



FREE FUNDRAISING PACK

How to raise the money for a gaga pit at your school.

A plain-English pack for a parent group (P&C or P&F), student council or PE team: what it costs, ways to raise it, and ready-to-use letters and wording.



Inside this pack

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 What a gaga pit is and what it costs | 2 Fundraising ideas and example targets |
| 3 A six-week plan and who does what | 4 A letter to local businesses |
| 5 A proposal for your principal | 6 Newsletter, assembly and social wording |
| 7 How the build works and a materials list | 8 A fundraising thermometer to print |

1. What a gaga pit is, and what it costs

A gaga pit is an eight-sided timber wall, about 5.8 m across, where students play gaga ball: a fast, friendly game with a soft ball. It fits in a corner of the yard, it is quick to learn, and students ask for it by name. For a small project it gives a lot of the yard something to do at recess and lunch.

The pit is built from treated pine sleepers joined at each corner by a galvanised steel bracket. Your maintenance person or a handy parent can build it in most of a day with two people.

What the project costs

What you pay for	60 cm walls (primary)	80 cm walls (high school)
Gaga Pit Kit: 8 Australian-made galvanised steel brackets, bolts and hardware, printed instructions, timber list. Free delivery.	\$499	\$549
Timber from a local supplier: H4 treated pine sleepers, 200 x 75 (about 24 for 60 cm, about 32 for 80 cm)	roughly \$1,000*	roughly \$1,000*
Surfacing inside the pit, if your site needs it	depends on site	depends on site
Total, roughly	about \$1,500	about \$1,550

* Timber price depends on your supplier, region and the current market. Get two local quotes using the shopping list that comes with the kit. Ask us about arranging the timber: we will work with you. We do not sell timber.

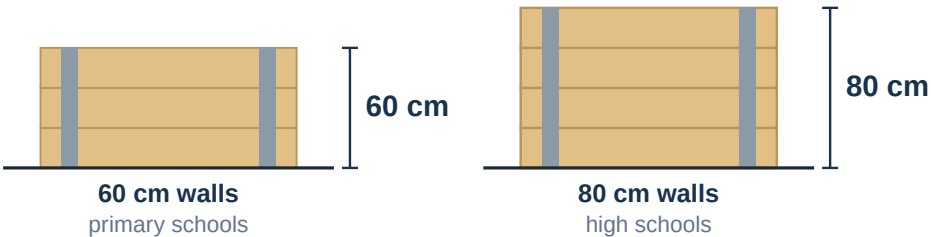
A sensible fundraising target: \$1,750

\$549	\$1,000	\$201
Kit (60 cm \$499, 80 cm \$549)	Timber, roughly	Surfacing / extras

That covers either kit plus timber, with a little left over for surfacing or small extras. Add \$290 if you also want our 600 x 400 mm how-to-play rules sign for the pit wall.

Which height?

60 cm walls suit primary-age students. 80 cm walls suit high schools. Both are the same octagon, the same bracket system and the same build. A school with both age groups can choose by who will use it most.



Get the exact numbers first

Before you ask anyone for money, get a free numbered PDF quote (about a minute) from the link on the last page. Attach it to a funding request or use it to raise a purchase order. Quotes are valid for 30 days and carry our ABN.

2. Fundraising ideas and example targets

A gaga pit costs about as much as one good event and a few local sponsors. Most schools mix two ideas. The figures below are examples to show the arithmetic, not forecasts. Swap in your own numbers.

Idea	How it works	Example (your numbers will differ)
Sausage sizzle	Run at a sports day, a parent night or a weekend working bee.	200 sausages at \$3, about \$1.50 profit each = about \$300
Colour run or fun run	Students collect sponsors per lap or a flat pledge. Biggest earner for the effort.	100 students raising an average of \$20 = about \$2,000
School disco	Ticketed evening or lunchtime disco, with a canteen table.	150 tickets at \$5, less costs = about \$500
Local business sponsors	Ask local businesses for a set amount. Give each a thank-you notice from the school to display (letter on the next page).	6 businesses at \$250 = \$1,500
Class pledge challenge	Classes compete to raise the most, with the winners getting first game in the pit.	20 classes at \$50 = \$1,000

How to run it

- Set the goal first: "We are raising \$1,750 for a gaga pit." A clear, small number is easy to rally behind.
- Show a photo of the finished pit on posters, in the newsletter and at assembly, so everyone knows what they are giving to.
- Have the student council front it. Gaga is a game students already want, so they make good ambassadors.
- Keep a running total (print the thermometer on the last page) and share each milestone.

Already have some of the money?

Many schools put part of the cost in from the school budget and raise the rest. The quote is the document that makes that easy: it shows the exact figure to match.

What a mix could look like

\$300	\$500	\$750	\$200
Sausage sizzle	Disco	3 local sponsors	School budget

Example only: $\$300 + \$500 + \$750 + \$200 = \$1,750$.

Other places the money can come from

Council grants, community foundations and sport or wellbeing programs sometimes help with playground equipment. Rules, amounts and dates vary, so check with your funding administrator or council, and check your school's own rules for fundraising. We cannot promise a grant, and nothing here is funding advice.

3. A six-week plan, and who does what

Six weeks is long enough to run one or two events and ask local businesses, and short enough that everyone stays excited. Start six weeks before the date you want the money in.

1

Week 1: get the yes

Book ten minutes with your principal or PE teacher. Hand over the proposal (section 5). Agree the spot. Get the free quote.

2

Week 2: launch

Announce at assembly. Put up the poster and the thermometer. Pick your one or two fundraising ideas and set the dates.

3

Week 3: ask sponsors

Deliver the business letter in person to five or six local businesses. A friendly chat beats an email.

4

Week 4: the main event

Run the sausage sizzle, disco or fun run. Take photos for the newsletter. Colour in the thermometer.

5

Week 5: say thanks

Collect pledges and sponsor money. Send a thank-you to everyone who gave, with a photo of the thermometer.

6

Week 6: order and plan

Pay by card or send the purchase order. Order the timber. Book the working bee and announce the build day.

Who does what

Who	What they do
Student council or the student leading it	Fronts the campaign: assembly announcements, posters, running the events, thanking sponsors. Students are the best advocates for a game they want.
A teacher or PE lead	Backs the idea in the staff room, helps with permission notes and the event, and is the adult contact for businesses.
Principal and business manager	Approve the spot and the fundraising, hold the money, and raise the purchase order when the funds are in.
Maintenance person or a working bee	Builds it, most of a day with two people, once the kit and timber arrive.

A tip for student leaders

Go to your principal with a plan, not just an idea: the cost, the spot, how you will raise it and who will build it. Sections 1 and 5 give you all four. Principals say yes more easily when the work is already done.

4. Letter to local businesses

Print this on school letterhead, or paste it into an email. Replace everything in [square brackets]. Add your school's logo and a photo of the gaga pit if you can.

[Date]

To the owner or manager of [Business name]

Dear [Name],

[School name] is raising money for a gaga pit, and we would love [Business name] to be part of it.

Gaga ball is a fast, friendly game played with a soft ball inside a small eight-sided wall called a pit. Students love it, and we would like to give ours one. A pit gives students something active and social to do at recess and lunch, and it will be used every day by students of every age.

The whole project costs about \$1,750. We are asking local businesses to contribute \$[amount] each, and we will do our best to give you something back:

- A thank-you notice from the school that you are welcome to display
- A photo of the finished pit, sent to you

Every contribution, large or small, takes us closer to a pit that students will use for years. If you can help, please contact [Name] at [phone/email] by [date].

You can give by [cash or cheque at the front office / bank transfer to the school, reference: gaga pit].

Thank you for supporting our students and our community.

Yours sincerely,

[Your name]

[Role], [School name]

[Phone / email]

Tip: deliver it in person with a quick chat. Businesses that already have a link to the school (families, former students, shops near the gate) are the most likely to say yes.

4 (continued). Asking in person, and saying thanks

Asking in person: a 60-second script

Hi, I'm [your name] from [School name]. We are raising money to build a gaga pit: a small eight-sided wall where students play a fast game with a soft ball. It costs about \$1,750 all up and we have raised \$[amount] so far. Would [Business name] be able to help with \$[amount], or with some of the timber? We will send you a thank-you notice from the school that you can display, and I have a letter here with all the details.

Before you go

- Take the letter, a photo of a gaga pit, and your thermometer so far.
- Go in pairs, and go at a quiet time of day. Thank them whether they say yes or not.
- Check your school's own rules on sponsorship and receipts. The school holds the money; nobody collects cash in a pocket.

After they say yes: a thank-you

Dear [Name],

Thank you for your \$[amount] contribution to the [School name] gaga pit. Students will be playing in it for years, and your support helped make that happen. We will send you a photo when it is finished, and I have enclosed a thank-you notice from the school that you are welcome to display.

With thanks,
[Your name], [role]

5. Proposal for your principal or school council

Adapt this to one page and hand it over, or paste it into your agenda paper. Replace everything in [square brackets].

Proposal: a gaga pit at [School name]

Request: approval to install a gaga pit at [location] and to fundraise the cost of about \$1,750.

What it is

A gaga pit is an eight-sided timber wall, about 5.8 m across, where students play gaga ball with a soft ball. It is built from treated pine sleepers joined at each corner by a galvanised steel bracket, and it is built on site by [our maintenance person / a parent volunteer] in about a day.

Why we want it

- Gives students a popular, active option at recess and lunch.
- Works for a wide range of ages and abilities, and needs only one soft ball.
- Takes up little space. The pit needs about 9 x 9 m including room to move.
- Low cost, no installer, and no ongoing running cost beyond normal maintenance.

Cost and funding plan

Item	Cost
Gaga Pit Kit, [60 / 80] cm (free delivery)	[\$499 / \$549]
Treated pine timber from a local supplier	about \$1,000
Surfacing and extras, if required	[amount]
Total	about \$[1,750]

Funding: [school budget \$____] + [P&C fundraising \$____] + [local sponsors \$____]. We will begin fundraising once approved.

What we need from you

- Approval of the location: [description of spot].
- Approval to fundraise and to approach local businesses.
- Agreement that [maintenance person / working bee] can build it once the funds are raised.

A numbered quote (Q_____) from Gaga Pit Kits Australia is attached. The kit is made in Victoria, delivered free, and comes with printed instructions and a timber list.

6. Ready-to-use words

Copy, paste and swap the [square brackets]. Short messages get read.

Newsletter blurb

Help us build a gaga pit at [School name]!

Gaga ball is the fast, friendly game with a soft ball that students ask for by name, and we are raising \$[amount] to build a pit here. It costs about \$1,750 in all, and every dollar we raise goes straight into it. Our first event is [event] on [date]. Watch the thermometer at the front office to see how we are going, and thank you for backing our students.

Assembly announcement (about 30 seconds)

Hands up if you have ever wished we had somewhere fun and active to play at lunch. We are raising money to build a gaga pit at our school. It is an eight-sided wall where you play a fast game with a soft ball. We need \$[amount], and here is how you can help: [event and date]. We will colour in the thermometer outside the office every week, so come and see how close we are.

Social media post

We are raising money for a GAGA PIT at [School name]! Our goal is \$[amount]. Follow our thermometer and come to [event] on [date]. Local businesses: we would love to hear from you. Message us or call [phone]. #gagaball #[schoolname]

7. How the build works

The kit is designed so a school maintenance person, a handy parent, or a small working bee can build it. Allow most of a day for two people.



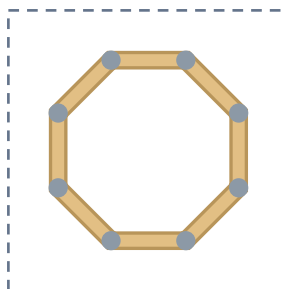
In the box: 8 Australian-made galvanised steel corner brackets, galvanised bolts and hardware, printed build instructions, and a timber shopping list and cutting guide.

Sourced locally

- H4 treated pine sleepers, 200 x 75 mm (about 24 for the 60 cm pit, about 32 for the 80 cm pit). Take the shopping list to your local timber supplier.
- Surfacing inside the pit, if your site needs it (not needed on existing paving).
- Tools: drill, socket set, level, tape measure, saw and shovel, plus standard protective equipment.

The build in six steps

- Choose a level spot and allow about 9 x 9 m. Prepare the surface.
- Mark out the regular octagon: eight equal sides, each turning 45 degrees from the last.
- Cut the sleeper ends to suit the corners, then lay out the bottom row and loosely bolt the brackets on.
- Check the shape and level, then tighten the bottom row.
- Add the remaining rows one at a time, tightening as you go.
- Cut the entry opening, round or sand every exposed edge, and do a final check of every bolt.



Eight equal sides of about 2.4 m

Each corner turns 45 degrees, and a steel bracket joins the sleepers at every corner.

Leave clear space of about 9 x 9 m around the pit.

About Gaga Pit Kits Australia

Designed, engineered and made in Victoria by a father and high school teacher. Each bracket is cut, folded and punched in the founder's workshop. ABN 16 803 241 775.

Next step: get your exact numbers

A free numbered PDF quote in about a minute, ready to attach to a funding request.

[Get a free quote](#)

gagapitkits.com.au/schools

Questions, or want help arranging the timber? stewart@gagapitkits.com.au

8. Print-and-colour fundraising thermometer

Print this page at A4 or enlarge it to A3, add your school's name, and colour in the thermometer as the money comes in.

[School name] gaga pit fund

Goal: \$1,750. Every dollar counts.

