



Aid Guidelines



Smile International is a charity passionate about helping to relieve suffering and poverty through the distribution of humanitarian aid and long-term development projects.

www.smileinternational.org

GENERAL POINTS



Smile welcomes Gifts in Kind (donated aid) to enable us to meet humanitarian, emergency and educational needs.

We tailor our consignments to match specific requirements which can vary greatly over time and with changing circumstances. Therefore Smile reserves the right to retain complete control over the use and distribution of donated items.

Aid is distributed according to need, regardless of nationality, political background or religious belief.

We do not add literature to our packed boxes due to the sensitive nature of the countries in which we work.

We also welcome donations towards the cost of transporting the aid to where it is needed most – trucks, sea containers and distribution vehicles in the destination country.

WE REGRET WE ARE UNABLE TO TAKE THE FOLLOWING:

- **Battery operated items**
- **Food items**
- **Makeup**
- **Baby buggies, pushchairs**
- **Books**
- **Curtains, cushions, nets**
- **Items in glass bottles, mirrors, ceramics and other breakables**
- **Medicines or drugs of any kind – no prescription drugs**

★ **All items should be new and unused**

★ **We are unable to take any second-hand clothes or used items**

GENERAL AID

- **TOILETRIES** e.g. Soap (bars and liquid), flannels, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, conditioner, deodorants, shaving foam, razors, combs, brushes, feminine hygiene products, baby products, nappies and baby wipes
- **SUPPLIES FOR SCHOOLS** e.g. Pens, paper, notebooks, crayons, paints, pencils (black lead and coloured), pencil cases, sharpeners, rubbers, chalks, rulers, geometry sets, self-charging calculators, educational games, musical instruments, computers (Pentium 3 upwards)
- **FACTORY SECONDS/END OF LINE** Clothing, footwear and emergency supplies

MEDICAL / EMERGENCY AID

All medical items must be at least 12 MONTHS in date.

- Dressings: plasters of all types (e.g. fabric, waterproof & blister plasters), crepe & triangular bandages, micropore surgical tape, melolin dressings
- Antiseptic wipes/cream
- Anti-bacterial hand wash & disinfectant
- Sterilising tablets & solution
- Wound & eye washes
- First aid kits
- Blankets – both fabric & foil
- Disposable aprons
- Disposable latex gloves
- Scissors, safety pins, tweezers
- Thermometers, medical scales
- Paper towelling
- Plastic sheeting for emergency shelters
- Basic metal cooking utensils & hygiene supplies

We also take supplies and equipment for hospitals – please contact us to confirm suitability of items.

CRAFT PACKS

- Coloured paper
- Coloured pencils
- Felt pens
- Wax crayons
- Paints, brushes
- Face paints
- Tissue paper & stickers
- Glitter & sequins
- Coloured feathers
- Glues & glue sticks
- Sharpeners
- Child safety scissors



SCHOOL PACKS

The items should be packed into a flat A4 ziplock wallet. Suggested items:



- Pens
- Felt tips
- Pencils
- Crayons
- Erasers
- Sharpeners
- Exercise books
- Rulers
- Colouring books
- Geometry sets
- Notebooks
- Self-charging calculators

MUSIC PACK/BOX

- Maracas
- Jingle/Wrist bells
- Triangles
- Castanets
- Cymbals
- Wooden bell sticks
- Rainmakers
- Recorders

KNITTING/CROCHET

We need knitted or crocheted garments, e.g. jumpers, hats, gloves, socks, scarves, and blankets. Or, if you cannot knit, perhaps you can collect wool for us to give to our knitters. We have a **Knitting Booklet** available from the Smile office or as a PDF to download from our website, giving patterns for charity use.

We would welcome details of your **Knitting Group** – where you meet and how many knitters you have.



- **Please avoid the Child/Baby T-Jumper pattern**

SHOEBOXES

Include NEW items from each category



- **TOILETRIES** Toothbrush, toothpaste, flannel, sponge, wrapped bar of soap
- **HAIR CARE** Comb, brush, hair accessories
- **WRITING MATERIALS** Notebook, colouring books, felt tip pens, crayons, pens, pencils, pencil sharpener, pencil case, rubber
- **CLOTHING** Hat, scarf, gloves, socks, pants, knickers
- **SMALL TOYS** Doll, car, skipping rope, ball, small musical instrument, soft toy, puzzle, game, child's jewellery
- **SWEETS** Sell-by date to be at least June of following year

What NOT to put in

- Food – chocolate or any other food items
- Liquids – shampoo, conditioner, bubble bath, aerosols, blow bubbles
- Breakables and sharp objects – glass, ceramic, razors, scissors
- Scary toys - guns, knives, military or monster-type toys
- Make up and pierced-ear earrings
- Battery operated items
- Medicines
- Used items

Wrap a medium size shoebox in colourful wrapping paper (avoiding designs with soldiers, pirates or scary characters). Wrap the lid separately. Label the shoebox Boy or Girl with age, and buy items for that child. Secure the shoebox with strong elastic bands (as they will be checked before final packing). Please do not wrap individual items. Contact the Smile office for your nearest Drop-Off Point.

Full details and labels are in our Shoebox Leaflet and on our website

Thank you so much for your support

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