



Wheelchairs For Kids[®]
Giving freedom & mobility worldwide

HOST A SCHOOL WHEEL-A-THON



**Information
for Schools**

RAISE AWARENESS, INSPIRE ACTION, CHANGE LIVES ... & HAVE FUN!

Bring disability awareness and global citizenship into the heart of your school community by hosting a **Wheelchairs For Kids Australia Wheel-a-thon**. It's a fun, interactive and educational experience that provides a powerful glimpse into the world of children living with disability and shows students how they can make difference in the world, even from a young age.

ABOUT WHEEL-A-THONS

Wheel-a-thons are an experience-based learning and fundraising event developed for school students from primary to junior high. Working alone or in pairs, students take turns pushing and being wheeled around a safe school course and/or participate in other challenges all while seated in a wheelchair. Typically, a Wheel-a-thon is:

- Held on school grounds, during a school day (can substitute for a PE session or form it's own event).
- Suited for grade/year levels or can involve the whole school.
- Focused on participation, not speed or number of laps.
- Used as an educational opportunity incorporating curriculum activities.
- Supported by Wheelchairs For Kids Australia volunteers with wheelchairs provided.



WHY HOST A WHEEL-A-THON

Hosting a **Wheel-a-thon** is a meaningful way to bring your school community together for a great cause. It also offers many learning opportunities based on curriculum areas and capabilities including:

- **Health and Physical Education** - including Personal, Social and Community Health + Movement and Physical Activity.
- **Humanities and Social Sciences** - including Civics & Citizenship and Geography.
- **General Capabilities** - such as Ethical & Intercultural Understanding, Personal and Social Capability and Critical and Creative Thinking.
- Asia and Australia's Engagement with Asia - can be linked to countries in the region where our wheelchairs are shipped.

By hosting a **Wheel-a-thon for Wheelchairs For Kids Australia** you can introduce students to global issues including the lack of access to disability devices for children living in under-resourced countries. They also provide an opportunity to promote student wellbeing, empathy and civics in action.

A **Wheel-a-thon** is an inclusive event that is easy to run, fun for all abilities and can involve the entire school community including teachers, parents and grandparents.

**EVERY \$300 RAISED GIFTS
A COMPLETE, ALL-TERRAIN
WHEELCHAIR TO A CHILD**



We have had Wheelchairs For Kids visit our school for three years. We are proud to have supported them and are grateful for the meaningful impact their visits had on our school. Students had the opportunity to hear from passionate volunteers who shared how the wheelchairs change the lives of children around the world. The volunteers bring wheelchairs for the children to try, giving them a hands-on experience and a deeper understanding of the challenges faced by children who rely on them. It is a powerful way to build empathy and inspire gratitude.

ALKIMOS BAPTIST COLLEGE

WHAT'S INVOLVED

We've made it easy for schools to participate by providing everything you need to run a successful **Wheel-a-thon**. With wheelchairs, instructions and support on the day, our aim is to provide a **low-effort, high-impact event** for your school community.

To create a successful event we suggest:

- Assigning at least one staff member to champion and coordinate the event within the school and with WFKA
- Setting a fundraising goal – for example \$300 per classroom – along with learning outcomes
- Choosing a flat course (oval, courts, a perimeter track)
- Providing clear communication to teachers, students and families via a launch at an assembly, displaying posters around the school, social media if possible and emails (we can provide ready-made digital content if required, branded for your school)
- Creating a fun event day which may include other related activities, a sausage sizzle, cake stall, soft toy donations etc



To support your school, WFKA will provide:

- Wheelchairs, cones and volunteers to support you on the day
- A presenter to launch your event at an assembly (on request)
- Promotional posters, videos and other resources you might need
- Suggested messaging for emails and/or social media
- Online fundraising and QR Code donation system to minimise cash handling
- Immediate tax receipts for donors who give online

Our goal is to create a truly engaging event that leaves a lasting impact on your students and helps provide a child with their first wheelchair.

HOW FUNDRAISING WORKS

A Wheel-a-thon combines hands-on learning with community spirit. Through fundraising, planning and helping others, students learn that they have the power to make a meaningful difference, no matter their age.

Students are encouraged to raise funds through online donations using a dedicated School fundraising page with a link and QR Code. Sponsorship forms can be used if required and/or cash donated on the day. We recommend online fundraising to reduce the burden on schools and teachers of handling money. Online donors will receive an automatic tax-deductible receipt.

We also suggest the school, grade or classrooms **set a fundraising target**. For example: **Each classroom raises \$300 – the cost to fund one complete life-changing, wheelchair.**

WFKA will set up your school's fundraising page up and QR Code that can be shared via posters, emails and/or social media to easily gather donations.



ABOUT WHEELCHAIRS FOR KIDS

WFKA is charity based in Perth, that is committed to making a big difference to the lives of mobility-impaired children around the world—one wheelchair at a time.

Since 1998, the organisation has helped transform the lives of more than 64,000 children living with disabilities in over 80 countries. These children, many from the poorest corners of the globe, often have no access to mobility devices. Without a wheelchair, they are left on the ground or confined to a bed—unable to go to school, play with friends or participate in community life.



The project was founded by the Scarborough Rotary Club in Perth in 1996, who enlisted Brother Thomas Oliver Pickett AM – known affectionately as Br Olly – to help develop and lead the all-volunteer workshop.

The wheelchair has been specifically designed for use in rough terrains, enabling children to move around their homes, villages and schools. They are built with solid, puncture-proof tyres, wheel covers and a single front wheel for easier travel over uneven tracks. It was the first paediatric wheelchair in the world built to meet the World Health Organisation guidelines for children living in developing countries.



Designed to grow with the child, each wheelchair can be adjusted to fit children from pre-school age to late teens. Each one is shipped with essential accessories, including postural supports, a removable tray, knee separators and tool kit.

A handmade quilt or crocheted knee rug along with soft toys are also included to bring extra comfort and joy.

The wheelchairs are provided free of charge, giving children not just mobility, but dignity, independence and the possibility of a brighter future.

READY TO ROLL?

We'd love to partner with your school to create a memorable, meaningful and inspiring event for your students.

To book a date or discuss how a Wheel-a-thon could be held at your school, please contact our Fundraising Team via **08 9409 3633** or info@wheelchairsforkids.org

Additional information including the date, setting up fundraising and activities on the day will all be discussed once your booking is confirmed. www.wheelchairsforkids.org

