



childhood cancer

Lose your change and change a life!

in the Childhood Cancer Association's schools program.

Kids Helping Kids

Most kids are very fortunate. They're happy, healthy and have the opportunity to attend school and make friends.

Lose your change and change a life is a campaign designed specifically to get students involved in raising money for kids who don't have the same opportunity. They'll make a direct impact on the lives of local children who, unlike themselves, are not well enough to attend school while they're undergoing cancer treatment.

How does it work?

The *Lose your change and change a life* campaign is aimed at raising funds for South Australian children with cancer, and their families.

Each student will receive a collection tin at the beginning of the term. Each student is responsible for their own tin and together with their family, can decide how they'll earn the money to fill it up.

The tins will be collected at the end of term three, and counted after which all money will go toward supporting children with cancer through a variety of services.

How will the money raised be used?

The money raised from *Lose your change and change a life* will contribute to the Childhood Cancer Association's *Home Tutor Scheme*.

The *Home Tutor Scheme* (HTS) provides home-based educational support for school aged children who are receiving treatment for cancer and are unable to attend school full-time, as a result of their diagnosis.

The short term benefits of the HTS program include:

- ❖ Maintaining the desired level of skills and development
- ❖ A distraction from ongoing treatment
- ❖ An increase in confidence and self-belief
- ❖ A sense of achievement
- ❖ A sense of belonging and maintaining connection with their peers and school community
- ❖ Assisting children who may experience cognitive impairment as a result of their cancer diagnosis/treatment

93c in every dollar received by the Childhood Cancer Association, goes directly to supporting children with cancer and their families.



The HTS program is also provided to children receiving palliative care, increasing their quality of life in the final stages by:

- ❖ Encouraging a sense of normality
- ❖ Creating a productive diversion
- ❖ Allowing intellectual stimulation
- ❖ Reach realistic educational milestones

The long term benefits include:

- ❖ Minimising the risk of children wanting to drop out of school, due to falling behind in their studies
- ❖ Encouragement to pursue further education
- ❖ Creating opportunities and improving the quality of life of young South Australians



About the Childhood Cancer Association

The Childhood Cancer Association (CCA), located in North Adelaide (adjacent to the Women's and Children's Hospital), was established in 1982 and is South Australia's key Childhood Cancer support organisation. The CCA is dedicated to providing professional, ongoing and tailored support to children with cancer and their families.

The Association currently supports over 400 families from South Australia, the Northern Territory and country Victoria and New South Wales, who have a child receiving treatment in Adelaide. Support and services are delivered by our trained Psychologists and are free of charge for every family.

Who better to tell you about this service than one of the families who have received support?

This is what Ben and Kim Mead had to say about the Home Tutor Scheme:

“Our daughter, Holly, was six-years-old and in year one when she was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia. At the time, our only focus was getting through one day to the next. Holly endured intensive chemotherapy and many months in hospital over the next two years.

“To this day, Holly’s treatment continues and, she’s only just returned to school. The impact of the treatment has not just affected Holly, but the whole family – including her two brothers. The support that we have received by the Childhood Cancer Association has been amazing.

“One area in particular is the Home Tutor Scheme. Obviously, with Holly missing almost two years of school, she fell behind. But knowing we had the support of Holly’s school, and access to CCA’s Home Tutor Scheme to assist, created some normality during her treatment. To this day, Holly’s tutor continues to support her as she catches up the many days of school she’s missed. Holly’s younger brothers are in the year below her and without this support, it is highly likely she would have fallen further behind, meaning she would need to repeat the year alongside her brothers, but that she’d also lose the important friendships of children her age. It would have been very hard for her, and us, as a family.

“We are extremely grateful for the support of the Childhood Cancer Association, and to the Minter Ellison Foundation who assisted with funding for this program from the beginning.” - Ben and Kim Mead



If everybody gives a little... it equals a lot!

Never a truer word spoken! This program is not about who raises the most – it's not a competition. It's about students working together as a school and collectively making a difference in their local community. However, to show our appreciation, the student who raises the most money in the school will receive their very own Elliot toy. Elliot is the CCA's mascot and friend to children with cancer and their families. He's given to every child who is diagnosed with cancer, and referred to the CCA.

Last year, Immanuel Primary School raised an incredible \$11,000 through the *Lose your change and change a life* campaign - and we're pleased to say that they're on board again this year!

Immanuel Primary School Principal, Rob Hoff, says he liked the concept of "kids helping kids" and that "the campaign really got the students and family engaged with the cause". Mr Hoff says "it's an easy way to fundraise and raise significant funds and most importantly, have a direct impact on the local community".

Can your school raise \$10,000 too?



How do you engage your students?

- ✓ Encourage your students to take their pack home and talk to their family about the campaign and what they're trying to achieve
- ✓ Suggest to students that they can personalise their tin with their name, or even decorate it so it stands out!
- ✓ Encourage your student to brainstorm ideas with their family about the best way to raise money and fill their tin up
- ✓ At the end of term three, involve students in the counting process so they get to take part in the project from beginning to end – they'll get a real kick seeing just how much of a difference they're making!

How does the Childhood Cancer Association help?

- ✓ We'll provide a fundraising pack for each student including:
 - A sticker branded with your school name – this can be personalised by the student
 - A collection tin
 - An pack including information the student can share with their family
- ✓ A speaker at assembly to launch the campaign and again in term four for a special thank you presentation – we'll even bring our mascot, Elliot for a visit!
- ✓ Content for the school newsletter to introduce the campaign
- ✓ Volunteers to collect and count the money at the end of term three
- ✓ A thank you certificate for each class, and the school, to display
- ✓ A speaker at the schools governing council meeting
- ✓ An Elliot toy for the winner

If you would like to be a part of the school's program please either email or call Kate McKeegan on 0403 804 324 or kate@childhoodcancer.asn.au



An example of the tin