



A really useful place for community groups

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Case study: equipment hire by schools and school PTAs in Brighton & Hove

During 2017-18, 53 local school groups hired equipment from the Resource Centre. Nine of these were schools hiring equipment for use in the classroom, and the remaining 44 were PTA or Friends groups, raising funds to support their schools.

Overall, 57% of Brighton & Hove local authority schools, serving just under 20,000 of the city's pupils, benefited from the Resource Centre's equipment hire service.

Equipment from the Resource Centre is typically used at school fairs. These events not only raise money to support school activities, but also act as a community and neighbourhood focus, helping to cement friendships and create networks of support between families.

The Resource Centre's research shows that on average, school fairs raise around £3,000. Local schools find the equipment they can hire from the Resource Centre invaluable in helping their events to run successfully. At Christmas 2017, the Centre received the following comments from school groups:

"With the current cuts to school budgets, our fundraising efforts are more important than ever to support our schools and create the future our children deserve. Your help in doing this is invaluable! Thank you!" (Queens Park Primary School)

"The equipment we hire, and the printing services we use are invaluable to the success of our PTA. In a time of cuts to school budgets, our school heavily relies on the funds we raise at our events; so many of which made successful by this fabulous service." (Parents of Aldrington)

"[The Resource Centre] contributes to our fairs and events giving us a wider appeal to encourage people to attend. The resources are fairly priced which helps us price them reasonably. We have a very mixed demographic so not everyone has lots to spend. Thank you." (St Mary's Catholic School PTA)

Use by schools is a good example of the importance of a central pool of equipment in supporting groups across the city.