

What is Send My Friend to School?

This campaign has brought together hundreds of thousands of students and teachers in the UK who want the government to keep its promise and make sure that every child can go to school, no matter where they live in the world.

Send My Friend is run by lots of organisations, including charities and teaching unions, who all believe that education is really important.

What is a campaign?

This word means to plan for an action and carry it out, in order to bring about change.

What is the Global Campaign for Education?

It's a huge global organisation working to get world leaders to keep the promise they made in 2000, that everyone should have the chance to get an education by 2015.

It has members in more than 100 countries around the world. Send My Friend to School is one of them. We will all be joining together to take part in 1 GOAL events on 11th June 2010.

What do we want?

We want world leaders to pay attention, to make plans and give money to education. We need education to be a top priority because time is running out – there are only five years until the 2015 deadline but 72 million children are still missing out on school.

At the current rate of progress there will still be about 40 million children out of school in 2015.

Why some children in developing countries cannot go to school

There are many reasons for this:

- the costs of going to school are too expensive – for example school fees, cost of buying school uniform, textbooks or of taking a bus to travel to school
- others have to work to earn money to support the family – there are 218 million children in developing countries who have to work
- in some places there are no schools, or no qualified teachers to work in them
- other children are discriminated against because of a disability
- or they are living in countries affected by war and schools may have been damaged or destroyed
- even when children do go to school, they may find themselves in very large classes of more than 100 pupils – and may still miss out on a good education



Facts and Figures

Year	What happened?
2000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 115 million children did not go to school • Global leaders promised all children the chance to go to school by 2015 • The Global Campaign for Education was set up
2001-2009	<p>Global leaders were slow to act on their promises but some progress was made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Several countries ended school fees and made school free for everyone – such as Tanzania, Malawi and Uganda. ○ Around £2.6 billion per year has been pledged to help pay for education – but four times that amount is needed to give everyone an education <p>Campaigning actions helped to keep up the pressure on our leaders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In 2005 over 5million paper ‘buddies’ were made and sent to world leaders, each one representing one of the children out of school ○ In 2008 8.8 million children in 100 countries took part in a record-breaking ‘World’s Biggest Lesson’ and in the UK, 250,000 ‘missing out’ cards were sent to the Prime Minister, Gordon Brown. ○ In 2009 6,000 UK schools were part of the BIG READ and 13 million people joined in around the world <p>As a result 40 million more children were able to go to school.</p>
2010	<p>We are still facing BIG problems:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 72 million children still do not go to school ○ 18 million more teachers are needed by 2015 – teacher shortages mean some children have to learn in classes with 100 other pupils ○ 759 million adults cannot read and write <p>Time is running out – with just five years left until the 2015 deadline.</p> <p>If we continue at the current rate of progress there will still be 56 million children out of school in 2015. So we are asking richer countries to give their fair share of the £10.4 billion needed annually to fund education for all. Developing countries need to commit to spend 20% of their national budgets on education.</p> <p>We need our leaders to take action and help send our friends to school!</p>

