

# DONATION DRIVE

Impact Report 2023/24

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## Summary

The Donation Drive is a project to reduce the environmental impact of move out by making it easier for students to donate unwanted items before they leave campus. This proactive system prevents waste, reduces the University's carbon footprint and supports incoming students and local charities.

In the 2023/24 academic year, there were four Donation Drives covering the major student move-out periods on campus: in March, June, July and September.

This project is run by the Energy & Sustainability Team with support from the Post & Portering Team, Waste & Recycling Team, Warwick Conferences and Warwick Accommodation.

In 2023/24

**8.67**



tonnes of items were donated by students, over 2.5 tonnes more than last year.

In 2023/24

**61**



Donation Drive's collection and sorting process **engaged 61 volunteers**.

In 2023/24

**15.5**



tonnes of carbon saved, contributing to our carbon emission reduction goals.

# Strategic Priorities



Donation Drive directly responds to the approved [Way to Sustainable](#) strategy, particularly:

- Lead by example
- Powered by the economy
- Embraced by people and communities



Donation Drive also contributes towards the [UN Sustainable Development Goals](#), specifically

- SDG9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure)
- SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities),
- SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production)
- SDG13 (Climate Action)
- SDG15 (Life on Land)



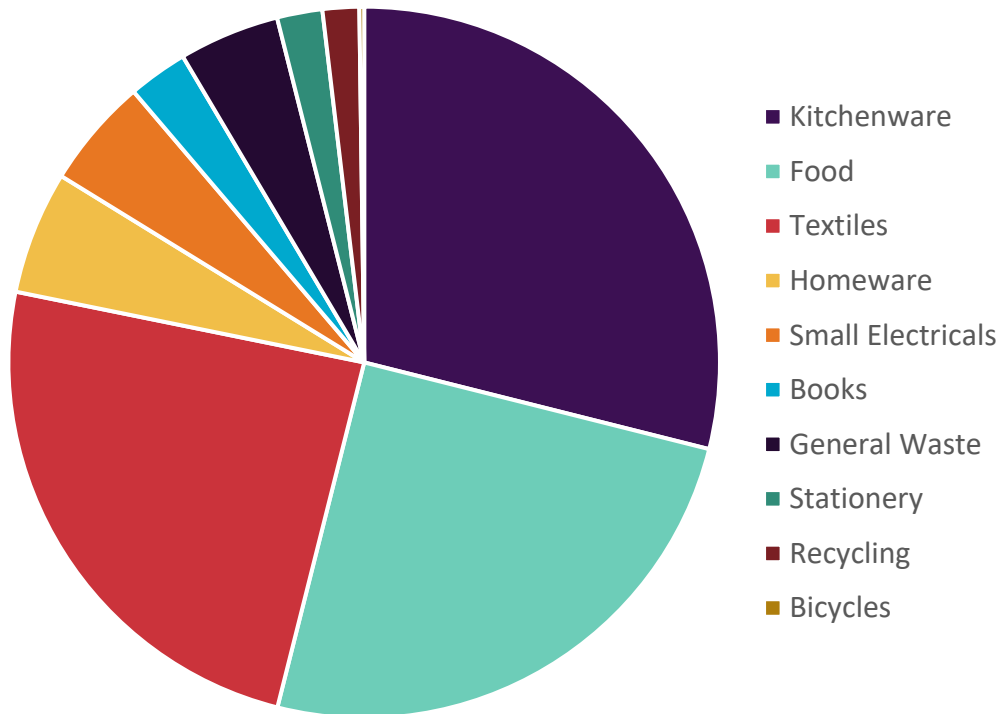
Donation Drive feeds into two of [the University's strategic priorities](#):

- Sustainability
- Regional leadership

# Summary

## Donation Drive

Total Weight of Collected Items



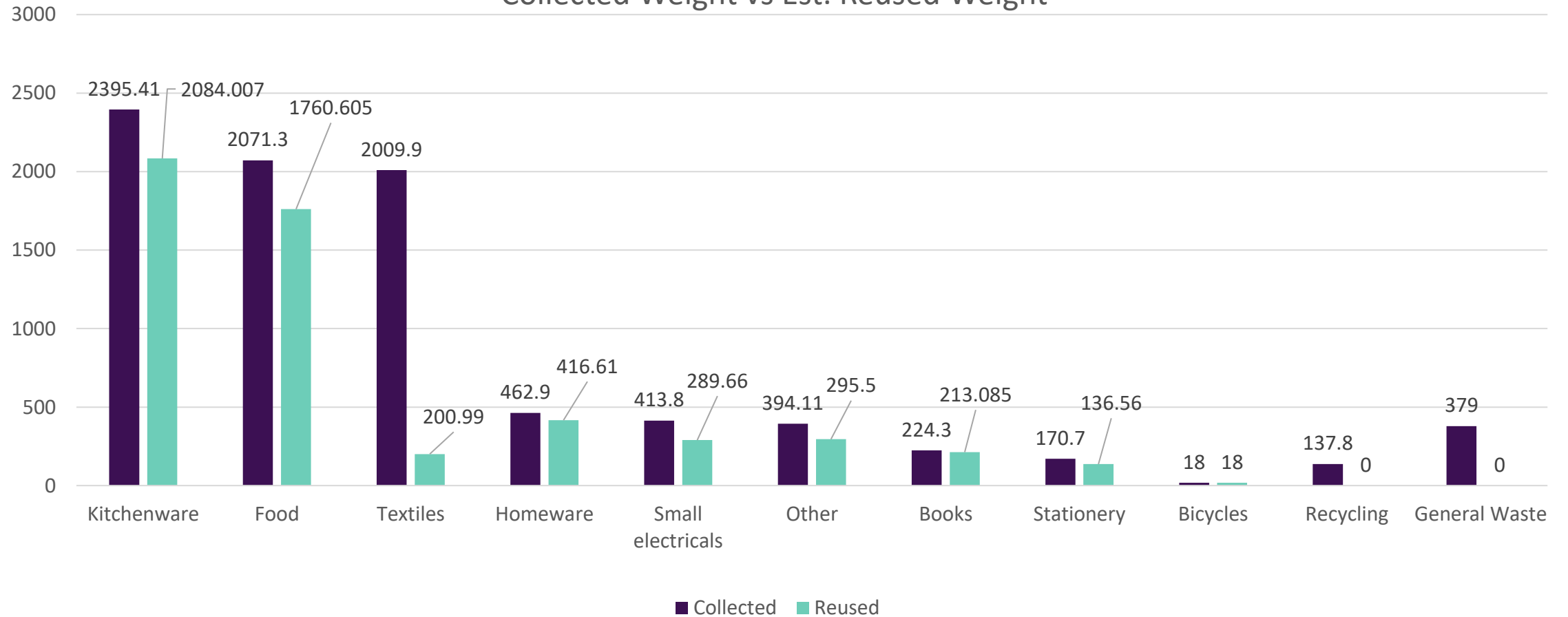
Total: 8677.11 kgs collected

Item	Weight (kgs)
Kitchenware	2395.41
Food	2071.3
Textiles (including bedding and clothes)	2009.9
Homeware	462.9
Small electricals	413.8
Other (including cleaning products and toiletries)	394.11
Books	224.3
Stationery	170.7
Bicycles	18
Recycling	137.8
General Waste	379

# Summary

## Donation Drive

Collected Weight vs Est. Reused Weight



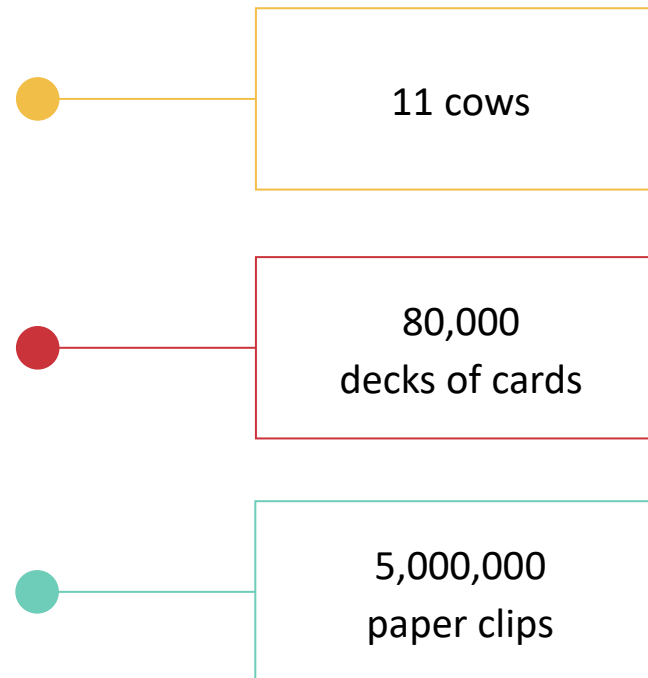
If we disregard recycling and general waste, approximately 74% of items collected will be reused. 27-30% on campus, 44-47% off campus. 5

## Environmental Impact

### Donation Drive

The Donation Drive project diverted 8160.31 kgs from general waste.

**8.16 tonnes** of items were saved from going into general waste

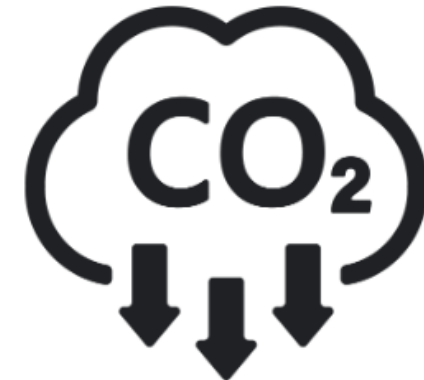
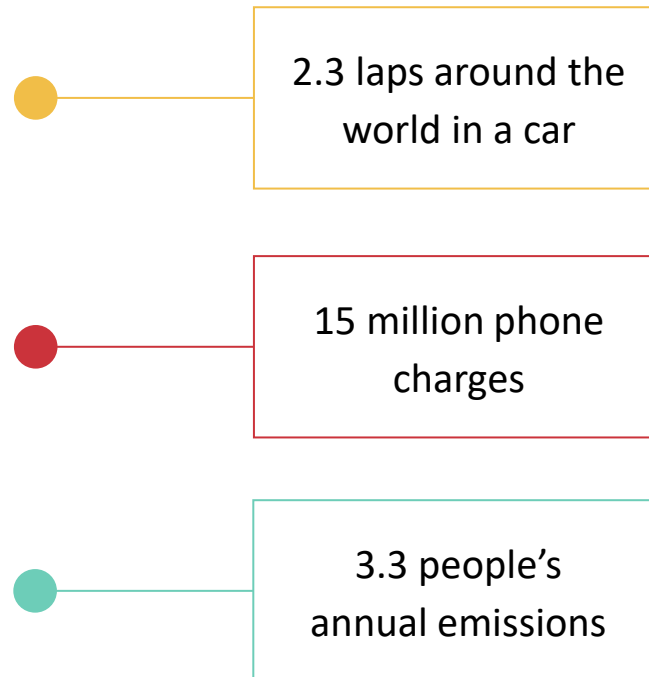


## Environmental Impact

### Donation Drive

The Donation Drive project avoided approximately **15,524 kgCO<sub>2</sub>e** by keeping items in use. This figure has been calculated using lifecycle assessment data which looks at the impact of the raw materials required to produce the items, processing, packaging, and distribution of goods.

**15.5 tonnes**  
of carbon  
avoided



## Economic Impact

### Donation Drive

Item	Saving
Cost saving for reuse rather than items going into general waste	£1,044 (£128/tonne)
Cost saving of Biffa dynamic waste response vs skips on site	~ £25,000

Item	Cost
Biffa support	£550
Post and Portering Team Overtime	£228.06
Post and Portering Team Hours	82.5
Waste and Recycling Team Hours	16
Energy and Sustainability Team Hours	1000

Donation Drive combined with a different waste collection system saved up to £25,000.



# Volunteers

We engaged with staff, student and community volunteers.

61 volunteers

7 item sorting sessions & 1 move out day collection

~ 21 hours of volunteering sessions



# Social Impact

## Donation Drive

### Supporting the local community

- **Carriers of Hope**, Coventry-based charity supporting refugees and asylum seekers.
- **Trussell Trust Food Bank**, providing three-day emergency food parcels and support to people in need.
- **Finham Park 2 School**, is a secondary school and sixth form located on Torrington Avenue in Tile Hill, Coventry. A Warwick Volunteers Partner.

### Supporting on-campus initiatives

- **Workwear Wardrobe**, aims to help students build a workwear wardrobe in an affordable way ahead of interviews, assessment centres and gaining work experience.
- **Preloved Bookshop**, a donation-based pop-up book shop at the Arts Centre in collaboration with CCSG.
- **Sports Hub**, have taken the yoga mats, yoga blocks and other sports equipment to use or distribute



***Not only do we save tonnes of waste from landfill, but the items collected and money raised from the sale go to providing a positive start for our clients as they settle into their new lives in Coventry. Every item goes to turning a refugee family's empty house into a home they can truly feel safe and happy in. Thanks so much to Warwick Uni Circular Economy team for all of their hard work and for inviting us to be part of the project.***

Steffi Price - Director of Operations and Partnerships  
Carriers of Hope





We really appreciate Warwick University's support.

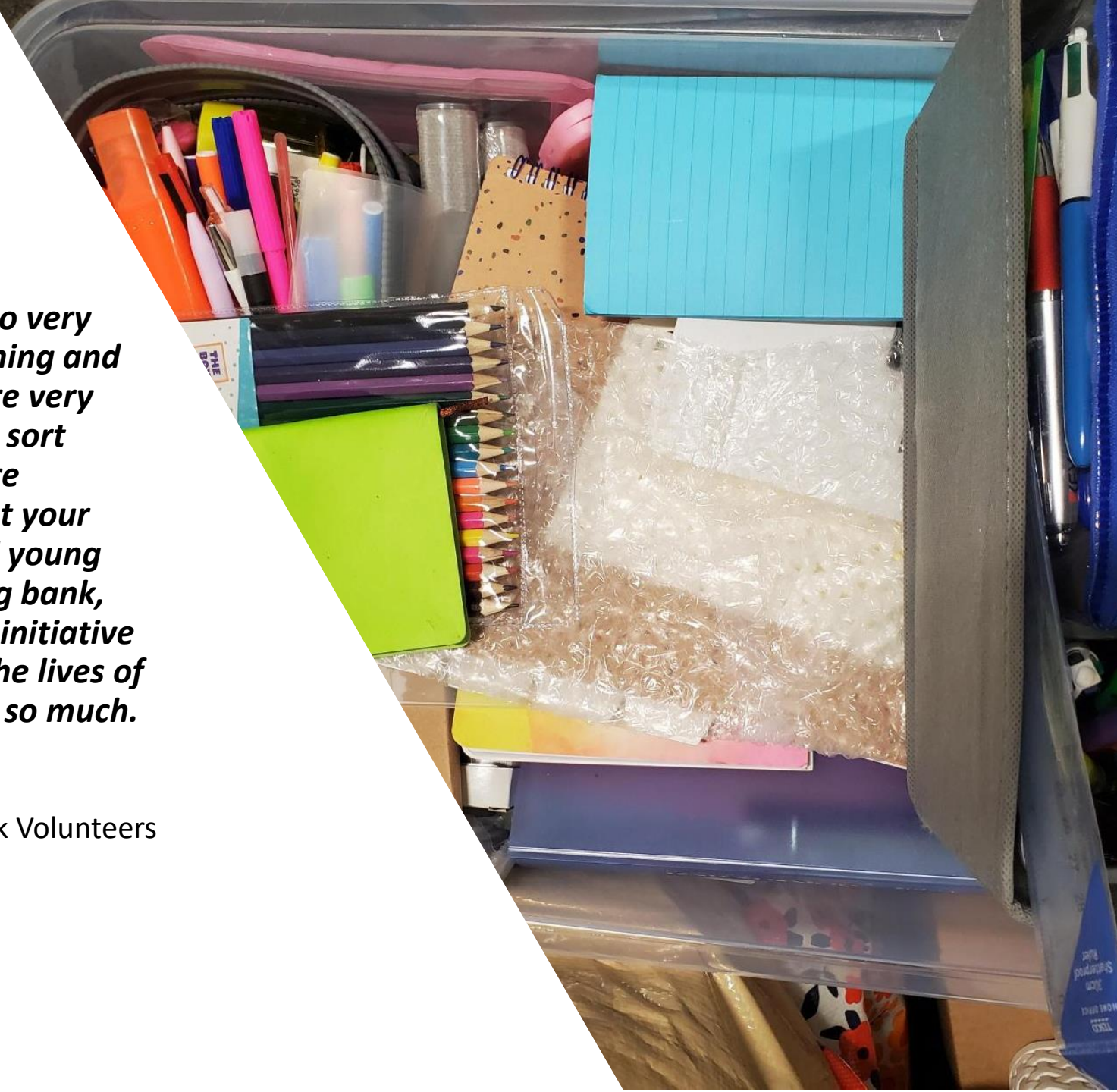
Trussell Trust employee





***A huge thank you to the Donation Drive team who very kindly responded to our plea for fashionable clothing and stationery items suitable for young people. We are very grateful for the time and effort that was taken to sort through the donations to find such items and were overwhelmed by what we received. We know that your efforts will be very much appreciated by the local young people who access the school partnership clothing bank, who will be very happy indeed. This is a fabulous initiative that will no doubt make a positive difference to the lives of many families living in the local area – thank you so much.***

Sarah Newell – Volunteer Development Officer, Warwick Volunteers  
on behalf of **Finham Park 2 School Partnership**





The Donation Drive collected over 20kg of smart clothing which will be made available to students as part of Student Opportunity's sustainability initiative, the [Workwear Wardrobe](#). The Workwear Wardrobe was created as a result of Student Opportunity becoming a signatory of the [Sustainable Recruitment Alliance](#), pledging to make early careers recruitment more sustainable. The initiative aims to extend the life of pre-loved clothing whilst helping students prepare for interviews and work opportunities in an affordable way.

Entering into its second year, this former pop-up wardrobe now has a permanent home on campus, enabling students to access free of charge workwear all year round. As a result of this new installation, regular [donations](#) will be crucial for its ongoing success, and the Donation Drive's collection will significantly contribute to this.

Sophie Hood – Senior Employer Liaison Officer  
on behalf of **Workwear Wardrobe**



# KITCHEN KIT MARKET



## Summary

The Kitchen Kit Market ran for 4 days during Welcome Week, 19-22 September.

The stock was equally split between the 4 days so that the market was freshly stocked each morning. This ensured that students arriving on Sunday could still access a wide range of items and allowed better overall customer experience.

In 2023/24



**£5,900**

collected during the Kitchen Kit Market,  
an 84% increase on last year's total.

In 2023/24



**1,255**

students visited the Market and  
purchased items.

In 2023/24



**4.86**

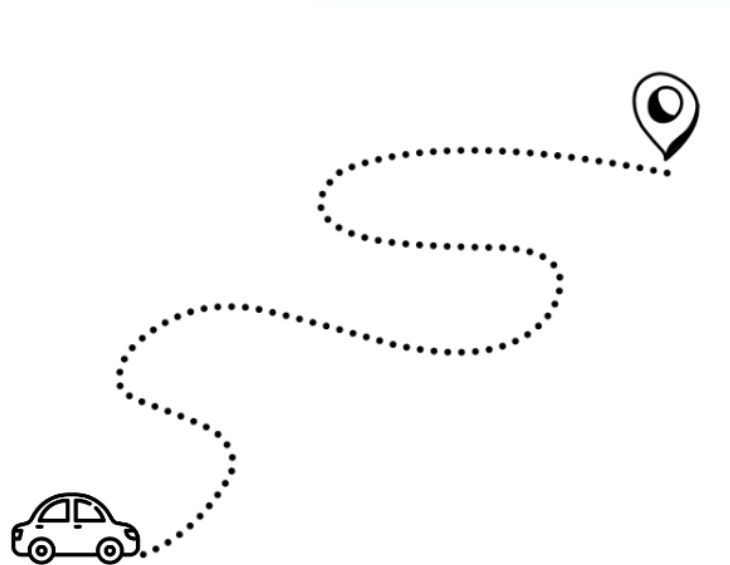
The Kitchen Kit Market received a **4.86**  
average rating from visitors.



# Environmental Impact

## Kitchen Kit Market

- One of the aims of the Donation Drive project was to keep as many of the donated items as possible in use on campus, and the Kitchen Kit Market helped achieve this by **redistributing over 2 tonnes of kitchenware**.
- **Each student avoided approximately 14.7 kgs of carbon** by choosing to buy preloved items rather than new. This is equivalent to driving a car for 86 kilometres.



## Social and Economic Impact

### Kitchen Kit Market

#### Students

- Students had the opportunity to buy a full set of kitchenware for as little as £1.
- Students saved approximately £80 compared to buying a new set of kitchenware.
- The Kitchen Kit Market was a chance to socialise and meet new people.

#### Carriers of Hope

Carriers of Hope will be able to use the donated money to purchase a large variety of goods. £5900 buys:

- 98 car seats for new babies leaving hospital to return home safely.
- 236 portable wardrobes for families lacking furniture in their accommodation.



**I was amazed at the stock available, and very appreciative. I arrived at a shareholder with a minimally furnished kitchen, so to be able to kit it out at minimal cost was phenomenal.**

**Student Feedback**





**It's a great opportunity to find some kitchen stuff. It makes it way easier and cheaper than to go to a supermarket. Thank you**

**Student Feedback**





**You are able to find anything and at the same time  
doing a good thing by donating!**

**Student Feedback**

