



Help your local school become a Fairtrade School

The Fairtrade Foundation run a schools programme which aims to educate young people about where their food comes from and helps them to think about how they are connected to those around the globe.

The schools programme, called the Fairtrade Foundation's 'Schools Award', has three different levels, depending on how active the schools are in sharing and campaigning for Fairtrade. The levels are FairAware, FairActive and FairAchiever. At the moment, around 1200 schools across the UK have signed up to be part of the Awards programme.

We know that our colleagues and Members really care about Fairtrade. We know what a difference trading fairly makes and we want to make sure that the next generation understand why it's important. That's why partnering the schools programme and continuing to champion Fairtrade with young people really matters.

Support your local school to start on their Fairtrade journey and get involved in the Fairtrade Foundation School's Award.

From September 2017, we'll be the headline sponsors of the Fairtrade Foundation's Schools Award.

So what can we do to support schools to become Fairtrade?

Each school, whatever level of Award they are working towards, need to run Fairtrade challenges. You could help support your local school to run their school challenges.

Some ideas might be to:

- Share our Co-op resources.
- Make sure schools know all about the great resources available on the Fairtrade Foundation's website. <http://schools.fairtrade.org.uk>

- Offer to help the school with products for a tuck shop or to use in an assembly or lesson. You could use some of your community budget to help them pay for this. *Great Fairtrade products the school might like in the tuck shop are our bananas, own brand chocolate confectionary, orange juice.*
- Encourage the staff at the school to use our 99 Tea, or Co-op coffee in their staffroom. You could use some of your community budget to support this. *All our own brand hot drinks have been Fairtrade since 2008, so there are plenty for them to pick from!*
- Help them to arrange a visit to your store, where they can find out about the different Fairtrade products that we stock. They might like to do a Fairtrade trail around the store to see how products are marked with the Fairtrade logo and how we've displayed them on the shelves. You could create some tasting stations around the store to sample some Fairtrade products. See 'Fairtrade Around the Store Workshop' *We have around 100 Fairtrade products in most stores, so there should be plenty for them to find. Remember we have 7 product categories that we focus on in Fairtrade; tea, coffee, bananas, sugar, chocolate, wine, flowers.*
- Set the school a Fairtrade competition. This might be designing a wrapper for a Co-op Fairtrade product or a poster to promote Fairtrade. You could display the entries in your store and ask customers to decide on a winner!
- Encourage the school to run a Fairtrade Bake Off with one of your store colleagues or local Members as a judge! Use your community budget to support them with some Fairtrade products like sugar, bananas and cocoa. *Remember all the sugar on our shelves is Fairtrade and even our cooking chocolate!*
- If you would feel comfortable doing so, run an assembly or talk to a class about Fairtrade at the Co-op. To achieve some of the Schools Awards (FairActive and FairAchiever), schools will need to hold a talk about Fairtrade. This could be someone in store, an active Co-op Member, or local Fairtrade campaigner. You could help them to make the connection with our Members. You'll find a simple assembly on bananas in our school pack, but there are lots more on the Fairtrade Foundation's Schools pages.