pushed forward and support is given to those that need it. I am **proud** to be part of a **team** that hold these **values close to their hearts, helping children and taking such pressures off our community**' (Rubery Swop Shop Volunteer)*



*'I have been volunteering at the shop for two years. I was unsure what to expect when I first started, but am pleased to say that I have always been **welcomed** and made to feel like a **valued** member of the team.*

*I have made a new set of **friends** and have gained **confidence** in myself and my abilities.*

*The service we provide is very **valuable to so many people** and it is so lovely to see people's reactions when they realise that the **service is free**.*

*I am always amazed at how much stock we can store and love that it is **not going to landfill and is being recycled**.*

*I look forward to the next year at the shop as we get **bigger and better!**' (Rubery Swop Shop Volunteer)*



Funding summary

Donations

£2,854

Fundraising

£1,603

Grants

£26,000

2023 Accounts

	TOTAL	SPEND	LEFT
INCOME			
Grants	26,000.00		
Donations	2,854.96		
Fundraising	1,603.19		
TOTAL INCOME	30,458.15		
EXPENDITURE			
Salaries	0.00	0.00	0.00
Utilities	7,967.99	5,118.40	2,849.59
Removal expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00
Premises works	0.00	0.00	0.00
Equipment	98.73	98.73	0.00
Marketing	380.88	380.88	0.00
Postage & travel	155.00	155.00	0.00
Assets	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	8,602.60	5,753.01	2,849.59
NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	21,855.55		
Opening Bank	9,823.97		
Closing Bank	31,679.52		
		2023	
GRANTS	Amount available	Spent	Remaining
TOTAL	26,753.01	5,753.01	21,000.00



We do so much with so little, just think what we could achieve with more!

Acknowledgements

Special thanks to our Landlord, Mondelez, The National Lottery Community Fund, Direct Line, Term Footwear, Sidemoor Community Project CIC, Birmingham City Council, Sew Marvellous, Brookside Fire Service Limited and everyone else in the community who supported us.

Trustees

Mark Harvey
Lorraine Murphy
Laura Szendy
Nicola Handscomb
Angharad Macgregor

There have been no changes to the trustees in the previous 12-months.

'We would like to thank all those who continue to support us - this is a service for the community, in the community, made possible by all of the community'

(Kristina Murphy, Founder)

