

The Code of Fundraising Practice – is it relevant to schools’ development?

Section 6 – Fundraising involving children

As schools, we are likely to involve, and actively encourage our pupils to fundraise, either for the school itself or for another charitable cause, and our pupils will be the focus for our own fundraising. It is therefore integral, that you take particular care when involving children in fundraising, whether as fundraisers or as donors. The ‘Fundraising involving children’ section of the code is a must for all schools’ development offices to read!

Please note that where **must** is written in bold text, this refers to a standard based on a strict legal requirement.

6.1. Responsibilities relating to fundraising involving children

As fundraisers, you **must** keep to any relevant limits set by law when fundraising, and there are some activities such as lotteries or raffles, street or house-to-house collections, and events involving alcohol, which children and young people cannot carry out.

You must:

- make sure that your staff understand their responsibilities and what they must do in relation to the children taking part, and the parents or guardians of those children
- give the children or young people taking part, and their parents or guardians, guidance on how to carry out fundraising safely and legally
- ensure children under 16 are not given overall responsibility for handling money or counting collected money
- request permission before taking or publishing photographs of children. If the child is over 13 years’ old, they can give this permission themselves. If they are under 13, you must get permission from their parent or guardian

You **must** use the Disclosure and Barring Service (in England and Wales), Disclosure Scotland (in Scotland) and Access NI (in Northern Ireland) to carry out checks on any adults working with children, if the law says you must do this.

6.2 Children and data protection

The law does not set a minimum age for when a child can give an organisation consent to process their data. However, as a guide if relying on consent as the lawful basis for processing a child’s data, you should consider that Article 8 of the GDPR says that a child



must be at least 13 years old to give consent to process their personal data, if not, you **must** get their parent's or guardian's consent.

You must not share any data you collect from anyone aged under 14 without consent from their parent or guardian, unless you have to do so by law (for example, during a police investigation).