PTA member survey results 2025



Parentkind

Introduction

At Parentkind, we know PTAs make a substantial contribution to school life, but too often that work goes unseen. This report of our 2025 PTA member survey shows the scale of that contribution across our network: the money PTAs raise, the time volunteers give, and the practical ways they support schools and pupils.

It is based on 488 responses from the survey completed between September and December 2025, drawn from a membership of 12,988 PTAs as at 31st December 2025. It highlights the areas where schools are increasingly looking for help, and what more PTAs want to achieve supporting their schools. Our findings provide a clear picture of the value of parent-led fundraising and volunteering, and of the important role PTAs continue to play in strengthening school communities.



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PTA fundraising

This has been calculated from the Charity Commission register and our member survey question 'How much did your PTA raise in the last financial year:

- In their last financial year our PTA members registered with the Charity Commission and submitting their income, raised an average of **£14,251 per year**[2]
- In their last financial year our PTA members not registered with the Charity Commission raised an average of £4,609.78[3]
- At least **33% of PTAs** raised £10,000 or more in their last financial year
- Across all our PTA membership, the estimated amount raised by PTAs is more than **£142 million**[4], an average of £10,962 per year

[1] 79% of respondents to this member survey said they were registered with the Charity Commission
[2] Total income from 8,557 CC registered members = £121,949,019
[3] Total raised from 93 non CC registered members completing 2025 member survey = £428,709.27
[4] £121,949,019 +(12,988-8,557 x £4,609.78) = £142,374,954

PTA volunteering

PTAs were asked 'How many people currently serve on your PTA's committee?', 'How many volunteers supported your PTA in the last year?', and 'On average, how many hours per week does your PTA committee collectively volunteer?'

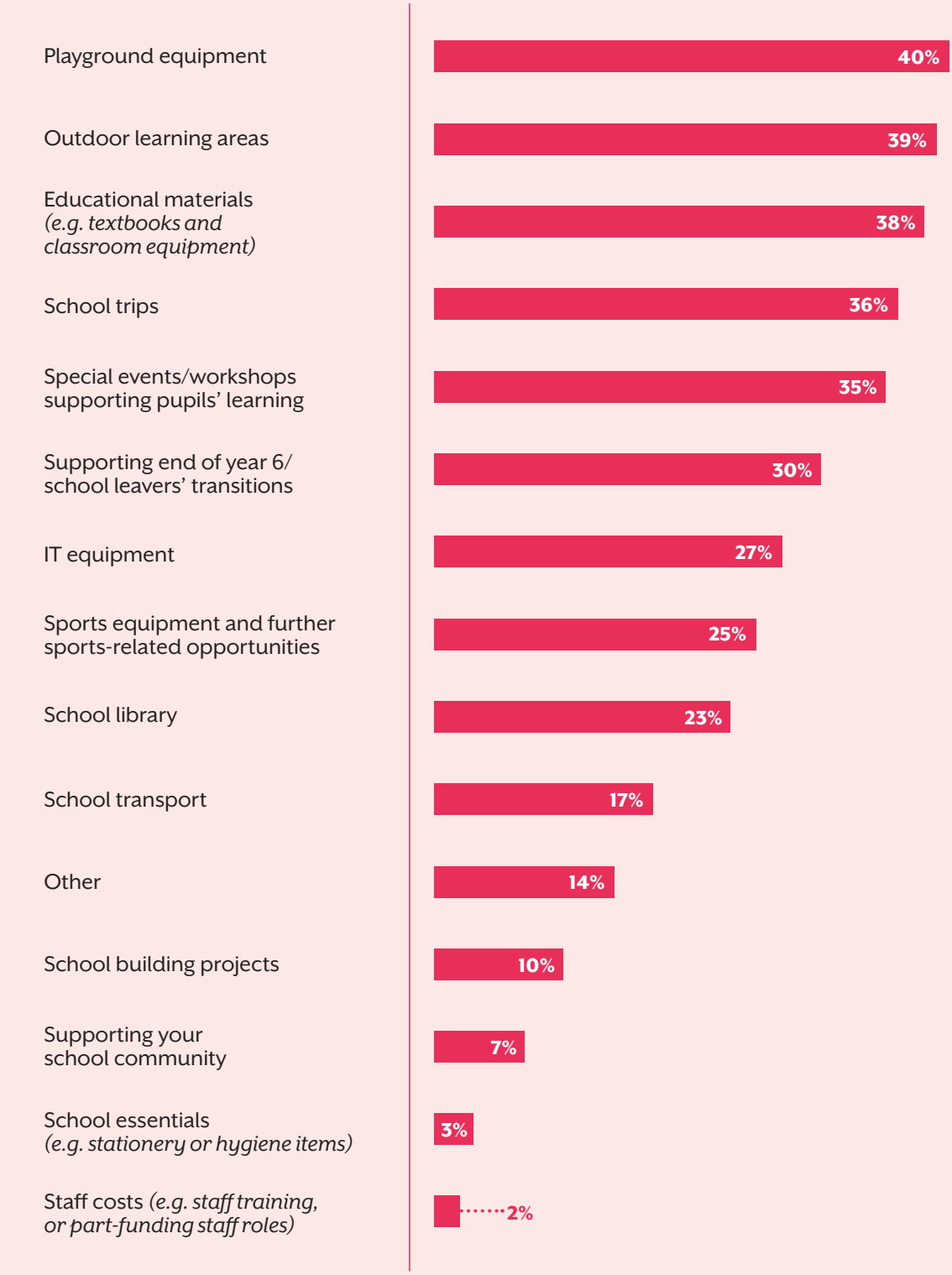
- The average number of volunteers – both committee members and other volunteers – per PTA is 27.4. Multiplying this by our PTA membership (12,988) gives a total of **356,166 volunteers**
- Committee members collectively volunteer **7 hours per week**
- The average number of non-committee volunteers per PTA is 20.6 – whilst we don't know how much they each volunteer, we have assumed two hours a year as this was the criteria in the survey
- Collectively, we estimate that parents volunteered **4 million hours**[1] to support Parentkind member PTAs in 2025, worth almost £50 million[2] to the UK economy

[1] Committee members: 7.03 (hrs/wk) x 38 (weeks in sch yr) x 12988 (no. of members) = 3,469,614 hours + volunteers exc. committee: 20.6 (av. vol/PTA) x 2 (hrs/yr) x 12988 = 535,105 hours = Total 4,004,719 hours

[2] 4,004,719 x £12.21 = £48,897,618 assuming national minimum wage value of the voluntary time provided

Use of funds

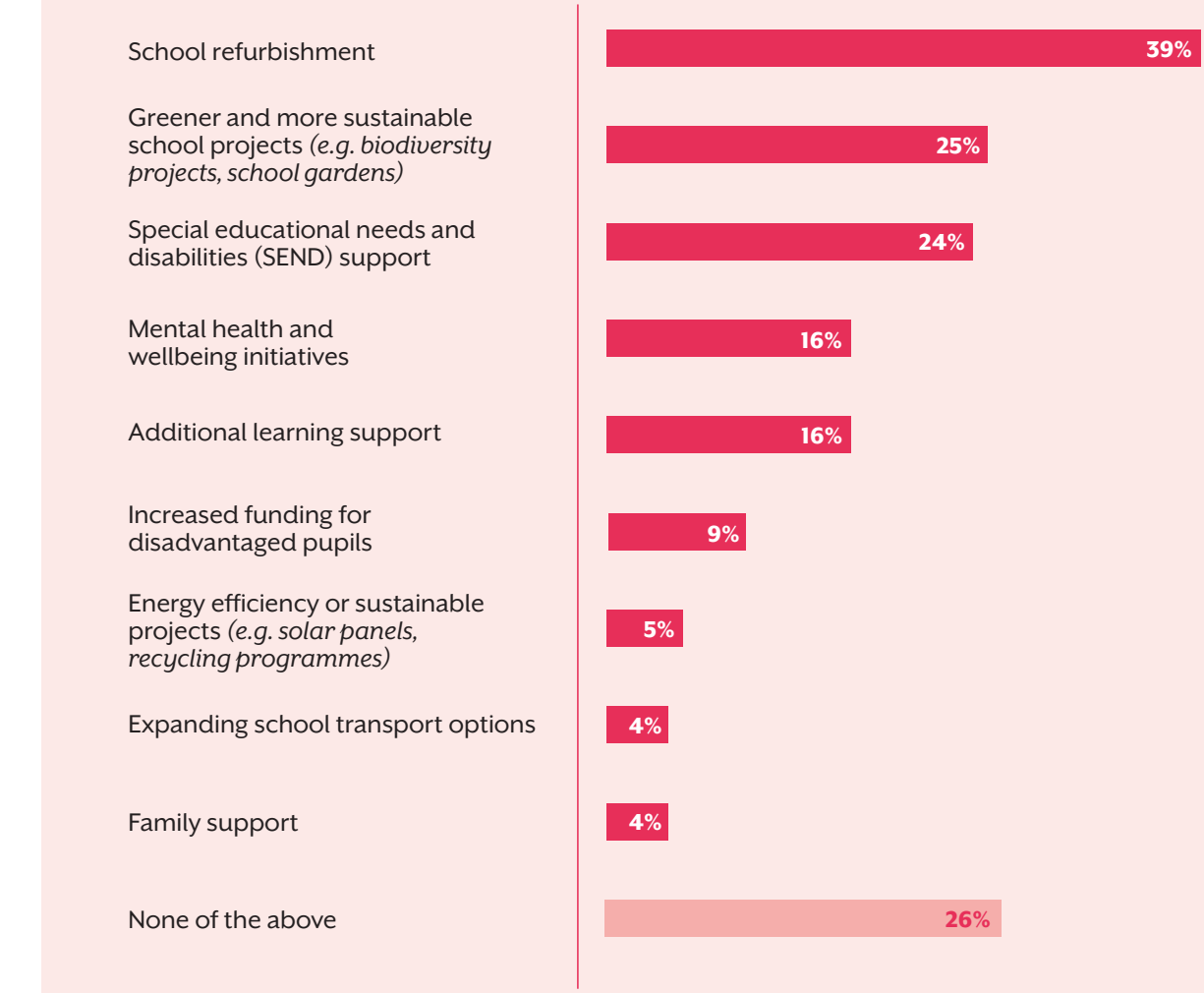
Question: ***Over the past 12 months, what were the top four areas where your PTA allocated the most fundraising income to support the school and pupils?***



n = 488

Current funding needs

Question: ***Has your PTA currently been asked to raise funds for any of the following? (Select all that apply)***



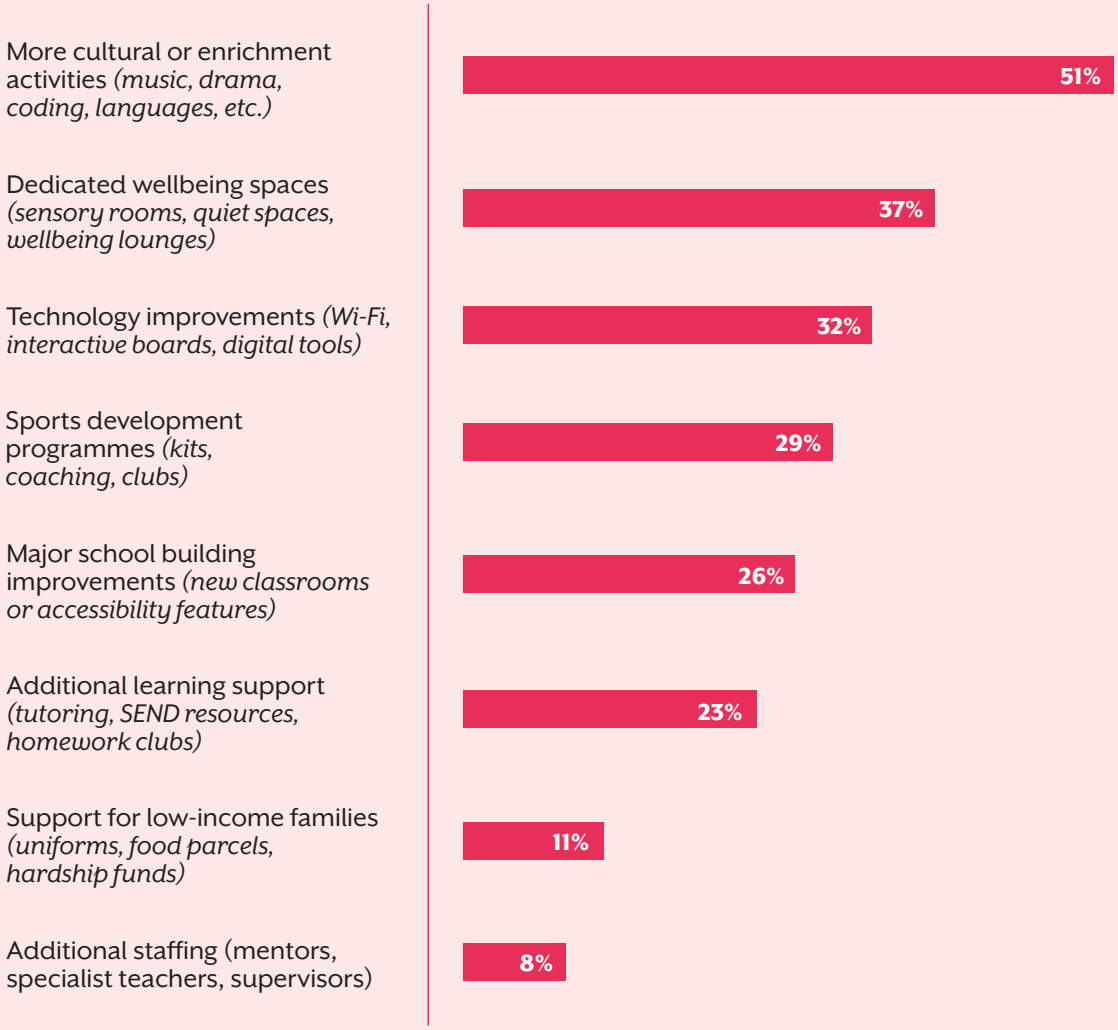
n = 488



Photography: iStock.com/SolStock

Aspirational fundraising

Question: ***If your PTA was able to raise substantially more money through fundraising, which, if any, of these areas would be a priority for allocating funds? (Select up to three options)***



n = 488



Photography: iStock.com/JackF

Support from businesses and parents

PTAs were asked 'Has your PTA received support from businesses in the past year?' and 'In the past 12 months, has your PTA asked parents for a cash donation to support its fundraising efforts?

- **82%** of PTAs have received support from businesses in the past year
- Of those, **almost half** (49%) received up to £500, 26% received £500-£1,000 and 25% received over £1,000
- Business partnerships are predominantly with local businesses – especially estate agents – and, to a lesser extent, large supermarkets
- Support is primarily donations and raffle prizes, typically for fundraising events such as summer fairs. Some schools also benefit from sponsorship or match funding schemes
- **15%** of PTAs have asked parents for a cash donation to support its fundraising efforts (e.g. a one off donation such as £5 or a regular monthly donation)



Photography: iStock.com/SolStock

Case studies

Thrussington Primary School PTFA led a major community fundraising effort, raising £15,000 through a series of events and campaigns backed by parents, staff, local businesses and village supporters. It was a substantial volunteer-led achievement built on sustained effort.

That funding helped secure a new school hall. The PTFA's pledge formed part of the school's final Department for Education bid and likely played an important role in their success. The hall now provides space for learning, PE, assemblies, clubs, performances and pastoral support.

Funds came from a range of activities including a Winter Wonderland, Santa's Grotto, 'Buy a Brick' campaign and Burns Night Supper. 'Buy a Brick' was especially effective, with 14 businesses and 77 individuals supporting named virtual bricks in the hall.

The impact has been clear and lasting: better facilities for pupils and staff, stronger links between the school and its community and a result that was not just a new building, but a more connected school community.



Photography: Thrussington Primary School PTFA

Friends of Nicholas Hawksmoor runs a distinctive annual 'Warrior Challenge': a whole-school obstacle course involving pupils from Years 1 to 6, staff, volunteers and families. It blends fun, physical challenge and inclusivity, with children taking on mud, water, tunnels, hurdles and climbing obstacles at their own pace.

The effort behind it is substantial. In 2024, around 350 participants helped raise £4,458, with costs kept low through donated or locally sourced materials such as paddling pools and straw bales. The event also relied on strong volunteer support, with 28 people building the course and 31 helping on the day, alongside teachers and support staff.

Funds raised have brought clear benefits for pupils. It has helped to buy PE and sports equipment, fund author visits, purchase library books and support wider workshops and trips that enrich the curriculum.

Its impact goes beyond fundraising. The Warrior Challenge has become a much-loved school tradition, building confidence, enjoyment, achievement and community pride, while bringing families and the school together.



Photography: Friends of Nicholas Hawksmoor

Ffrindiau Ysgol Gynradd Aberaeron (Friends of Aberaeron Primary School) led an impressive community campaign to create a better play space for the school, organising events including a colour run, Bingo Lingo evening, raffles, an online Christmas raffle and a fun day at the local rugby club. It was a sustained effort delivered at a time when many families were already facing cost of living pressures.

The PTA raised £20,000 towards the Park Project, drawing in support from parents, the wider school community and the town of Aberaeron. This was not a one-off success, but an inventive campaign that built momentum through a range of activities.

The funding is helping to create a new play area, including an outdoor gym, turning a condemned space into a major asset for the school. It will give pupils more opportunities for physical activity, support health and wellbeing, and provide an environment that helps improve mood, concentration and readiness to learn. The space will also benefit after-school and holiday childcare groups.

The project has strengthened links between home, school and community, and has already made the PTA an example to others, with other PTAs seeking their advice and being inspired to follow their example.



Photography: Ffrindiau Ysgol Gynradd Aberaeron (Friends of Aberaeron Primary School)

About Parentkind

Parentkind is the UK's largest parent charity, working with more than 14,000 parent groups and 350,000 parent volunteers to raise over £140 million a year for schools.

We are the voice of parents in education, our research with parents gives parents a say in education debates.

Each year Parentkind publishes the National Parent Survey, the UK's largest annual parent poll.

Parent-Friendly Schools supports schools to build positive partnerships. Using the Blueprint Framework for Parent Participation, school teams are supported in making changes that encourage shared responsibility for children's outcomes. Through accreditation services, training, and our parent survey, we drive positive change.

Registered charity number 1072833

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