



Finchley Catholic High School
Headteacher: Niamh Annull

September, 2019

Dear Parents,

Annual School Development Fund Appeal

Over recent years the school site and buildings have been improved immeasurably as a result of the generous support of parents. We opened the Canon Parsons sixth form in 2014, the funds raised exclusively by the school; created a well-equipped Food Technology room, invested in media and ICT suites and upgraded classrooms and facilities. All of this has given us a learning environment that we can be proud of and one that does justice to the pupils in our care.

Last year we began refurbishing the rear staircase to the Stephenson building which houses the Canteen, Library, Art and ICT Departments. We are currently in the process of completing the front staircase with curtain walling and remodelling the entrance area, to create a safer and more attractive environment.

Looking ahead, we desperately need to improve our on-site sports and PE facilities, to meet the needs of the modern curriculum. The gyms have not been materially updated since they were built in the 1960s. Other schools enjoy much more up to date amenities than we have here and I am sure you would want to support us in making the same provision for your son / daughter.

To achieve this, we would ask that you support the School Development Fund appeal as generously as you can. As a Voluntary Aided (VA) school, the financial support of parents has a critical role to play in improving the site and facilities. In fact, the government requires VA schools to raise, as a minimum, 10% of the capital costs of any building; although in practice, we are often responsible for the entire sum needed.

The purpose of this letter is to invite you, as a family, to play your part, in the same way that previous generations have created the school that exists today. The School Development Fund is financed through parental contributions. Following discussions with Governors, it was agreed that we would have the following suggested level of voluntary contribution:

- 2019– 2020** - **£150 per pupil**
- **£200 per family of two or more**

If your financial circumstances are such that these amounts are beyond what you can afford, it goes without saying that any contribution you are able to make will be gratefully received.

Enclosed with this letter is the form that you should complete when making a contribution to the School Development Fund. We would ask you to give serious consideration to setting up a standing order for this

payment and to regard it as an annual contribution; we would also urge you to make use of the gift-aid facility. For tax payers, this will significantly increase your contribution at no additional cost to yourself.

I would like to thank the parents who have already contributed to the fund this year, either via standing order or direct payment.

The school that we have today is testament to the generosity and support of previous generations of parents. The challenge now rests with the families whose children currently attend the school. By supporting this appeal you will not only be improving the educational experience of your son / daughter, but you will be making a material difference to the experience of pupils for many years to come.

Online donations can be made via Wisepay, which is accessed through the school website. Standing orders/BACs payments can be set up using online banking (Lloyds sort code: 30-65-41; a/c no. 41729760). Alternatively, cheques should be made payable to 'Finchley Catholic High School' and can be returned to the Finance Department either by hand or through the post. Whichever way you choose to contribute please remember to complete and return the gift aid form attached. If you require any assistance or advice please e-mail finance@finchleycatholic.org.uk. All donations will be acknowledged.

Thank you in anticipation of your support.

Yours sincerely,



Niamh Arnall
Headteacher



Jane Inzani
Chair of Governors