

RotaKids



What is a RotaKids Club?

The youngest group in the “Family of Rotary”

A fun, exciting and extremely rewarding Primary School club - just the age when children love to do things for others and are beginning to become more independent. They are enthusiastic and have lots of ideas. (But not absolutely necessary to be rigid about the ages as there could be exceptions.) A RotaKids Club is sponsored by a Rotary Club and usually led by a teacher although schools are generally very keen to involve Rotarians as much as possible. There will always be a teacher at the Club meetings. There is no limit on the numbers in a club.

What , when, where does a RotaKids Club do /meet?

Members meet regularly (monthly or more frequently) to plan, organise and run projects to help others. They could be fundraising or service projects. They may be “Rotary “projects –Polio Plus, Trade Aid, Shelter Box, Shoe Boxes, Water Aid or any other local or International project/charity that the club would particularly like to support – a sensory garden, doing something for the local community, helping a school in another country, supporting another charity. A RotaKids Club could be set up to run a series of projects or may be started for a specific project. Meetings may take place at a break, lunchtime or after school or even as part of timetabled lessons. This is up to the school.

Why set up a RotaKids Club?

One of the aims of National Curriculum is “.....responsible Citizens who make a positive contribution to society” Schools are always looking for ways to involve their local community.

A RotaKids Club gives children the opportunity to carry out a variety of projects to help others. In doing so members work together as a team, build their own self-confidence and self-esteem, make decisions, develop organisational and leadership skills, gain economic understanding and cultural awareness and have fun doing so. They are introduced to Rotary ideals of “Service above Self.” Children talk at home about what they have done and it is a wonderful way of promoting Rotary.

How are they run?

A RotaKids Club must be sponsored by a Rotary Club and also needs a teacher who is keen to be involved. Clubs are set up through agreement with the school (e.g following a visit/s). This could be with the head teacher, the class teacher or a teacher who has a special responsibility for Citizenship or Personal and Social Education.

The teacher may be very keen for a Rotarian or Rotarians to be involved at all meetings or may invite Rotarians to special events.

Decisions concerning projects are made by the club members with support. There is no limit to the number of projects that can be undertaken.

Members may, with guidance, elect their own officers e.g. a Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer. A presidents’ jewel could be presented to the school.

There is a RotaKids pledge “As a RotaKid, I promise to be fair to all, to serve my community, to show respect for others”. Clubs may award badges when the members are familiar with / able to say the pledge. Some clubs also give t-shirts or hats. Other clubs give the children group or individual certificates on completion of a project.

RotaKids information sheets will be available on the RIBI website.

Information on badges and jewels can be obtained from Mary Whitehead m.e.whitehead@btinternet.com
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