

# Friends of Baydon St Nicholas School calls out for votes to bag a share of Tesco's bag fund

Friends of Baydon School is bidding to bag a massive cash boost from the Tesco Bags of Help initiative.

Tesco teamed up with Groundwork to launch its community funding scheme, which sees grants of up to £4,000, up to £2,000 and £1,000 raised from carrier bag sales in Tesco stores awarded to local community projects.

Three groups in every Tesco region have been shortlisted to receive the cash award and shoppers are being invited to head along to Tesco stores to vote for who they think should take away the top grant.

Friends of Baydon School is one of the groups on the shortlist at the Hungerford store.

The 'Building for the Future' project at Baydon school will see old rundown mobile classroom replaced by a new purpose built classroom early in the new year. The Friends part of the project is the provision of brand new toilet and washrooms facilities

Jenny MacLeod, Joint Chair of Friends of Baydon School said:

"We are so pleased to have been shortlisted for the Tesco Bags of Help vote. The existing mobile classroom was only ever intended to be temporary and is now 25 years old and well past its economic lifespan. The new classroom will make such a difference to the children's learning environment and with its own toilet and washroom facilities as well, will be a fantastic addition to the school."

Headteacher, Caroline Knighton, commented:

" We are so grateful to our Friends of Baydon School as they make a real difference to the lives of the children in our school. Our new classroom will make a genuine difference to the environment in which our children are educated."

Voting is open in all Tesco stores throughout January and February. Customers will cast their vote using a token given to them at the check-out in store each time they shop.

Tesco's Bags of Help project has already delivered over £40 million to 9,700 projects up and down the UK. Tesco customers get the chance to vote for three different groups every time they shop. Every other month, when votes are collected, three groups in each of Tesco's regions will be awarded funding.

Alec Brown, Head of Community at Tesco, said:

"We are absolutely delighted to open the voting for January and February. There are some fantastic projects on the shortlists and we can't wait to see these come to life in hundreds of communities."

Groundwork's National Chief Executive, Graham Duxbury, said:

"We've been thrilled to see the diversity of projects that have applied for funding, ranging from outdoor classrooms, sports facilities, community gardens, play areas and everything in between."

"We're looking forward to learning the results of the customer vote and then supporting each group to bring their project to life."

Funding is available to community groups and charities looking to fund local projects that bring benefits to communities. Anyone can nominate a project and organisations can apply online. To find out more visit [www.tesco.com/bagsofhelp](http://www.tesco.com/bagsofhelp).

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

- The Bags of Help initiative is supported by money raised from carrier bag sales in Tesco stores.
- So far Bags of Help has awarded £40 million to 9,700 community projects.
- For more information please visit: [www.tesco.com/bagsofhelp](http://www.tesco.com/bagsofhelp).

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