



COVENANTS & DONATIONS

For a number of years the School has been running a very successful Governors' Fund that has helped to raise much needed money to improve the quality of provision for all our students. Any donation made by a parent is independent of any place offered at the school. Any request for a donation is made **after** a place has been offered and accepted.

How better can you spend 22p a day than by improving the facilities at your child's school?

The **minimum** level of donation is set at less than **22p** a day so that almost all parents can afford to contribute, but it can only be maintained at this level if all parents do contribute. It is therefore absolutely vital that all parents contribute to the Governors' Fund. The Governors' request a **minimum** annual donation of **£75** per child (or a maximum of **£150 per family**). The Governors are prepared to act as intermediary should parents wish to donate to the Diocesan Building Fund.

Any gifts above this **minimum** level enable the Governors to make additional improvements to the quality of the education your children receive at Oaklands. Gifts from previous generations of parents have enabled the Governors to commit themselves to their contribution of 10% towards the cost of major projects. Like the new John Paul II Building. These amounts have drained the Governors' Fund and it is important that it is replenished quickly. In previous years, they have been able to improve still further the computer and IT provision to a level beyond the Government's requirements. Thanks to parental donations, now we have improved facilities in the White House, Maths/Science Block, the Drama and Fitness Suite as well as the building of a new Sixth Form Block and Music Room. The Governors could only embark on such projects thanks to the generous donations of previous generations of parents. However these donations must be replaced, and for that we look to the present and future generations of parents.

The best way of giving to the Governors' Fund is to make your gift tax-efficient. Most of the money the School receives from the Local Authority comes from the Council Tax you pay. This is supplemented by Government grants to the County Council paid by the Government from the Income Tax you pay them. You can divert some more of your Income Tax back to the School by making a **Gift Aid Declaration**.

- This is a simple declaration, which says that you want all the donations you make to the Governors' Fund treated as **Gift Aid**. This means that the Inland Revenue will pay back to the Governors' Fund the Income Tax that you paid when you earned that amount of money. Every pound you give under Gift Aid is worth **£1.28** to the Governors' Fund.
- You decide the amount you wish to give, and whether you want to make your donations monthly, quarterly or annually.
- You can make your donation by completing the Bank Standing Order form attached to your Gift Aid Declaration, or by sending a regular donation by cash, cheque, or Charities Aid Foundation voucher to the School, and reminders will be sent to all parents from whom a donation has not been received early in each term.
- You can cancel your Gift Aid Declaration – e.g. if you cease to pay tax – at any time by giving notice to the School and by cancelling your Bank Standing Order at your branch.

The Governing Body thanks all caring and supportive parents for their financial assistance in the upkeep of the School, and their help in providing better facilities for all Oaklands children.

Capt David Dickens