

Fundraising host guide for schools

Activity #3: Lap-a-thon



Thank you for acting for humanity by raising funds for the life-changing work of Red Cross. Your support will help us ensure nobody in Australia faces crisis alone.

A lap-a-thon of any kind is a great way to raise funds to help people going through tough times. This activity is a great way to encourage additional physical exercise for students, as well as involve parents through donating, or maybe even doing laps with their children.

Follow these easy steps to organise a lap-a-thon at your school or youth group:



#1 Set the date

This is the first and most important step to get you on your way. Select a date for your lap-a-thon and then plan accordingly. You could for example encourage your kids to do laps over a week in their own time, or set a date for doing laps together at your school or community club.



#2 Choose a venue

You need to decide where you're going to hold your act.

Walking or running? Decide whether you'll do it around the school oval, or maybe around the neighborhood.

Does your school have a pool? You could do a swimming lap-a-thon.

Got wheels? Get kids to ride their bikes, scooters, skateboards or rollerskates. You'll need to find a safe route for them to complete their laps.



#3 Plan your event

You need to decide whether you want kids to donate to enter the lap-a-thon, or whether you will encourage parents and their families to sponsor their laps. Kids could set a price per lap completed that their adults would then 'pay' to complete.



#4 Learn

As your students prepare for their journey of many laps, we have resources for them to learn about the journey and experiences of [refugees and asylum seekers](#).



#5 Advertise

[Register](#) your act for humanity to create a fundraising page and share it with your networks. You can also invite students to register individually so they get their own fundraising page that can be shared with their family and friends.

Advertise the event in your school newsletter and on social media. This is a great way to start getting online donations on your fundraising page.

Remember to advertise your event at your school or youth group – download and distribute posters, display it on bulletin boards, and announce it at the school assembly.



#6 Get ready for the day

Make sure you have things in order to run your event. Depending on how and where you'll run your lap-a-thon, you might need:

- Volunteers (adults) to ensure students can be seen and are safe at all times during their 'lap'
- Hats and sunscreen
- Water
- Snacks
- First Aid kit
- Chalk (to draw start and finish line)
- Whistle
- Donation boxes

Remember to print out your school's unique QR code from your [fundraising profile dashboard](#) so you can take online donations on the day.

Take photos of the event and distribute them among students and parents with a link to your fundraising page to make any additional donations online.



#7 Bank

You will likely gather some cash donations on the day. Banking your funds is easy. Just make a direct bank transfer remembering to reference your (or school) full name so that we can identify your deposit:

Bank	Commonwealth Bank of Australia
Name	Australian Red Cross Society
BSB	063 000
Acc No.	1298 1023
Reference	CFR and your/school full name



#8 Celebrate!

You've done an amazing thing – you've helped us make sure no one has to face a crisis alone. Celebrate your fundraising efforts and thank your donors and everyone involved. Use one of our social media templates to post about your success.