



treasure boxes

GIVING GOODS TO KIDS IN NEED

school compassion

program

treasureboxes.org.au

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who we are

When poverty, homelessness and domestic violence create an uncertain and sometimes dangerous home environment many South Australian families struggle to provide their children with the essentials of life including bedding, clothes, toys, even regular meals.

From this troubling reality, Treasure Boxes came to be – a team of caring, like-minded people, dedicated to preventing hardship and trauma by aiming to provide children in need with the critical items that many of us take for granted. From our bustling warehouses, Treasure Boxes coordinates and arranges the donation, collection and delivery of those childhood essentials, including cots, prams, highchairs and clothes. Driven by this profound need, Treasure Boxes seeks to empower others, creating positive change within the community as we 'give back'.



rikki cooke

CEO and Founder

Rikki founded Treasure Boxes in 2015 after working for eight years as an emergency care worker for the Department for Child Protection, and a social worker in the community sector advocating for disadvantaged families. She discovered that there was a distinct gap in services for families and at-risk children, where basic needs were not being met, and quickly realised that the community were ready and willing to lend a hand to help.

Since those early days, Treasure Boxes has grown from strength to strength, continuing to meet its core mission to alleviate family hardship, ease childhood trauma and reduce the number of South Australian children experiencing severe disadvantage.

Rikki's driving force is advocating for vulnerable women and families, and at-risk children in crisis who have - and are - experiencing domestic violence, extreme poverty and substantial disadvantage and marginalisation. Through Treasure Boxes, Rikki aims to give them a fighting chance of creating a better life for themselves in the future.



what we do

Treasure Boxes is a South Australian based not-for-profit children's charity providing vital essentials to newborns, babies and children living in disadvantage.

Treasure Boxes provides a vital, practical, and life-changing difference at exactly the point at which people need the help, by supporting thousands of families every year with the crucial items they need to care for their families.



Treasure Boxes & the Australian Curriculum

Volunteering with Treasure Boxes offers an authentic opportunity to integrate the Australian Curriculum General Capabilities Ethical Understandings and Cross-Curriculum Priorities into learning.

School Compassion Program

Our School Compassion Program is offered to students in primary and secondary schools in South Australia, with an aim to provide a deeper understanding of the people in the community who need our support and offer a hands-on approach as to how students can impact and help kids just like them.

Age	Inursion	Excursion	Excursion Ratio*	Excursion Duration	Excursion Cost
Reception - Year 3	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Year 4-6	✓	✓	1:5	2 hours	\$250 p/class
Year 7-10	✓	✓	1:8	2 hours	\$250 p/class
Year 11-12	✓	✓	1:10	2 hours	\$250 p/class

*Ratio of student to teacher/parent helper.

** Student numbers are capped at 20. If you have class sizes which are larger than 20 please contact volunteer@treasureboxes.org.au to discuss options.

the school compassion program consists of four components:

1. Meet a member of our Leadership Team

A 15 – 20 minute interactive and age specific presentation to help students understand the importance of helping those in need, and the impact they can have in their local community. The session can be run online or in-person, and prior to the hands-on activity so students have an understanding of the purpose of Treasure Boxes and its importance before they attend the warehouse. This helps students to fully engage and integrate their knowledge into the practical element of the program.

2. Choose an Incursion or Excursion

Incursion:

a. Donation drive at school. We will provide you with a list of our most needed items for a targeted drive.

AND / OR

b. Pack a Treasure Box with donated goods collected by your class (a packing list will be provided).

Excursion:

A 2-hour visit to our Treasure Boxes warehouse (Edwardstown) to see first-hand how the operation supports vulnerable SA families, and participate in helping to prepare items for families.

3. Fundraise for Treasure Boxes

Students create their own school fundraiser to support Treasure Boxes families. The aim is to encourage a creative and proactive attitude that further encourages their determination to make a difference for disadvantaged children in the community.

Fundraising Suggestions

- Gold coin donation day
- Hold a Colour Run event
- Run an Athon day. Students choose their target for the month, and have their friends and family sponsor them. I.e. Read a number of books, run laps of the oval, etc.

4. Spread the Word

Share your experiences and learnings in your school newsletter and social media pages to let the community know that you're passionate about 'giving back' to disadvantaged South Australian kids. We also encourage you to share our Wishlist to the community so they too can help where they can.

incursion only - thank you tour

When all four components are completed, we welcome you to attend our warehouse in Edwardstown for a thank you tour of our operations. Tours will be run on Mondays.

make a booking

Please complete the online Registration Form and you will be contacted by a member of our team within two weeks of your submission. Please note that School Compassion Program sessions are run once a week on Mondays and availability may be limited.

excursion details

A fun filled interactive session at our warehouses in Edwardstown. The School Compassion Program is run on Mondays only during school terms between 10am and 12pm.

9:45am Arrive at Treasure Boxes (Edwardstown).

10:00am Induction & introduction to Treasure Boxes.








10:30am Compassion activities commence.

11:45am Compassion tasks conclude.

12:00pm Goodbye and thank you. Group photo opportunity (if desired). Students are farewelled by 12.15pm.

tasks

Tasks will vary depending on our current need at the time of your excursion. Examples of tasks below:

-  Sort clothes into size and gender
-  Clean large nursery furniture
-  Welcome our donors and their donations
-  Pick orders for our families
-  Help in our retail space
-  Sort toys/stationery
-  Clean donated footy boots & shoes

the fine print

FAQS

Why do you charge for Compassion?

This cost helps us to cover operational costs of running the program such as wages to provide adequate supervision for the program, required insurances (Working With Children) for all staff and volunteers and general operation costs.

Do students need to wear specific clothing?

As our warehouse is in full operation during the time the students will be on site, they will need to wear closed in shoes. Students are welcome to wear their uniforms or neat casual attire suitable for a warehouse setting.

Who is responsible for supervising the students?

Teachers and accompanying adults will be asked to sign a declaration that they will be supervising students at all times. Any students acting disrespectfully or dangerously towards any of our staff, volunteers or facilities may respectfully be asked to leave the premises.

Can we take photos?

Yes of course! We would love to include you on our socials' posts also, however only with you (and students) permission. Prior to your attendance, we will send Media Release Requests Forms to be completed for each student.

the fine print

FAQS

Can we volunteer on a different day of the week?

Currently Mondays are the only day available for our School Compassion Program. Please reach out if you have another day you would prefer to volunteer and we'll do our best to accommodate you.

Can I book a session in the School holidays?

Our School Compassion Program only runs during the school term.

book via our online form

www.treasureboxes.org.au/schools



meet our school compassion team



rikki cooke
CEO and Founder



elisa curtis
Volunteer Coordinator



tracy richardson
Floor Coordinator

For more information:
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