

Publisher joins local food banks and charities to gift books to thousands of families this Christmas

- Twinkl is working with food banks to distribute 10,000 books across UK
- The educational publisher is also working with a number of charities to help develop children's reading skills, including Bookmark, The Children's Hospital Charity, and Laptop for Kids



An online educational publisher is giving the 'Gift of Reading' to thousands of families this Christmas after recognising the difficulties many have faced in accessing or buying new books during the pandemic.

Working with 26 food banks across the UK, [Twinkl](#) will be distributing over 10,000 books to

families from its collection of educational stories. Suitable for all ages, the books have been created by current and former teachers at Twinkl.

Twinkl is also donating books to The Children's Hospital Charity, Jessop Wing Maternity Unit, and Sheffield Hospitals Charity as part of the campaign.

Jonathan Seaton, Co-founder and CEO of Twinkl, said: "We wanted to bring some light to what has been a very challenging year, and we thought what better way to spread some seasonal joy than through the Gift of Reading? We also know that this is a difficult time for many families and that visiting libraries or being able to buy books has been greatly impacted by the pandemic. We are delighted to be working with incredible food banks across the UK and with them, we hope to go some way towards ensuring that families have access to books, whatever their circumstances."

Twinkl has also partnered with the literacy charity, [Bookmark](#), as part of its 'Gift of Reading' campaign. Bookmark links schools with volunteers and provides one to one reading support for children. These sessions are now being conducted through the charity's secure online platform, with the normal face-to-face setup currently on pause due to the Coronavirus pandemic. Twinkl is supporting Bookmark's reading programme by providing its volunteers with free access to a collection of Twinkl ebooks.



Kitty Higgins, Chief Executive at Bookmark said: "Twinkl and our charity have a shared goal; we aim to encourage a love of reading, and these stories are perfect for that. The children on our programme will benefit hugely from reading these stories with our volunteers, because they feature a diverse range of characters and messages.

"After such a disrupted year of learning, going into 2021 children will need our volunteers' help more than ever. With

this donation, Twinkl is helping us to support children who need extra help with their reading so that they can go on to have a fair chance in life."

Schools are also being given the opportunity to win a 6 week Bookmark reading programme for 10 of their pupils on Twinkl's social media channels, with the [giveaway](#) closing at midnight on 18th December.

As well as access to books, Twinkl is also working with the Sheffield-based charity initiative, Laptops for Kids, to help children have better access to technology at home. Research conducted by the [UK Parliament](#) indicates that the recent school closures are likely to have widened the attainment gap between disadvantaged pupils because many children have not had access to technology during this time.

[Laptops for Kids](#) provides children from disadvantaged backgrounds with digital devices donated by local businesses.

Twinkl provides online educational resources that are used by educators globally, including primary and secondary school teachers, nursery workers and parents and carers.

The company has a free [Home Learning Hub](#), full of daily activities and materials, to support parents, teachers and carers with any school closures or periods of self-isolation as a result of the Coronavirus.

For more information about Twinkl's Gift of Reading, please visit this [blog post](#) on Twinkl's website.

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For media enquiries please contact media@twinkl.co.uk or call 0114 212 3007