



**Barnardos New Zealand
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Children receive help with Back to School packs

“Barnardos New Zealand is excited about the great success of the first community activity that is taking place between Alcatel-Lucent and Barnardos New Zealand. Wellington employees of Alcatel-Lucent have collected enough resources to put together 40 Back to School packs for children and young people in New Zealand. It is a great project and just in time before school starts”, says Murray Edridge, Chief Executive of Barnardos New Zealand.

“Today, Barnardos received the packs which will be distributed to children and young people who will start or return to school in early February. The packs are filled with necessary school supplies such as writing material and drink bottles”.

“As all parents know, equipping children with school material can be an expensive exercise, particularly in the current economic situation”, adds Mr Edridge.

The community activity is part of Alcatel-Lucent’s corporate social responsibility (CSR) programme across New Zealand and Australia. The partnership between Alcatel-Lucent and Barnardos was launched in August last year and this is the first project of the CSR programme. The partnership includes funding, access to the company’s technology and opportunities for Alcatel-Lucent staff to volunteer and participate in community projects.

ENDS

For the media: Photos may be available on requests.

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