

# STREET CHILD

## THE BIG BIDE 2026 FINAL INFORMATION PACK



## **THANK YOU FOR TAKING ON THE BIG RIDE!**

Taking on The Big Ride is no small feat, so first and foremost, congratulations on signing up! By taking on this challenge, you're not only pushing your own limits but also making a real difference.

The Big Ride is the most important moment of the year for Street Child, consistently raising over £1million each year to keep thousands of children safe, in school and learning.

We hope that over the course of your training and fundraising, and at the event itself, you'll take the time to learn more about our work and the massive impact you're having to transform the lives of children and families in some of the world's most remote and vulnerable places.

This guide contains everything you need to know to prepare for The Big Ride, so please read through carefully and refer back to if you ever have any questions.

Thank you so much for taking on this epic challenge and for choosing to support Street Child. See you in The Chilterns, UK!



## BIKE TRANSPORTATION TO THE EVENT

### OUTBOUND

There is a complimentary bike transport service, this will be operated by a specialist cycle transfer company and will run from the following locations. **This is an opt-in service that riders must book in advance via the online Travel Survey and Bike Transport form, if you have not completed the form your bike cannot be transported.**

DATE	DROP-OFF TIME	LOCATION
15 <sup>th</sup> June	09:00-11:00	<b>London, England:</b> 120 Kings Road, London, SW3 4TR
12 <sup>th</sup> June	09:00-17:00	<b>Ireland:</b> Macken House, 39/40 Mayor Street Upper, Dublin 1, D01 C9W8
9 <sup>th</sup> June	09:00-17:00	<b>Switzerland:</b> Sunrise GmbH, Ambassador House, Thurgauerstrasse, 101B, 8152 Glattpark
10 <sup>th</sup> June	09:00-17:00	<b>Netherlands:</b> Liberty Global Corporate B.V. Boeing Avenue 53, 1119 PE Schiphol-Rijk, The Netherlands.
10 <sup>th</sup> - 11 <sup>th</sup> June	12:00 on 10 <sup>th</sup> to 12:00 on 11 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Belgium:</b> Telenet bv, Liersesteenweg 4, 2800 Mechelen

If you work for **Virgin Media O2** bike collections have been arranged separately, please check your emails and internal communications for information on this.

You will need to present a valid ID when handing over your bike to the location co-ordinator and will be asked to sign your name against a bike number. Before dropping your bike off please **add a label** with your name on to help identify your bike. If you are unable to drop your bike personally, your nominated representative will be asked to sign on your behalf.

Bikes are placed fully assembled in heavy-duty polybags before being loaded and further protected with blankets to prevent damage. We will be attaching a small cable tie to the saddle post of each bike. These should not be removed until the bikes have been returned after the event.

Locks and bike boxes/bags are not required or permitted and there will be limited space in the transport vehicles. Please refrain from bringing these items to the bike drop-off location.

Bikes are insured up to £10,000. This cover is for whilst bikes are in the event organised transport only. When you arrive on site your bike will be pre-racked in the racking area in number order. A member of crew will be able to direct you to the correct zone.

**PLEASE NOTE: If you do not drop your bike off between the allocated times you will be responsible for making your own alternative bike transport arrangements.**

## BIKE TRANSPORTATION AFTER THE EVENT

### INBOUND

When you finish the challenge, you must rack your bike in the correct area for transport to your desired location. It is the participant's responsibility to ensure the bike is racked correctly. Incorrect racking could result in your bike being transported to the wrong location.

DATE	COLLECTION TIME	LOCATION
22 <sup>nd</sup> June	09:00-17:00	<b>London, England:</b> 120 Kings Road, London, SW3 4TR
22 <sup>nd</sup> June	09:00-17:00	<b>Ireland:</b> Macken House, 39/40 Mayor Street Upper, Dublin 1, D01 C9W8
23 <sup>rd</sup> June	14:00-17:00	<b>Switzerland:</b> Sunrise GmbH, Ambassador House, Thurgauerstrasse, 101B, 8152 Glattpark
22 <sup>nd</sup> June	14:00-17:00	<b>Netherlands:</b> Liberty Global Corporate B.V. Boeing Avenue 53, 1119 PE Schiphol-Rijk, The Netherlands.
22 <sup>nd</sup> June	09:00-17:00	<b>Belgium:</b> Telenet bv, Liersesteenweg 4, 2800 Mechelen

You may need to present a valid ID to collect your bike at your pick-up location. If you are unable to collect your bike personally, your nominated representative will be asked to show their ID along with signed written permission naming them as the approved person to collect on your behalf.

**PLEASE NOTE: All bikes must be collected during the detailed times as Security will not be available outside of these times.**

**Failing to collect your bike within the given time may result in your bike being taken to another location for storage. You will then be liable for any resulting storage and courier costs.**

## PRIVATE BIKE TRANSPORTATION & INSURANCE

### PRIVATE BIKE TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS

If you are arranging your own bike transport, please ensure you rack it within the dedicated area as soon as you have registered on site for it to be stored securely during the event. Bikes will be racked in number order. A member of crew will be able to direct you to the correct zone. Locks are not required.

When you finish the challenge, you must rack your bike in the correct area sign posted 'No Transport Required'. It is the participant's responsibility to ensure the bike is racked correctly and incorrect racking could result in your bike being transferred to a location not of your choosing.

All bikes must be collected by 10:00 on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June.

Should you bring a bike box, a few can be stored but it is not guaranteed. **We strongly suggest bike boxes are not brought to the event.**

### INSURANCE

Bikes are insured up to £10,000. This cover is for whilst bikes are **in the event organised transport only.**

It is recommended that you take out suitable insurance to cover yourself and your bike before and during the ride. Your insurance policy should cover you for participation in an event of this nature and include a minimum:

- Theft & accidental damage
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Liability

Please do check any existing insurance you have to ensure that you're not already covered prior to taking out a new policy. If you're unsure, please speak to your provider directly.

Please ensure you have your insurance details to hand when you arrive at the end, as you'll need to add these to your bike/bib number in case of emergency.

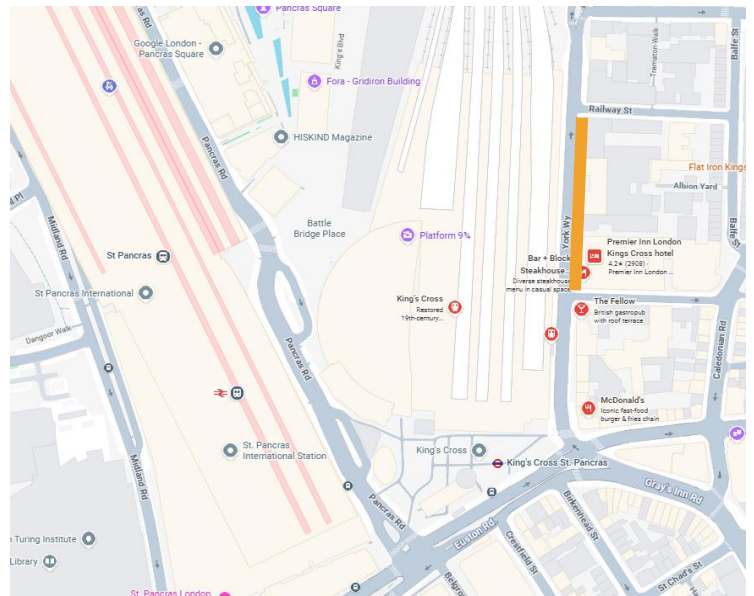
## TRAVEL INFORMATION

### HOW DO I GET TO THE EVENT?

**By car:** The event will take place at Show Field, Culden Faw Estate, RG9 3AS. There is ample parking available.

**By shuttle service:** A shuttle service is available from/to the following locations:

- Heathrow Airport – Terminal 2  
Arrivals forecourt outside terminal
- London St Pancras Rail Station:  
East side of Kings Cross on York Way  
(what3words ///notes.tooth.manliness)
- Virgin Media O2 Reading Office



London St Pancras Rail Station map

This service will run to approximately the timetable on the next page.

**Please note:** Taxis and transfers taken outside of these times need to be arranged by the participant and are at the participant's own expense.

**\*We advise that participants riding the black route cycle be on site the night before their event or at least an hour before start time to ensure you have enough time to register and get ready.**

### BIKES BOOKED ON FLIGHTS

We will be unable to transport bikes on any shuttles, if you are transporting your own bike, please also make your own arrangements from the airport to base camp.

**All participants must depart by 10:00 on Friday 19th June.**

# SHUTTLE BUS TIMETABLE

## GETTING TO THE EVENT

### LONDON HEATHROW AIRPORT – T2

DATE	TIME
Tues 16 <sup>th</sup> June	17:00
	19:00
	21:00
Weds 17 <sup>th</sup> June	06:30
	17:00
Thurs 18 <sup>th</sup> June	06:30

### VIRGIN MEDIA O2 READING OFFICE, 500 BROOK DRIVE, READING, RG2 6UU

DATE	TIME
Tues 16 <sup>th</sup> June	17:00

### LONDON ST PANCRAS RAIL STATION

DATE	TIME
Tues 16 <sup>th</sup> June	17:00
	19:00
	21:00
Weds 17 <sup>th</sup> June	06:30
	17:00
	21:00

## RETURNING AFTER THE EVENT

### LONDON HEATHROW AIRPORT – T2

DATE	TIME
Weds 17 <sup>th</sup> June	18:00
	20:00
Thurs 18 <sup>th</sup> June	18:00
	20:00
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> June	07:00
	10:00

### VIRGIN MEDIA O2 READING OFFICE, 500 BROOK DRIVE, READING, RG2 6UU

DATE	TIME
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> June	10:00

### LONDON ST PANCRAS RAIL STATION

DATE	TIME
Weds 17 <sup>th</sup> June	18:00
	20:00
Thurs 18 <sup>th</sup> June	06:30
	18:00
	20:00
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> June	07:00
	10:00

## REGISTRATION

**REGISTRATION LOCATION:** Culden Faw Estate, RG9 3AS

### DATES & TIMES

TUESDAY 16 <sup>TH</sup> JUNE	WEDNESDAY 17 <sup>TH</sup> JUNE	THURSDAY 18 <sup>TH</sup> JUNE
18:00 - 23:00	06:00 – 10:30 16:00 – 21:30	06:00 – 11:00

Please bring your **confirmation email** or **photo ID** with you in order to collect your registration pack.

1. Upon arrival at Culden Faw Estate, if you have a bike, please use the Sagemcom sponsored bike racking area as directed by our crew.
2. You will be directed to the registration desk by foot to check-in and collect your:
  - Registration pack
  - Accenture cycling jersey(s) and/or technical t-shirt
  - If cycling, attach your bike number card to your bike and rack it in the correct racking zone.
3. Head to tent concierge to be allocated your tent.

Your registration pack will contain the following items:

- Welcome letter
- Valuables tag
- Accreditation wristband (to be worn at all times during the event)
- Bike number card (incl. cable ties to attach to your bike) – cyclists only
- Seat post number – cyclists only
- Helmet sticker – cyclists only
- Bib number & safety pins – runners only

## START TIMES

Please be at the start line, ready to go at least 15 minutes prior to your desired start time and listen to the compulsory route safety briefing. Please allow more time if you need to drop valuables, adjust your bike, fill up your water bottles and so on.

### WEDNESDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

- **08:30 – 09:00** Black route cyclists start window
- **09:30 – 10:00** Red route cyclists start window
- **10:00** Hike group starts
- **10:30 – 11:00** Blue route cyclists start window

### THURSDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

- **08:30 – 09:00** Black route cyclists start window
- **09:30 – 10:00** Red route cyclists start window
- **10:30 – 11:00** Blue route cyclists start window
- **11:15** – Runners & Walkers group warm up
- **11:30** – Runners & Walkers start (All)

**Please note:** These timings are provided as a guide and are subject to change prior to the event whilst we work on route permissions.

If you are arriving on site on the morning of your event, please arrive **at least one hour** prior to your allocated start time in order to:

1. Register (if not done previously)
2. Collect your jersey/vest (if not done previously)
3. Drop off any valuables for secure storage
4. Make a final check of your kit
5. Fill your water bottles
6. Go to the toilet
7. Make your way to the start line
8. Join the start pens for the compulsory safety briefing

For safety reasons, participants are briefed and then released onto the route in groups of 30-40 so please be patient during this process.

## ROUTE & SIGNAGE

### DIRECTIONAL SIGNS

All route will be signed with red and white arrows so you shouldn't need to worry about getting lost. Every junction will be signed **before the turn, at the turn** and will have a **confirmation arrow** after the turn.

If you go more than a few miles without seeing one and you are worried that you are off course, then you should stop riding and **call Event Control**; this number will be printed on your bike number and or/ running bib number.

The routes will split at different places for the different colour packages – please be vigilant and look out for signage as these approach.

### CAUTION SIGNS

From time to time, you will also see 'Caution signs'. These highlight a hazard of some description such as a steep descent, uneven road surface or hazardous junction. Whenever you see a Caution sign, please adopt defensive cycling practices. These include:

- Decreasing your speed
- Dropping to single file
- Looking up

Please pay particular attention for up to 200m beyond the Caution sign for an upcoming hazard.

### DOWNLOADABLE ROUTE FILES

The latest provisional route files are available for download on the [Event website](#). **Final routes will be made available week before the event, do not rely on these.**

The final routes planned aim to balance participant safety, the best possible scenery and a feasible amount of climbing each day. The distances for each route will be approximately as follows, subject to confirmation of Pit Stop locations:

#### Day 1

ROUTE	PROVISIONAL DISTANCE (km)
Blue cycle	61.5
Red Cycle	100.3
Black cycle	154.7

#### Day 2

ROUTE	PROVISIONAL DISTANCE (km)
Blue cycle	57.9
Red Cycle	97.2
Black cycle	161.3

## ROUTE & SIGNAGE

### WHILST ON THE ROUTE:

- Follow ALL event arrows
- Follow the highway code when crossing roads
- Please stop at pit stops and don't get waylaid in local cafes or pubs
- Inform **Event Control** if you leave the event for any reason

### IF YOU GET LOST

If you believe you are lost please follow this procedure:

- Stop and try to work out where you are by reference points
- Try to make your way back to your last known point
- If you are still lost call Event Control on the emergency contact numbers

### CHAPERONES AND BROOM WAGON – CYCLE ROUTES

Whilst riding you will see cyclists with jerseys marked **Chaperone**. These are **experienced cyclists** who'll provide key **support and motivation** and ensure everyone stays **safe**. There will be a **broom wagon vehicle** that will follow the route at the back of the rider field, travelling at an **average speed of 9mph** to pick up any riders that are injured or medically unable to continue.

The **broom wagon** will leave the start after the last cyclist. It will pick people up if **they fall behind** the required pace to complete the challenge by the route closing time which is 12 hours after the start time or dusk – whichever arrives soonest.

### MECHANICAL SUPPORT – CYCLE ROUTES

A team of mechanics will be available at the pit stops. If you have a problem out on the road call the Event Control number on your bike number and the mechanical support team will come and find you as soon as possible.

They will have a wide range of supplies to ensure everyone has the best chance of finishing the route. If you have a problem with your bike they will aim to fix it for free, but any components needed to fix the bike will be at a charge. Please bring a bank card to make payment on the day.

**PLEASE NOTE: you will be expected to fix simple tyre punctures yourself with your own equipment – see the kit list for advised items.**

### MARSHALS AND BACK MARKER – RUN/WALK ROUTE

There will be marshals manning the pit stops who are there to provide **key support and motivation** and ensure everyone stays **safe**.

## ROUTES & DISTANCES

### CYCLING ROUTES

The routes will include some hill climbs and so it is strongly recommended that **adequate training is undertaken before the event**. Should you wish to change the route colour you signed up, please speak to the registration team on arrival to the event.

The Big Ride routes are categorised by colours:

**THE BLUE ROUTE** is considered moderately challenging and is ideal for those less experienced, those who may not have completed the training for the longer rides or for those looking for an enjoyable half day ride.

**THE RED ROUTE** is considered challenging due to its mountainous terrain, significant elevation gain, steep climbs, making it a tough ride even for experienced cyclists, particularly if not adequately prepared. While not as long as the Black route, it still demands a good level of endurance and climbing ability.

**THE BLACK ROUTE** is considered very challenging, due to its mountainous terrain, significant elevation gain, steep climbs and long distance, making it a tough test even for experienced cyclists who need to be well-prepared to complete it successfully.

### THE RUN/WALKING ROUTES

There are three running routes, which you are also welcome to walk, which are mostly flat and are as follows:

**PURPLE ROUTE: 10KM** – 1 lap

**YELLOW ROUTE: HALF MARATHON** – 2 laps of the 10km

**ORANGE ROUTE: MARATHON** – 4 laps of the 10km

### THE HIKE

**WHITE ROUTE** - after last year's popularity, the hike is back and this time it has been extended to c.16km (10 miles) for a real challenge! Please note this is different to walking the "run" route and will include steep climbs and mixed terrain.

## ROUTES DESCRIPTIONS

### CYCLING ROUTES

#### All routes

Today's route heads into the historic and picturesque market town of Henley-on-Thames, home of the Henely Royal Regatta, before beginning the first climb of the day (132m, 3%), followed by an exhilarating 2.5km descent to the Goring Gap, a dramatic, steep-sided valley where the River Thames cuts through the Chiltern Hills and North Wessex Downs.

#### THE BLUE ROUTE

In the village of Goring, the route heads east and the final climb to our pitstop at Whitchurch Hill (117m, 3.6%), followed by an exciting (2.5km) descent back to the finish.

#### THE RED ROUTE

Here our route begins a steep climb up Streatley Hill (125m, 9.1%) into the North Wessex Downs and our first pitstop, passing through some of Britain's most beautiful landscapes, offering rolling downland, quiet country roads and picturesque villages.

Our route then makes its way back over the River Thames, on the historic Whitchurch Bridge, before the final climb to our lunch-stop at Whitchurch Hill (89m, 7.8%), followed by an exciting (2.5km) descent back to the finish.

#### THE BLACK ROUTE

Here our route begins a steep climb up Streatley Hill (125m, 9.1%) into the North Wessex Downs and our first pitstop, passing through some of Britain's most beautiful landscapes, offering rolling downland, quiet country roads and picturesque villages.

Our route passes through the village of Lambourn where horse racing is still an important business, with much of the downs covered with training areas and stables.

After lunch, in the picturesque market town of Hungerford, our route climbs to Combe Gibbet (165m, 3.7%), part of Walbury Hill, the highest point in South East England. Our route then makes its way back over the River Thames, on the historic Whitchurch Bridge, before the final climb to our pitstop at Whitchurch Hill (89m, 7.8%), followed by an exciting (2.5km) descent back to the finish.

# PIT STOP INFORMATION

## PIT STOP SUMMARY

The Big Ride 2026 will feature ‘Grab & Go’ style pit stops, sponsored by Huawei. These are designed for quick rest and refuelling, providing all the sustenance you need to complete the challenge.

There will be between one and three pit stop locations depending on your event where you will be able to re-fuel and to seek medical or mechanical assistance (cycle only).

The pit stops will be roughly equidistant apart and will include a variety of different sweet and savoury snacks, water and High5 sports nutrition.

Pit stop locations will not be published for health and safety reasons, due to space and access of these remote locations and respect of the land owners/local residents.

## DAY 1

<b>BLUE ROUTE CYCLE</b>	<b>REFRESHMENTS INCLUDE</b>
Pit stop 1 (31km)	water, tea and coffee, variety of snacks such as: fruit, cereal bars, crisps, sweets, High5 (Gel, Energy Source sachet, Zero tab)
Basecamp	hot and cold lunch dishes

<b>RED ROUTE CYCLE</b>	<b>REFRESHMENTS INCLUDE</b>
Pit stop 1 (27.4km)	water, tea and coffee, variety of snacks such as: fruit, cereal bars, crisps, sweets, High5 (Gel, Energy Source sachet, Zero tab)
Pit stop 2 (69.9km)	water, tea and coffee, bananas, cereal bars, crisps and sweets, hot & cold lunch dishes, High5 (Gel, Energy Source sachet, Zero tab)

<b>BLACK ROUTE CYCLE</b>	<b>REFRESHMENTS INCLUDE</b>
Pit stop 1 (27.4km)	water, tea and coffee, variety of snacks such as: fruit, cereal bars, crisps, sweets, High5 (Gel, Energy Source sachet, Zero tab)
Pit stop 2 (77.8km)	water, tea and coffee, fruit, cereal bars, crisps and sweets, hot & cold lunch dishes, High5 (Gel, Energy Source sachet, Zero tab)
Pit stop 3	water, tea and coffee, variety of snacks such as: fruit, cereal bars, crisps, sweets, High5 (Gel, Energy Source sachet, Zero tab)

**DAY 2**

<b>BLUE CYCLE</b>	<b>REFRESHMENTS INCLUDE</b>
Pit stop 1 (33km)	water, tea and coffee, variety of snacks such as: fruit, cereal bars, crisps, sweets, High5 (Gel, Energy Source sachet, Zero tab)
Basecamp	hot and cold lunch dishes

<b>RED CYCLE</b>	<b>REFRESHMENTS INCLUDE</b>
Pit stop 1 (36.8km)	water, tea and coffee, variety of snacks such as: fruit, cereal bars, crisps, sweets, High5 (Gel, Energy Source sachet, Zero tab)
Pit stop 2 (73.5)	water, tea and coffee, bananas, cereal bars, crisps and sweets, hot and cold lunch dishes, High5 (Gel, Energy Source sachet, Zero tab)

<b>BLACK CYCLE</b>	<b>REFRESHMENTS INCLUDE</b>
Pit stop 1 (36.8km)	water, tea and coffee, variety of snacks such as: fruit, cereal bars, crisps, sweets, High5 (Gel, Energy Source sachet, Zero tab)
Pit stop 2 (85,5)	water, tea and coffee, fruit, cereal bars, crisps and sweets, hot and cold lunch dishes, High5 (Gel, Energy Source sachet, Zero tab)
Pit stop 3 (138km)	water, tea and coffee, variety of snacks such as: fruit, cereal bars, crisps, sweets, High5 (Gel, Energy Source sachet, Zero tab)

<b>PURPLE/YELLOW RUN*</b>	<b>REFRESHMENTS INCLUDE</b>
Pit stop 1	water, High5 (Gel, Energy Source sachet, Zero tab)
Pit stop 2	water, oranges, bananas, cereal bars, crisps and sweets (High5 (Gel, Energy Source sachet, Zero tab) Lunch provided back at basecamp

<b>ORANGE RUN*</b>	<b>REFRESHMENTS INCLUDE</b>
Pit stop 1/4	water, High5 (Gel, Energy Source sachet, Zero tab)
Pit stop 2/5	water, oranges, bananas, cereal bars, crisps and sweets, High5 (Gel, Energy Source sachet, Zero tab)
Pit stop 3 (basecamp)	water, High5 (Gel, Energy Source sachet, Zero tab)

**\*PLEASE NOTE: Runners will be provided with lunch on their return to basecamp  
Hikers must collect lunch in the morning before leaving basecamp.**

## PIT STOP INFORMATION

### CUT OFF TIMES

The route opening times have been pre-determined and take into consideration the hours of daylight, the safety of the riders and crew throughout their total time out on the route. It will be at the discretion of the Route Director, as to whether they allow participants to stay out on the route beyond these times due to any unforeseen circumstances or special situations. The latest departures from pit stops are listed below.

To adhere to the opening and closing times of pit stops you will need to have an average speed of c.15km per hour if completing the black route and 10km per hour if completing the red or blue routes.

Run/walkers will be required to maintain an average pace of no less than 4km per hour in order to finish by 5pm.

**PLEASE NOTE:** the routes are subject to change up until the day due to road works, blockages and diversions and so please follow the clear signs provided rather than your GPS.

#### DAY 1

BLUE CYCLE	CUT OFF TIME
Pit stop 1	13:11

RED CYCLE	CUT OFF TIME
Pit stop 1	11:59
Pit stop 2	15:22

BLACK CYCLE	CUT OFF TIME
Pit stop 1	12:07
Pit stop 2	15:15
Pit stop 3	18:09

#### DAY 2

BLUE CYCLE	CUT OFF TIME
Pit stop 1	13:21

RED CYCLE	CUT OFF TIME
Pit stop 1	12:36
Pit stop 2	15:45

BLACK CYCLE	CUT OFF TIME
Pit stop 1	12:06
Pit stop 2	15:09
Pit stop 3	18:48

## ACCOMMODATION & FACILITIES

### ACCOMMODATION

The Deloitte basecamp will be open from 18:00 on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June until 10:00 on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June. All accommodation, food and drink is included one you have been confirmed for the event.

Accommodation will be housed in a bespoke campsite with all facilities located on site.

Should you decide not to join us at the Deloitte basecamp, alternative accommodation and all logistics of getting to and from basecamp will be your responsibility and all costs will be your own.

### CAMPING

Each participant will be allocated their own two-man tent and 2 thermarest sleeping mats.

**PARTICIPANTS MUST BRING THEIR OWN SLEEPING BAG, PILLOW AND TOWELS.**

### LUGGAGE STORAGE

**Overnight participants** – participant luggage should be left inside tents during the day – the Deloitte basecamp is manned at all times. Smaller valuables secured inside a suitable bag or similar, such as laptops and wallets can be stored at the bag drop area when you are out on the route during the day – please attach your numbered valuables tag and hand it in at the bag drop before you start your event each day.

**One day participants** – A small rucksack can be left on site when you are out on the route during the day – please attach your numbered valuables tag and hand it in at the info desk before you start your event.

### TOILETS AND CHANGING FACILITIES

There will be male and female toilet and shower facilities at the Deloitte basecamp.

On the route, toilets are available at the **pit stops**. Please note that there are no changing facilities at the start line and therefore we recommend you come **to the start line ready in your kit**.

### SHOWERS

There are shower facilities at the Deloitte basecamp, and to avoid queues during peak periods, we ask that showers are kept to 10 minutes per person. **Participants must bring their own towels to the event.**

### DRYING AREA

A drying area, a gazebo with a washing lines and pegs will be provided.

Please ensure that all of your kit is clearly labelled with your name and race number and that you collect your items before leaving the event.

### MEDALS

Medals will be available to collect at the finish line.

### SPORTS MASSAGE

A 10 minute sports massage will be available for you at the finish line each day. Depending on how busy they are when you cross the finish line, you may need to book in for this service.

## ACCOMMODATION & FACILITIES

### FOOD THROUGHOUT THE DAY

#### **BREAKFAST:** 06:00 – 09:00

We will be providing you with lots of food along the way, but it is recommended that you are up in good time to eat your breakfast which will be served at the basecamp for those staying over. You'll be burning a lot of calories and the worst thing to do is run out of energy from not eating before setting off.

Each morning, we will provide hot and cold breakfast options, a tea and fresh coffee station and an area for you to fill your water bottles with sports nutrition.

#### **LUNCH**

**Cyclists:** At each pit stop you will be offered a range of savoury and sweet food. The lunch offering is provided on the route for the majority\* of participants so **please ensure you call in at the relevant pit stop to collect this.**

**Runners:** Lunch will be provided **on return to basecamp.**

**Hikers:** Please **collect a packed lunch before leaving** the basecamp.

### FINISH LINE

On completion of your challenge, there will be cold drinks and snacks available in basecamp.

#### **DINNER:** 18:00 – 21:00

In the evenings, you'll get a hot meal with dessert and tea or coffee. This will be served as a rolling buffet at the basecamp.

### DRINKS THROUGHOUT THE DAY

Urns of tea and coffee will be available at all times throughout the day.

Water and High5 sports nutrition will be available at all pit stops, with tea and coffee served at designated points – see pitstop section.

A choice of red and white wine and beer will be available at dinner each evening, from 18:00 – 22:00 on Tuesday and 18:00 – 23:00 Wednesday and Thursday when the bars will close promptly.

As a representative of the Liberty Global family, please be reminded to drink responsibly.

## **SAFETY, MEDICAL & EMERGENCY SUPPORT**

**MEDICAL & EMERGENCY: +44 (0)330 223 6671 // NON-EMERGENCY: +44 (0)330 223 6675**

During this challenge, you're going to be pushing your fitness to its limits. The event has a full incident response plan and medical support. The medical team have set out some points of advice on how to help you reach that finish line.

**Pay attention to your hydration:** Don't overdo the energy drinks or gels, as they can cause an upset stomach. Please ensure that you have trained with these items in advance of the event.

**Address an issue immediately:** A little niggles, ache or pain can lead to something more serious. Please seek out our medical team as soon as you can.

We will have medical provision and massage therapists at the **start line**, at the **pit stops** and at the **finish**. There will also be emergency medical care available for the duration of the event, thanks to our sponsors Boston Consulting Group.

### **MEDICAL INFORMATION**

If anything has changed with your health since signing up for the event, please report this at registration before the event begins.

### **EMERGENCY PROCEDURE**

- Call 999 direct if it is a critical medical emergency (life threatening or limb threatening).
- Call the Event Medical Emergency number (detailed on your bike number/race bib) for all other kinds of medical emergencies.

- For minor, non emergency medical issues please make your way to the nearest pit stop where a medic will be on hand.

In the event of an incident, we ask all participants to respect due process, those involved, and the event's integrity and refrain from discussing details (both amongst other participants or with external parties) and any use of social media. As a representative of the Liberty Global family we ask for your co-operation with the Event Organising Team and their nominated crew members.

### **PARTICIPANT CONDUCT**

The Big Ride is not only a chance to challenge yourself physically, but to meet and enjoy time away from the desk with fellow participants from all levels of the organisation.

You will live and socialise in close quarters within the basecamp and are responsible for your own safety and behaving appropriately both on and off the event routes.

If at any point you feel someone is not respecting others or the professional nature of the event, please speak to a member of the Event Organising Team and their nominated crew members, who will respond accordingly. As a representative of the Liberty Global family we ask for your co-operation with their actions and decisions.

## ENTERTAINMENT

There is so much fun to be had at this year's Big Ride thanks to the amazing event sponsors!

### BLUME GARDEN CLUB

Our friends at Liberty Blume are creating a space where you can spend some time relaxing after your challenge. The Blume Garden Club will be between 12 – 6pm on Wednesday & Thursday.

### TCS ENTERTAINMENT TENT

Thanks to Tata Consultancy Services, we've got a fantastic entertainment hub at this year's Big Ride, here's what you can expect:

#### Tuesday

- 18:00 Acoustic music set
- 20:00 France v Senegal FIFA World Cup Match

#### Wednesday

- 17:00 Sports panel with England rugby legends
- 21:00 England v Croatia FIFA World Cup Match

#### Thursday

- 9:30 Pre-Run/Walk Yoga Stretch – recommended to bring own yoga mat
- 15:00 Learn more about the Sierra Leone Marathon & Cycle Challenge
- 20:00 Switzerland v Bosnia and Herzegovina FIFA World Cup Match
- 21:30 DJ until 11pm (*in the main marquee*)

### GLAMPING RAFFLE

Each day raffle tickets will be sold for your chance to sleep in a glamping tent complete with a proper bed, bedding, carpeted floor, lighting and a mirror! Tickets will be £5 and all proceeds will fund Street Child's work. You can enter the raffle each day as it resets, much like the bedsheets, every morning.

### WiFi & DEVICE CHARGING

Thanks to our co-host Virgin Media O2, WiFi will be available around site, but please note there isn't a designated working area given this year's event site. There will be a small charging station in the main marquee, you may leave your devices there at your own risk. It is recommended to bring portable chargers with you.

## FUNDRAISING FOR STREET CHILD

### WHAT IS THE COST OF MY BIG RIDE CHALLENGE?

Here is a reminder of the fundraising costs for each challenge:

- Two-Day Challenge + Camping (3 nights): £3150
- One-Day Challenge + Camping (2 nights): £2100
- One-Day Challenge - No Camping: £1575

*Liberty Global and Liberty Global OpCos please disregard the above costings.*

### WHAT IF I WANT TO CANCEL?

Contact details to withdraw from The Big Ride: [events@street-child.co.uk](mailto:events@street-child.co.uk).

### CHARGES IF YOU PULL OUT

If you pull out of the event after midnight on 19th May 2026, you will be charged a cancellation charge of £850. We cannot refund your sponsors if you pull out or are forced to cancel. We cannot refund your sponsors if the event is cancelled or shortened for unforeseen circumstances.

### FUNDRAISING PAGE

We'll support you through your fundraising journey, keeping you up to date on our work on the ground. For now, the first step is to set up a fundraising page!

Please ensure you create your page through the correct link below:

- Liberty Global employees [sign up here](#)
- Liberty Blume employees [sign up here](#)
- Virgin Media O2 employees [sign up here](#)
- Virgin Media Ireland employees [sign up here](#)
- Telenet employees [sign up here](#)
- Sunrise employees [sign up here](#)
- VodafoneZiggo employees [sign up here](#)
- If you work at another company, please [sign up here](#)

Click on the **Start Fundraising** button and follow the steps from there.

If asked which event you are taking on, you can skip this step.



Fundraising at The Big Ride has never been more important.

Global aid for education is falling fast. Cuts led by major donors, including the UK and US, have triggered a 25% drop in funding. Primary education, which is Street Child's focus, is expected to see funding reduced by about a third. These cuts put an additional 6 million children at risk of dropping out of school. At the very moment when children's needs are soaring, support for their education is shrinking.

These cuts are landing on vulnerable children already living through profound disruptions. Across conflict-affected countries like Nigeria and Ukraine, in communities hit hard by climate disasters, and in places where poverty is rising sharply, millions of children are seeing their education interrupted, and their futures pushed further out of reach.

Street Child is built for this moment. With deep experience working in fragile, hard-to-reach, and rapidly changing environments, we deliver education where others can't or won't. Education isn't just something to be protected. It's the best path to possibility. By taking on The Big Ride, you can help keep classrooms open, teachers paid, and children learning.

### WHAT DO I PACK?

We recommend layering up so that you can add or remove items of clothing to keep you at a comfortable temperature. Always make sure you carry waterproof layers with you and buy clothes made from a fabric that is designed specifically for exercise that will absorb sweat and dry out quickly.

**Thanks to our sponsors, at registration you will be supplied with:**

- Accenture cycling jersey(s) or vest(s)
- Tech Mahindra hoodie
- Google Cloud Cap
- A&O Shearman Tote Bag
- Netcracker Sports bottle

### TRAVEL / EVENING WEAR

It is very important that you keep baggage to a minimum as there is limited space within your personal tents. Pack warm and comfortable, casual evening-wear for when we kick back and relax in the evenings. Please note that although the event takes place in the summer, evenings can become cool.

- Passport (or National Identity Card if appropriate)
- Flip flops / trainers
- Casual trousers
- T-Shirts / shirts
- Warm jacket
- Toiletries
- Bank card for bike parts
- Plastic bag for wet / dirty kit
- Torch
- Sunscreen
- Travel adapter and phone charger to charge your phone overnight
- Sleeping bag / pillow / roll mat
- Towel
- Battery pack
- Yoga mat if taking part in Thurs AM session

### CYCLING SPECIFIC KIT

We will provide you with an Accenture Big Ride breathable, high quality cycling shirt for each day of your ride.

Please pack the following:

- Cycling shorts
- Socks
- Cycling shoes with clip in pedals / firm-soled shoes or trainers
- Bike helmet: Compulsory. No helmet no ride!
- LED bike lights with spare batteries (for bad weather / dusk finishes) Compulsory
- Waterproof lightweight jacket
- Cycling gloves
- Cycling overshoes (a good idea if the weather looks bad, but not essential)
- Arm and leg warmers (if it looks like the weather will be bad)
- Sunglasses
- Sun cream
- 2 x water bottles
- 2 x bottle cages attached to your bike
- Mobile phone (fully charged with your emergency contact saved under Next of Kin)
- Warm and comfortable, casual evening-wear for when we kick back and relax in the evenings. Bear in mind that the evenings can become cool.

### BIKE REPAIR KIT

As the route is circular you shouldn't need a day sack but please ensure you carry the following with you:

- Mini bike pump
- 2 new inner tubes (check they fit your bike)
- A puncture repair kit including tyre levers
- Multi tool (with correct allen keys for your bike)
- Chain repair links (contact your local bike shop if you're unsure about chain repair).
- Bike/chain lubricant

## RECOMMENDED KIT LIST

### RECOMMENDED PERSONAL FIRST AID KIT

- Your normal choice of painkillers
- Fabric plasters
- Blister fabric, e.g. RockTape/ Compeed
- Any personal medication (prescription or non-prescription)

### RUN/WALK/HIKE SPECIFIC KIT

We will provide you with an Accenture Big Ride breathable, high quality running shirt for your run or hike/walk. Please pack the following:

- T-shirt
- Shorts
- Running trainers / walking boots (comfortable and worn in)
- Pair of socks
- Sunglasses
- Waterproof jacket (recommend lightweight)
- Mobile phone (fully charged with your emergency contact saved under next of kin)
- Race belt
- Sun cream

### HIKE SPECIFIC KIT

Please pack the following:

#### Essential

- Hiking shoes (recommend hiking boots with ankle support)
- Small rucksack (recommend 20 - 30 litre capacity, preferably with a rain cover)
- Waterproof jacket & trousers
- Spare warm gear (including fleece, hat & gloves)
- Waterproof bags (to keep clothes dry)
- Water bottles / camelbak (capable of carrying 2 litres of water)
- Mobile phone (fully charged with your emergency contact saved under next of kin)
- Medical / First aid kit (see above)

#### Optional

- Collapsible trekking poles (if unsteady on feet or knee injury)

## PACKING ADVICE

- Each tent will come ready with 2 thermarest sleeping mats.
- **Participants are responsible for bringing their own sleeping bag, pillow and towel.**
- You will not be able to access your kit bag until the end of your challenge, therefore it is best to leave prepared for all weathers and eventualities.
- **Keep a check on the weather** in the days running up to the event as this may affect packing
- Ensure that you **clearly label** all of your personal items.
- It's **your responsibility** to ensure your insure your personal belongings to a level of cover that's appropriate for their value and location.
- If you find you have lost anything once you have left the event please email [events@street-child.co.uk](mailto:events@street-child.co.uk) as soon as possible.
- Any kit which is not claimed **two weeks** after the event will be given to charity.

## THE RIDE

### HOW SHOULD I PREPARE FOR THE RIDE?

We encourage people from all backgrounds and of all shapes, ages, sizes and fitness levels to sign up to The Big Ride. What we do ask is that you follow a training plan before you embark on the event so that you are able to actually enjoy the experience rather than huffing and puffing your way through it!

### IS IT A RACE?

The event is an adventure ride rather than a race.

### WILL THERE BE MECHANICAL SUPPORT?

Yes, see the Route and Signage section for details.

### WILL THERE BE SUPPORT CREW?

There will be plenty of support crew on hand in support vehicles, including a first aider, marshals, and bike mechanics. There will also be bike chaperones throughout the route to help encourage you throughout the day.

### ARE THERE TOILET FACILITIES ON ROUTE?

There will be toilets at each designated pit stop as well as full facilities in all areas of the base camp. Hike toilets are available at the car park where the hike starts and finishes.

### WHAT HAPPENS IF I CAN'T COMPLETE THE RIDE?

If you have trained, the Big Ride is achievable for people of all fitness and experience levels. We have different routes to challenge people of all abilities – please choose the right one for you. Should day 1 be tough then you are free to choose a different route for day 2 – inform the Info Team on the day.

If you are struggling the support vehicles can help you out. We suggest you check out our training pages for lots of tips and advice on how to get Big Ride fit.

### CAN I HIRE A BIKE FOR THE EVENT?

We do encourage everyone to bring their own bikes, but if you need to hire one, you can do so [here](#) directly with the external supplier.

## SAFE CYCLING

### DO I HAVE TO WEAR A HELMET?

**Yes.** Safety out on the road is paramount to us and you will not be allowed to ride without one.

### WHAT ARE THE ROADS LIKE?

The routes have a balance between quiet roads and beautiful scenery and by the nature of long-distance cycling means that there are short periods when you may need to cycle on a busier road. Please look out for signage and follow the instructions of event marshals on the day.

The road surfaces are varied and there are sections of loose gravel, uneven surfaces and some potholes caused by poor weather.

### TECHNIQUES FOR SAFE CYCLING

- **Look ahead:** Keep your eyes 10–20 m up the road to spot rough patches early.
- **Hazard and caution signs:** The route team have placed hazards signs near the most significant hazards. Please take particular care when you see these.
- **Gentle moves:** Small, calm swerves (when safe) help you glide around holes.
- **Lighten the bike:** If you can't avoid a pothole, stop pedalling, level the pedals, and rise slightly out of the saddle.
- **Stay relaxed:** A loose grip lets the bike absorb bumps and keeps you in control.
- **Roll through:** Avoid braking in a pothole—steady momentum is safer for the bike.

- **Point out hazards** in the road so that fellow riders are aware by shouting and pointing.
- **Give yourself space:** ride no more than 2 abreast and move a little away from the curb to make hazards easier to avoid.
- **Watch out for water:** Puddles often hide damage—best avoided where possible.

### BIKE MAINTENANCE

We strongly advise getting an experienced mechanic to **check over your bike before the event** to ensure all your brakes, cables, wheels and tyres are in good shape.

- There are some hills along the route with long steep descents – well maintained brakes will be essential

## BIKE ADVICE

### WHAT TYPE OF BIKE IS BEST?

The ideal bike needs to:

- Be lightweight and stiff enough for efficient power transfer.
- Have a comfortable saddle for a long day's ride
- Have a wide range of gearing to ensure that you can take on significant climbs.
- You may complete the route on either a road bike or a hybrid/gravel bike. We **do not** recommend mountain bikes as these require significantly more effort over long distances due to their weight and tyre design. This can increase fatigue levels and may result in a much slower completion time for the event.
- You may like to have your bike set up so that it is optimised for your own body shape and size. Minor changes can make a big difference.

### WHAT KIND OF TYRES ARE BEST?

Due to the mixed surfaces and road quality in some areas, please consider the kind of wheels and tyres you fit carefully.

- **Increase tyre width:** e.g., 25mm, 28mm, or wider, if your frame allows. Wider tires provide a larger cushion and reduce the risk of pinch flats.
- **Optimise tyre pressure:** do not over-inflate your tyres, as a lower pressure (within recommended ranges) can better absorb impacts.
- **Consider tubeless tyres:** tubeless systems allow for lower pressures

without the risk of popping, offering a smoother ride. You can also buy slime that you put into your tyres and it repairs small punctures automatically.

- **Consider durability of wheels:** wheels with a higher spoke count (28–32) offer more durability on rough roads.

### WHAT IS THE BEST GEAR SETTING?

- For the widest range of gear ratios, either opt for a triple chainset at the front or a compact double chainset.
- Both of these with a wide ratio cassette at the rear (such as 12-28T) will offer a good range of gears to get up most climbs.

### DO I NEED DROP / RACING HANDLEBARS?

- No. Drop bars allow a rider to get into a lower, more aerodynamic, riding position which reduces wind resistance and allows you to ride more efficiently.
- Riding on the drops for any period of time can take practice to get your body used to this aggressive position. It is by no means essential, but if used correctly can be a performance advantage.
- **Aero handlebars (commonly found on triathlon bikes) are not permitted**

## HIKING / RUNNING / WALKING

### ARE THE ROUTES SIGNED?

- Yes, all routes are fully signed with white and yellow arrows.

### WHAT IS THE TERRAIN LIKE?

- The routes will be a mix of forest paths and country roads with a manageable amount of elevation.

### WHAT FOOTWEAR IS BEST FOR THE TERRAIN?

- Run/ walk - a good pair of well worn in trails shoes, running trainers that have soles with some grip.
- Hike - a good pair of well worn in walking boots.
- You should have a thumb's width between the end of your toe & the end of the shoe.
- Socks are as vital as the shoes; the wrong pair can cause discomfort even in well-fitting shoes. Your socks should fit snugly, and be a comfortable length so they don't fall down when you're moving. Look for socks made from natural materials like cotton or wool.

## ANY OTHER QUESTIONS?

Please keep an eye out for further event updates by email.

The final Event Webinar is taking place on Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> May at 15:00 (UK time) which you can join via [this Teams link](#) to ask any final questions.

For anything else please contact [events@street-child.co.uk](mailto:events@street-child.co.uk)

**We wish you the very best of luck in your training and fundraising and look forward to seeing you soon!**

 **THE BIG RIDE**

# **STREET CHILD SIERRA LEONE MARATHON & CYCLE CHALLENGE**

**21-26 OCTOBER 2026**



**SIGN UP NOW**

**STREET  
CHILD**