



FixMyStreet for schools and clubs

FixMyStreet can provide an interesting and useful topic for schools and clubs. If you'd like to get everyone involved in improving your local community, here are a few ideas.

1. What are the major problems in your neighbourhood?

Put your school or club's postcode into the homepage of FixMyStreet to see recent problems reported in your area.

Are there one or two types of problem that are more common than others? Have a group discussion to see what you might do about it. Some ideas might be:

- Write to the local paper
- Set up a local volunteer cleaning or fixing group
- Arrange a meeting with local councillors to see what can be done

2. Report your way to school day

Ask children and parents to notice anything that needs fixing on their way to school - from blocked street drains to trip-hazard pavements. They'll also need to note the street name.

It can be a classroom activity or a family homework to report the issues on FixMyStreet. If it's done in school, the teacher can make the reports via a single log-in for the class. Follow up later to see how many have been fixed - and if they haven't, what the reason was.

Note: Make sure that everyone knows that they should only report significant problems, as these reports will go to the council to be fixed.

It's probably a good idea to stagger classes, too, because the council will not be very pleased to receive scores of reports on the same day.



3. Fundraising

If you appreciate what FixMyStreet does for communities, please consider raising some money for us!

Standard sponsored activities can be given a 'FixMyStreet' twist - for example, a sponsored walk could turn into a patrol after dark to count and report any streetlights that aren't working, or a sponsored clean-up of the local area would be a very apt activity.

Please [see this page for details of how you can donate to mySociety](#), the organisation that built and runs FixMyStreet.

4. Coder activities (advanced)

FixMyStreet is Open Source - that is, the code can be used and modified by anyone who would like to run a similar site.

Can your group think of other uses for the FixMyStreet software? So far, it has been used for:

- Reporting empty homes to the council
- Reporting when TB vaccines run out in Indian clinics
- Reporting bicycle accidents and near misses

It could potentially be used for projects like reporting rare bird sightings, plotting dangerous areas of the city, collecting stories about places... in fact, anything that involves locating a place on a map, and, optionally, sending a report to a body that's responsible for that place.

If your students are adept coders themselves, take a look at the codebase on <http://fixmystreet.org/> - and maybe have a go at making your ideas into a reality!