Separated Child deprivedeniedetainedisplaced

www.separatedchild.org

www.facebook.com/theseparatedchildfoundation

ARRIVAL PACKS: BASIC INFORMATION



Numbers

About 3000 separated children and young people fleeing war, terror and persecution have sought asylum in Britain in 2015 – 16. The number increased sharply. Most of them are **teenagers**, especially **males aged 14+ (80+**%).

'Separated Child' provides **Arrival Packs** containing essential articles of clothing and items of personal care. Those already arrived in Britain also benefit from them.

We have provided **7500+ Arrival Packs** to date and our aim is that every separated child and young person entering the UK will receive one.

In the UK, 'Separated Child' currently distributes Arrival Packs through The Refugee Council, a range of local authorities (some of which have residential units) and several refugee support organisations. Arrival Packs have also been distributed in Calais.

'Donation with Dignity'

This is our motto. We NEVER include in Arrival Packs clothes that are torn, stained or incomplete (for example, missing buttons); and preferably not those that are suffering from fabric fatigue either. Orphaned or otherwise lone children and young people usually have nothing with them. For most of those to whom we can give an Arrival Pack, it is virtually all they receive at first. They do not have the option of deciding whether or not to take an article of clothing that seems 'tired'.

Young asylum seekers have already had gruelling experiences on their journey and so we see our Arrival Packs as not only as providing the basics of everyday living but also as being something to lift spirits, albeit in a limited way. Arrival Packs are assembled with care so that opening one is like receiving a gift-wrapped present. For all these reasons, we prefer new items but do take those that are gently used.

There are **six types of bags**, based on size and gender. 'Separated Child' attaches card labels stating 'small', 'medium' or 'large' – based on **adult** sizes – and 'male' or 'female'. These paper labels are torn off when the packs are distributed.

Contents

Newly bought items do **NOT** need to be of top quality: they can be supermarket and chain store own-brands. Some items (marked # in the list below) can be second hand if they have been 'gently used', in keeping with the '**Dignity in Donation**' principle (Ask: 'Would I wear this?')

Clothes should be suitable for **teenagers/young adults:** male/female and small/medium/ large – based on **adult sizes**. There is a particular need for **males aged 14+.**

- bag e.g. back-pack or large shoulder bag/sports bag/duffle bag #
 ('Separated Child' also has specially designed black duffle bags, with its purple
 ribbon logo)
- warm top (e.g. fleece, sweatshirt, hoody, jumper or jacket) #
- waterproof jacket (e.g. anorak, cagoule or wind-cheater) #
- two light tops such as T-shirt, Polo shirt, school/office shirt #
- track-suit bottoms or jogging pants #
- three pairs of underpants
- three pairs of socks
- slippers or flip-flops
- towel (large hand-towel or small bath towel)
- waterproof wash bag, containing these toiletries:
 - bar of soap (NOT bottle of liquid soap)
 - deodorant
 - o toothbrush
 - o toothpaste
 - shampoo (NOT conditioner)
 - comb (preferably wide-toothed, suitable for all hair types)
 Razors are NOT included.
- pen and notepad
- warm hat, scarf and gloves

In addition

- a card or personal message of welcome and good wishes, wherever possible
- for young women, a pouch of feminine pads (hundreds of teenage girls arrive in Britain each year)

Donations of money — to buy any of the above items — can also be made securely through justgiving, via a link at <u>http://www.separatedchild.org/make_donation</u>. The website also gives an address to send cheques — payable to The Separated Child Foundation.

['Separated Child' now also provides 'Sleep Packs' – see separate sheet.]

For more information and to discuss possibilities of providing goods, contact Angela Gluck at <u>angela.gluck@separatedchild.org</u> or phone **020 8933 4588**

Angela Gluck: Trustee, last updated July 2017