

How to host a street party with your neighbours

Having a street party is a great way to get to know your neighbours and build community spirit. Whether you're celebrating a religious festival, a birthday or another special event, a street party is a fun way to bring everyone together.

A street party can take up to 8 weeks to organise – particularly if you want to close your road for the occasion. Here's a timeline of essential steps to make your party a success.



Timings

6 – 8 weeks before:

- Speak to your neighbours to let them know about the party, see who wants to help and agree a date and time
- If you think you will need funding for your street party, contact events@camden.gov.uk or call **020 7974 5633**. They can also help if you'd like to close a road for your party (this can take up to 6 weeks)
- If you live on a Camden Council estate, speak to your Neighbourhood Housing Officer and Tenants and Residents Association (TRA), as they may be able to help

4 – 6 weeks before:

- Complete a risk assessment, you can find a template on hse.gov.uk
- Now is the time to start thinking about the fun stuff – including food, decorations, activities and games! Pull together a list of everything you'll need on the day.
- If you are planning an event where you would like to play music outside, serve hot food or provide entertainment, you will need to apply for a licence from Camden Council. You can find more information about this at camden.gov.uk/licensing or call **020 7974 4444**.

1 – 3 weeks before:

- Promote the event! Put posters up in the local area and through doors in the surrounding area, and share on local WhatsApp and Facebook groups, and NextDoor.
- Plan a food shop – make sure to check for any dietary or cultural requirements
- Look at the guidelines for food hygiene at food.gov.uk

2 – 3 days before:

- Ring around to make sure all volunteers are still available on the day
- Remind everyone on the street to move their cars if they will need them during the party. You can do this by door knocking, popping a note through doors or posting a message on local WhatsApp or Facebook group.
- Label all food, list the ingredients and highlight allergens
- Make sure all electrical equipment is fully charged

On the day:

- Set out your tables and decorations
- Have a final meeting with your volunteers on the morning of the event
- Designate an area with bags marked for food waste, recycling and rubbish
- Take lots of photos and if you plan to share them on social media, use the hashtag [#WeMakeCamden](https://twitter.com/WeMakeCamden)
- Have a great day!



Tips for a planet-friendly street party

- Reduce food waste by avoiding having too much, and making sure people can take leftovers away. Reuse or design your own decorations.
- Borrow things you need for the event, such as by using the Library of Things LibraryOfThings.co.uk/KentishTown.
- Avoid single-use plastic and ensure that things that can't be reused are recycled or thrown away.