



January 2024

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Dear Parents/Carers

It's that time of year again when we thank parents and remind you about the school fund. We are incredibly grateful that a large number of parents and carers support the school with a monthly or annual contribution.

This year parental contributions to the school fund have again generated over £20,000 for the school. Your generosity makes a huge difference to the education and environment for the students. Your contributions support us to deliver upgrades to IT equipment, support the toilet refurbishment programme and renewing the tennis court surface.

This year we are continuing to save towards refurbishing the science toilets we also hope to refurbish the library and our food technology rooms. It is impossible to do this without your support and we hope these changes will make a real difference to the student's experience.

School finances are always a challenge as we strive to balance the books whilst delivering the best education possible. We have now received indicative funding for the academic year 24/25 and per student funding is expected to increase by 1.5%. Even with a fall in inflation, we will almost certainly be looking for further efficiencies and savings.

We are very proud of our students and the success they achieve. These are standards that we are committed to maintaining and we appreciate your support. For each family, the school is asking for a voluntary £60 annual donation. This can be paid either as a one-off annual payment or through a monthly direct debit for £5. If you already have a direct debit set up, then thank you; this will continue to run as normal. Of course, should you feel able to donate more, then you would not be limited to this amount and, equally, we will be grateful for whatever help you are able to give us. We absolutely understand that some of our families have had an extremely difficult year and that inflation and interest rates make household finances incredibly tight and that this sort of request may simply be out of the question.

We want to make this as easy as possible, so we have created an Edgbarrow page on the [JustGiving website](#). You can choose to donate through a one-off payment or set a monthly donation. There is also a link on the school website. We would be very grateful if you could also tick the relevant box to add Gift Aid. Money can also be donated through the Tucasi online payment system, but we are unable to claim Gift Aid on money donated this way. Our thanks to those that are already signed up to the monthly donation, it really does make a difference!

We would also ask if you as parents could investigate whether your employer has funds available to support schools and would be grateful for any information in relation to this, particularly around match funding.

Once again, thank you for making a contribution to the school fund, your support is always much appreciated and we hope you can see the difference it can make to the student's education.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Matthews', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mr S Matthews
Headteacher