



Dear Harvest Festival Co-ordinator,

Thank you for supporting Kingston Foodbank this Harvest Festival.

Please take a moment to familiarise yourself with the materials in this Harvest Pack which we hope you will find useful for informing and engaging people with your collection. In addition to the resources in this pack, we are here to support you if you need anything, please do not hesitate to contact us. We will be happy to assist you in any way we can.

What to collect

Please find enclosed a master copy of the food bank's "shopping list" of items that we are in need of, which you can photocopy and distribute to everyone supporting your Harvest collection.

Kingston Foodbank only works with non-perishable food and hygiene items (tinned and dried goods), which do not spoil or decay. This means that neither the food bank nor the recipient has to worry about storing the food in a fridge or freezer, and there is less likelihood of food going to waste. It also means that we can give each person visiting the food bank a carefully designed food parcel that contains three days' worth of nutritionally-balanced food.

All items should be unopened, in date and in good condition. We are forbidden by law to give away food which has passed its "use by" date. We have no storage facilities for fresh food so if you collect fresh food we would prefer you to arrange for it to go elsewhere. If you need any ideas of where to send it, we can help.

Delivery/Collection

It would be a great help to us if you could deliver the food to our warehouse at the following address:

*Unit 9
Kingsmill Business Park
Chapel Road
KT1 3GZ*

Deliveries can be made **Mondays from 9am-12pm and Wednesdays from 9.30am to 11.30am.**

If this is not possible, please call us and we will arrange a date and time with you to deliver it, however this may mean keeping hold of it for a few days.

Our pledge is to provide food to people in crisis free of charge and we are very grateful to all those who donate the food that enables us to do this. There are also running costs to the food bank to enable us to store and distribute the food, so if you are able to assist in any way with financial support too, that would be very much appreciated. Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely

Ian Jacobs on behalf of Kingston Foodbank
Foodbank Harvest Appeal

Foodbank Mobile: 07379 126655

info@kingston.foodbank.org.uk

Harvest Pack Press Release

Putting an article in your newsletter or magazine about your Harvest Festival collection would be a great way to encourage people to donate tinned and dried foods to the food bank.

Here's some suggested wording you may like to use:

This Harvest we're asking you to help feed local people in crisis by collecting tinned and dried food and hygiene products for Kingston Foodbank. We are asking everyone to rally round to give items such as breakfast cereals, pasta sauces, tinned veg, tomatoes, tinned meat, rice and sponge pudding, UHT milk, squash, household cleaning products, personal hygiene products and sanitary wear.

1 in 5 people in the UK live in poverty; many families hit crisis and cannot afford food. More people are being referred to the food bank because they don't have enough money coming in to cover essential living costs. Rising food and fuel prices, static incomes, high unemployment and changes to benefits are causing many families to struggle to put food on the table but you can help be part of the solution by supporting Kingston Foodbank.

The food bank helps local individuals and families in crisis through the provision of emergency food supplies donated by churches, schools, businesses and the general public. The circumstances surrounding a crisis are unique to every individual, so the food bank partners with frontline care professionals, such as health visitors, social workers and other community-based support workers, who are able to identify people facing hunger and refer them to the food bank. As well as receiving nutritionally-balanced 3 day food parcels, people are welcomed with a cup of tea, listened to and signposted to agencies that are able to help resolve the underlying cause of their crisis.

The demands on the food bank are as strong as ever and this is where we can help. Please join us by giving food so that local people in crisis don't go hungry. Thank you.

NB: Please make sure all food is unopened, non-perishable, in date, and undamaged. Thank you!

Editor's note:

Please feel free to copy or edit the above text if you wish.

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