



YOUR **GUIDE** TO THE
RAILWAY CHILDREN

BIG STATION SLEEPOUT



Sponsored by
 **VolkerRail**

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 **RAILWAY
children**
No child lost to the streets

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR TAKING PART IN OUR SLEEPOUT, HELPING CHILDREN WHO FIND THEMSELVES VULNERABLE AND ALONE ON STATIONS AND STREETS AROUND THE UK, INDIA AND EAST AFRICA.

REGISTERING ON ARRIVAL:

Please come and register within the station. Look out for our staff and volunteers in their hi vis jackets and bobble hats. You will be sent an email prior to the event with the exact sleepout location within the station (check your junk if you do not receive it). If you are struggling to find us, just ask a member of station staff.

You must register your arrival at the event to get your Railway Children Sleepout bobble hat to keep your head warm through the night! We ask that you stay with us once you have registered with our team members. To keep the event an authentic experience, we would really appreciate if you would stay with us for the duration.

Then find a space within the area we have dedicated for us. Once everyone is registered, a member of the Railway Children team will tell you all the vital information about the evening and we'll be telling you all about the experiences of children on the streets that you are supporting through this event.

DURING THE NIGHT:

Toilets will be available throughout the night.

There is a strict no alcohol rule at this event. This includes bringing any of your own alcohol, consuming alcohol or being intoxicated at the event. Anyone breaking this rule, may be asked to leave the event (registration fee will not be refunded)

Do not assume there will be access to an electrical point to charge phones etc – consider bringing a portable charger if needed.

Please note that the station will be open for all or most of the night to the general public and as such, keep your valuables close to you. Railway Children cannot accept responsibility for any lost valuables during the night.

Please ensure any rubbish that you create is tidied away as we go through the night in the facilities provided.

Smoking and vaping is not permitted within the station.

There are no special facilities for car parking at the station.

The Railway Children team will be on hand to answer any questions you have – look out for us in our hi-vis vests.

The event will end around 7am, please ensure you take all of your belongings with you and all rubbish is disposed of in the bins provided or taken home.



WHAT TO BRING:

- Something to lie on – a mat/ cardboard
- A sleeping bag, blanket
- Warm clothes (layers) including socks, a hat and scarf.
- Book/games
- Water / A flask with a hot drink to keep you warm in the night.
- Snacks

WHAT NOT TO BRING:

- Music – except on personal devices using headphones.
- Unnecessary valuables – there is nowhere to store them.
- Alcohol – this event has a strict no alcohol rule.

FUNDRAISING

Through registering for this event, you pledged a fundraising target of £100, with your fundraising page being automatically set up on the 'Enthuse' platform. This is the easiest way to reach your fundraising target and all donations made through your fundraising page will come directly to the charity and will go towards your fundraising target. You can easily add offline donations to your page too.

Here's some tips to help you reach your fundraising target and beyond!

- Tell anyone and everyone! Social media is one of the best ways to tell people about your fundraiser. Share pictures of you in your bobble hat, setting up your sleeping space and selfies with our selfie frames on the night - don't forget all those WhatsApp groups you're part of too!
- Use the hashtag #BigStationSleepout and remember to include a link to your online donations page.
- Did you know that 20% of fundraising comes in after an event? So, share how you did, what taking part meant to you and how it has affected how you feel. You'll be amazed at how many extra donations come in after the event - fundraising pages will be open for 4 weeks after the event.
- Don't forget to ask your donors to Gift Aid, this adds 25p onto every £1 they give at no extra cost to you or your donor (gift aid does not count to your fundraising target, its an added bonus!)
- There will be a prize at for the top fundraiser at each station!



Join our [Facebook group](#) to see what the other stations are up to and share your Sleepout experience with us!

THANK YOU FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE

The money you raise from taking part in this event can help children like [Darcy](#), who ran away from home after arguments turned into fights and she felt as though she was part of the problem. Or [Anuj](#) who is from a low income family and unbeknown to his family, aged 14 set off in search for work to try and help. Or [Kanoni](#) who was only nine years old when she was found living on the street. As she grew up, her only means of survival became sex work.



£100 could pay for four hours of one-to one support for a vulnerable child in the UK when they need it most.



£235 could pay for a child welfare officer in India to work for one month tracing families, helping reunite children and then doing follow up work to make sure they stay safe for the long term.



£500 could pay for an outreach worker in Tanzania to search the streets and bus stations for a month looking for and protecting children at risk.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR BIG STATION SLEEPOUT WHICH WILL HELP US CONTINUE TO REACH AND PROTECT VULNERABLE STREET CONNECTED CHILDREN IN TANZANIA, INDIA AND THE UK