

Get involved with Toilet Twinning

Children of any age have a strong sense of justice – and many may want to do something to help people less fortunate who don't have a proper loo or clean water. The great news is that Toilet Twinning is a simple way for schools of any size, large or small, to do just that.

As you probably know, it costs £60 to twin a household latrine and £240 to twin a school toilet block.

The story from Uganda opposite shows how toilets in schools are making a huge difference for students in Uganda, especially for teenage girls like Bridget (*see also, 'A Case Study from Uganda about Water'*).

Put the fun into fundraising

Your class will have their own brilliant ideas for how they can raise awareness of the water and sanitation crisis and raise funds to twin a loo. But here are a few ideas:

- See our Wot No Loo sheet for some great ideas for a fundraising day on or near World Toilet Day (November 19th)
- Hold a 'bake sale for bogs'. Cake names with a toilet twist always go down well e.g. brownies, Swiss (loo) roll etc.
- Invite children to 'spend a penny', donating spare change. Together, you could make a giant picture of a toilet out of coppers.
- Challenge children to a techno-fast: sponsor them to spend a day (or longer) without screens, phones and gadgets.

Kick up a stink about sanitation and water:

- Make posters to remind people to wash their hands and remember to turn off the taps.
- Deliver an assembly about what you have learned for the rest of the school.
- Blog, vlog or tweet about people's lack of access to loos or clean water.
- Plan and run a workshop for younger children to raise awareness of these issues.

Toilet Twinning's partners in Uganda have recently installed a tap stand at Bridget's school, which is connected to a gravity flow pipeline. Now, the children have fresh water at school for the first time.

The school also has a new toilet block, to replace the old, dilapidated toilets which were dirty and had no doors. The new block has five toilets and a changing room for older girls.

About 20 girls used to drop out of Bridget's school every year, because there were no proper toilets. Since the new toilet block was built, word has spread and 65 more girls enrolled at the school in just two months.



Toilet Twinning partners have also taught Bridget's village about hygiene, including handwashing. About ten houses are now 'demonstration homes' where households have also built a tippy-tap handwashing area near their toilets, as well as drying racks to keep cooking utensils off the ground and a washing line to keep clothes out of the dirt. It is hoped that the enthusiastic owners of these 'demonstration homes' will encourage their neighbours to follow suit.

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