

Invitation to organise a

# DRESS FOR PLAY DAY



Will you add some play  
to your work day?  
Raise money for  
disabled children's  
charity **Parks for Play!**

Parks for Play



[www.parksforplay.org](http://www.parksforplay.org)

Charity number: 1132510

# Fundraising Pack

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Charity number: 1132510

# Dress for Play Day

*What's it all about?*

## Why is Parks For Play asking us to organise a Dress for Play Day?

Since 2004 our charity has been using play to develop the skills of children and young people with disabilities and additional needs to build confidence, make friends and participate more fully in society. We currently provide regular inclusive play sessions and youth clubs at weekends and during the school holidays from our base in Selly Oak, South Birmingham. Demand is higher than ever and we need to raise money to pay for additional playworkers so more children can benefit.

Parks for Play was set up by parents with disabled children in partnership with play and youth experts almost 20 years ago to create new services which welcomed children who were traditionally left out because of their disabilities. We cater for children and young people with the most complex needs and disabilities who are at the highest risk of social isolation. Many of our attendees are non-verbal and Autism is their primary or secondary disability.

At Parks for Play we pride ourselves on never excluding a child, regardless of their disability, background, emotional needs, or challenging behaviour. We adapt our service and bring in extra staff to provide 1:1 support where needed to enable every child to access a quality play experience. Many of our attendees are NOT accommodated elsewhere even by specialist services due to their complex needs.

## How can you help?

By organising a playful dress up or dress down at work day to fundraise for us, you will be making a difference. It's also a simple and fun way to boost staff morale as well as support a good local cause.

As little as £20 will provide a 1:1 play worker for 2 hours to ensure a disabled child gets the support they need to play well with us, and their family is able to enjoy precious hours of respite.



## Sounds fun! How do we take part?

You can hold your Dress for Play Day in a way that suits your workplace.

All you need to do is encourage your work colleagues to come to work dressed in a playful way on the same day! This could be the subtle donning of silly socks, bow ties, a Christmas Jumper or a deely bopper or going full out in a fancy dress costume or dressed from head to foot in sparkles, ready to party!

You might like to hold a competition to award an **Employee** of the Day (rosette to cut out included in this fundraising pack!)

We provide a poster in this pack for you to print and circulate. There is room to write the Dress for Play Day date and organiser's name.

It's up to you to decide how you ask your work colleagues to donate money. This might be a 'donate as you feel' request or asking them to give a set amount.

You might prefer to go cash-less and ask colleagues to donate directly to our PayPal account via our website (using your company name as a reference so we can see collectively how much you have raised!) Visit [www.parksforplay.org/support/](http://www.parksforplay.org/support/)

All funds raised will go directly to Parks for Play.

## What happens next?

When you have finished your fundraising day, please email photos and let us know how much you have raised. We'd love to make a fuss about your workforce across our socials so our families as well as us can say a big thank you.

Please contact us to arrange a time to drop off your cash collection to us at Coronation Road Play Centre. This could be during one of our play sessions if you would like to learn more about what we do.

## Please keep in contact!

Could the Dress for Play Day be part of your annual calendar? Or can you think of other ways to fundraise and support our vital work for children with disabilities and complex needs?



# Parent testimonials

*Your donations will make a difference in people's lives.*

”

My children cannot socialise independently. They lack the communication and risk awareness to spend time outside the home safely without a carer. This means they rely on us to facilitate every single aspect of their social and extra curricular lives.

But as they are getting older, they want to spend time with their peers, not their parents, and the opportunities to do this safely are few and far between. I worry about it constantly and just want them to have a better life.

Without the group, my children's lives would be so much emptier, especially during the school holidays. And their quality of life would definitely be poorer.

”

”

Personally, for us as a family, we would be under extreme stress and difficulty without the services provided by Parks For Play. Thanks to them, we are able to provide our special needs children with opportunities for play and fun and at the same time, provide some respite for their siblings and ourselves. We are able to go for a simple walk in the park or a coffee which really makes a difference to our mental and social well-being.

”

”

Parks for Play has been a real lifeline. The only club that the boys have properly been able to access, that focuses on them, what they want to do and assists their development through play. If the twins were cognitively 'normal', they would have lots of social experiences outside school and away from their parents. Due to their disabilities, Parks for Play is the only social experience that they get.

”

# Dress for Play Day

*Add some play to your work day!*



Date:

**On this day come to work dressed in your most playful outfit to raise money for Parks for Play, a South Birmingham disabled children's charity.**

Since 2004 this charity has been using play to develop the skills of children and young people with complex disabilities and additional needs to build confidence, make friends and participate more fully in society. They currently provide regular inclusive play sessions and youth clubs to support over 100 families.

**Please help raise money to keep their vital service going.**

Suggested donation

Fundraiser organised by:

Parks for Play



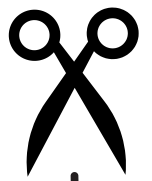
[www.parksforplay.org](http://www.parksforplay.org)

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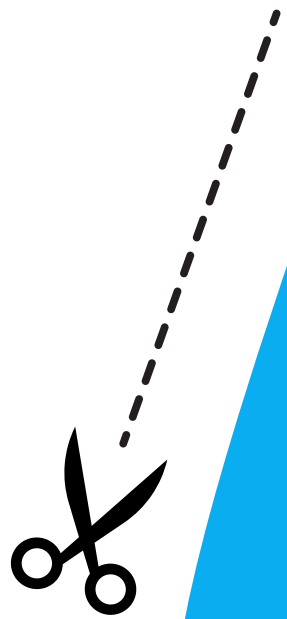


Parks for Play

**EMPLOYEE  
OF THE  
DAY**



Fancy making it a bit of a competition?



# Contact Information

Please contact us by email, phone or by post before and/or after your fundraising day, or if you require further information.

Email: [suzanne@parks4play.org](mailto:suzanne@parks4play.org)

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**Charity number: 1132510**

*Thank you in advance for your support*

