

5 simple steps to packing your shoebox

1. Please decorate your box if you would like to. We suggest that boxes are not wrapped in Christmas paper, to be more environmentally friendly.
2. Complete the packing label and attach this to the lid
3. Fill your box with gifts - see packing list suggestions (over the page)
4. If you wish to make a donation towards transport costs, put £2 in an envelope and place this in the box
5. Close the box and put a rubber band round it to keep the contents together. **DO NOT SEAL YOUR BOX.**



You're good to go - and ready to raise a smile! Just return your box by **Wednesday 26th November at the VERY latest**. Thank you for your support!

Find out more at www.stjohnscolchester.org.uk/romania



Packing Label

Please tick (very important)

Boy	
Girl	
Either	



Please tick (very important)

AGE 2-3		AGE 4-6		AGE 7-10		AGE 11-14	
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500 Smiles - Packing List Suggestions



IMPORTANT UPDATE FOR 2025 - DO NOT INCLUDE ANY SECOND HAND CLOTHES. NEW CLOTHES MUST HAVE THE SHOP TAG OR LABEL ATTACHED

OTHER ITEMS THAT CANNOT BE SENT:

- LIQUIDS OR FOODS (CHOCOLATE, SWEETS, CRISPS etc)
- ANY ITEMS OF CUTLERY
- ENGLISH LANGUAGE READING BOOKS
- TOY WEAPONS

Suggestions for inclusion:

Toys and games	Stationery Equipment	Clothing and personal care
Toy cars etc Plastic toys and figures Small doll or stuffed toy (with CE label) Skipping rope Ball (small or deflated with pump) Musical instrument Puzzle	Pens and pencils Crayons Water colour paints Sharpeners and erasers Note books Colouring books Solar calculator	Toothbrush Comb, hair brush Wrapped soap/Flannel Hair clips, bows etc Sunglasses (with UV / CE mark) Hat, gloves, scarf Baseball cap Reusable plastic containers eg plate, bowl, cup, water bottle
<i>You can personalise your box with a photo or Christmas card of you / your family</i>		

Some ideas for different age groups:

Age 2-3 Playdough and plastic cutters, plastic building blocks, finger puppets, stickers, glue sticks, pre-inked stampers

Age 4-6 Stickers, glue sticks, dressing up items e.g. costume jewellery / crown, plastic tools, chalkboard and chalks, small bag / purse, hair bows

Age 7-10 Ruler, bag or purse, hair bows and clips, small backpack or handbag, colourful balls of twine, beads, loom bands

Age 11-14 Sticky tape, geometry set, wind up or solar powered torch, safety scissors, sewing set, non-liquid lip balm, deodorant, compact mirror, nail clippers, magnets, compass

This is not an exhaustive list, use your imagination! Think about whether your box is for a boy, girl or either, but please remember no sharp or fragile items.

P.S. COME AND VISIT OUR FAIR ON SATURDAY 6th DECEMBER!
Father Christmas, lots of stalls, gifts and tasty treats!