

# **OUR SCHOOL FUND**

**Information Booklet** 

### WHAT IS OUR SCHOOL FUND?

Government funding for schools is under significant pressure. Over the past ten years we have seen a considerable reduction in the amount of money we have to invest in the facilities we provide for our students, and our ability to enrich their experience outside of the classroom.

Schools across the country have been hit by rising prices – including massive jumps to our energy bills – and increasing staff costs that have not been fully funded by the government.

More than ever, we are relying on the generous voluntary donations that parents, carers and alumnae contribute to provide the very best for our students.

Our School Fund empowers our school community to voluntarily support our extracurricular enrichment programme, and to help improve our facilities further.

We consider this provision a key part of our vision to provide a holistic experience for our young people, which focuses on social, cultural, and emotional capital as well as high academic achievement.

Two of our values are **courage** and **endeavour**. Our School Fund gives us the resources to support our students in exploring these key development areas outside of their academic studies.

#### PAST PROJECTS IT HAS FUNDED

Over the past few years, projects that our School Fund has supported (either funding in full or helping us go beyond the 'basics') include:

- A major contribution to a Department for Education-funded project to significantly improve the security and safety of the school site. The School Fund contribution has enabled us to create a better pedestrian access to the front office, with more lighting and a more inclusive pathway.
- An annual contribution to fund enrichment such as extra music groups and PE clubs, transport to fixtures, and to facilitate a wide range of competition entries such as the Arkwright scholarship, robotics and computing competitions and related hardware.
- The replacement of the floor in the sports hall, ensuring the surface is high quality and appropriate for all different types of activities.
- The decoration and fit out of the ground floor of the new teaching block, to create three new classrooms and a study area for our growing sixth form.
- The refurbishment of two new science laboratories to complete our suite of thirteen science-specific teaching spaces critical for a school like ours where chemistry, physics and biology are so popular.



#### **FUNDING FUTURE PROJECTS**

In the future, we are asking for regular voluntary donations to enable this investment in our enrichment activities to continue, as well as raise funds to support a number of new projects such as:

- We would like to reconfigure the school reception space, to make it a more inclusive and welcoming space for students, parents, carers and other visitors.
- We would like to create a new IT suite (or expand our laptop provision) to enable our students to continue their independent study at school beyond the school day.
- We would like to refurbish our school hall to create a space with better AV equipment to support our school events.
- We would like to further upgrade our school astrodome and observatory to ensure its wider use in lessons and beyond something unique to our school.
- We would like to increase the breadth and depth of our enrichment projects, giving us the resources to employ coaches to support our students' creativity such as visiting artists, authors, lecturers. This would also cover the costs of competitions - our students often get to regional / national finals which are often cost-prohibitive.

### **Mrs Alexis Williamson-Jones**

Headteacher

### **HOW MUCH TO DONATE**

Obviously how much you choose to donate is a personal decision and entirely voluntary. Parents often ask us how much we think is reasonable.

Most parents donate £50 per month via direct debit, although some choose to donate more – it's entirely up to you. Every pound you give us, no matter the value, helps us deliver exciting and rewarding activities for your children.

Obviously, it makes it much easier for us to plan the usage of this investment if we receive regular donations rather than one off gifts.

### WHAT IS GIFT AID?

As a member of the Girls' Learning Trust, Nonsuch High School for Girls has the same status as a charity. Gift Aid allows UK charities to claim back the basic rate tax already paid on donations by the donor. This means we can claim back from the government on your behalf 25p for every £1 donated, boosting the value of the donation by a quarter.

You can find out more about Gift Aid here: <a href="www.gov.uk/donating-to-charity/gift-aid">www.gov.uk/donating-to-charity/gift-aid</a>.

### **HOW TO DONATE**

Donating money to the School Fund couldn't be easier. There are three different ways depending on your preference.

#### 1. STANDING ORDER

For those who prefer to make a regular donation via standing order, we've attached the forms you'll need to complete to this information pack.

You can return these forms electronically by adding a scanned version of your signature, and then emailing this directly to us: <a href="mailto:finance@girlslearningtrust.org">finance@girlslearningtrust.org</a>

Or you can print the forms and return them to us via the School Office – where we also have hard copies already printed if that's easier.

### 2. ONE OFF DONATION BY DEBIT CARD

We have set up a special donation page with our trusted provider ParentPay where you can make a one-off card payment.

https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=15060

Please ensure you use the reference code YEAR / TUTOR GROUP / FULL NAME OF STUDENT to help us to identify it.

### 3. BANK TRANSFER

We are also able to receive donations via bank transfer. Please ensure you use the reference code YEAR / TUTOR GROUP / FULL NAME OF STUDENT to help us to identify it.

Account Number: 01682590

Sort Code: 30-98-36

If you choose to donate this way, we are only able to receive Gift Aid if you complete the attached form and return it to the School Office.

## STANDING ORDER FORM

Please complete, sign and return the standing order (and gift aid declaration if applicable) to: FAO School Fund, Nonsuch High School for Girls, Ewell Road, Cheam, Surrey, SM3 8AB. We will then forward to your bank for processing.

Your full name and initials	
Your full address and postcode	
Name of bank or building society	
Address of bank or building society	
Sort code	//
Account number	
Name of account holder	
Payment Reference	YEAR / TUTOR GROUP (if known) / FULL NAME OF STUDENT

Please pay the following to: Lloyds Bank plc, 49/53 High Street, Sutton, Surrey, SM1 1DT (Sort Code 30-98-36, Account Number: 01682590) for the credit of the account of Girls Learning Trust School Fund 2.

Amount	£
On the same date	Monthly / Quarterly / Annually
Date commencing	
Date finishing	

Signature	
Date	
Student name	

### GIFT AID DECLARATION FORM

Completing this form boosts your donation by 25%. For example, for an annual donation of £600 this means another £150 is automatically added at no extra cost to yourself.

In order to Gift Aid your donation you must tick the box below		
	I want to Gift Aid my donation and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past four years to Nonsuch High School for Girls.	
	I am a UK tax payer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.	
Donor title	Dr / Mr / Mrs / Miss / Ms / Other	
Donor full forenames		
Donor surname		
Donor full address and postcode		

Please notify the charity if you:

- Want to cancel this declaration
- Change your name or home address
- No longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains

If you pay income tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment Tax Return or ask HMRC to adjust your tax code.

Donor signature	
Date	