5 Things to Know About SchoolAid

SchoolAid 'empowers young philanthropists' and, among other things, has established Australia's first crowdfunding platform for young people. An Australian not-for-profit organisation established in 1999 with the full support of the national principals' associations to harness the collective giving power of schools. The Governor-General, His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd) is Patron of SchoolAid.

1. Since 1999, over 6 500 schools have contributed to some 70 campaigns, raising a grand total of over $5.5 million that SchoolAid has granted to community organisations working to improve the world we live in, while helping our young donors (philanthropists) to feel hopeful in the knowledge they can make a difference.

2. SchoolAid's crowdfunding platform supports schools who want to run a fundraising campaign based on a local priority or student-based initiative. The platform can also be used if a school chooses to support a national charity-based campaign.

3. SchoolAid is unique - an Australian first - established by a principal with the support of all national principal associations (primary & secondary - State, Catholic and Independent), backed by Australian schools and with a long track record in effective engagement with schools to provide a proven vehicle for kids to help kids. The Australian Primary Principals Association (APPA) has a position on the Board.

4. We are 100% committed to growing the next generation of philanthropists. In 2010, we initiated the first ever Awards program to recognize and reward youth giving. SchoolAid campaigners are automatically entered into the Awards program – stay tuned for more information!

5. We know that giving is important to the hearts and minds of our young people. We know that people who give are happier. Students feel empowered when they can make a difference. They develop personal optimism, resilience, become more outward looking and grow towards becoming socially responsive global citizens. The benefits they get is paralleled by the benefits the recipients receive from the giving or fundraising effort.

How can your school support SchoolAid?

1. Encourage students to conduct a local priority or student-initiated campaign using the SchoolAid online platform. Students may choose to adopt and support another school's campaign through the SchoolAid website. The SchoolAid platform also enables schools wishing to support a national charity campaign.
2. Promote and support (optional) SchoolAid National campaigns in local school communities. A national campaign could be a school-based initiative that SchoolAid adopts and promotes.
3. Raising funds and donating directly to SchoolAid to support the development of resources and to assist SchoolAid in supporting schools wishing to enhance their philanthropic programs.
4. Nominating a student or students for a national SchoolAid Ambassador Award.
5. Apply to be recognised as a SchoolAid School for Supporting and Empowering Young Philanthropists.

How can SchoolAid support your school?

1. Support schools, through the online platform in fundraising for a locally identified need or a national charity.
2. Promoting individual school's achievements in conducting campaigns and philanthropic activities.
3. Assistance to schools wishing to establish a Social Action Team and support to existing school teams. A Social Action Team kit is available for all schools.
4. Supporting schools to apply for the SchoolAid Ambassador Award and the National SchoolAid EYP Schools Accreditation.
5. Facilitating SchoolAid presentations student leadership meetings.

Further information and support
Website: www.schoolaid.org.au
SchoolAid CEO Sean Gordon: sean@schoolaidtrust.com

SchoolAid-Social Action Team Support Group
Dennis Yarrington: Past President APPA, retired principal and SchoolAid Director
Narelle Barker: Retired primary school principal and SchoolAid Director
Graeme Feeney: Retired primary school principal.