



# Lymm High School Development Fund

## What is the Development Fund?

The Lymm High School Development Fund will be used to support and improve the facilities at the school so that students continue to receive a first class academic education alongside the wide range of high quality extra-curricular experiences that we are so well known for.

The fund relies upon the generosity and commitment of current and former students, parents, staff, governors, and other friends of Lymm High School.

## Why do we need the Development Fund?

Our main source of funding comes from the government and, as with nearly all state schools, we have seen a very significant decline in our income in real terms over the past few years. All the signs are that this is set to continue and we are being pro-active in ensuring that we continue to improve the overall quality of education for our young people.

We are very fortunate to be blessed with fabulous grounds and facilities at Lymm High School; very few schools of any type can, for example, boast of sports fields as beautiful or as extensive as ours and even fewer are lucky enough to own a facility like Tyn-Y-Felin. At the same time, it costs a great deal to maintain these facilities to the standard that students and parents are entitled to expect and the challenge involved in doing so is increasing.

There is a central government fund to which we can apply (and do so annually) for money for large capital projects, but applications are by no means guaranteed success and tend to favour projects relating to basic provision, such as replacement of boilers or roofs. This scheme will not be able to meet our needs in the coming years, which is why we need the Development Fund.

## What will the money be spent on?

The Development Office will work with the Governing Body, staff, the PTA and the students' School Council in order to identify suitable projects. Initially, we are likely to focus on relatively small-scale capital projects but, as the fund grows, we aim to be able to undertake more substantial projects (for example, we would love to build a larger canteen and a state of the art Performing Arts space in due course).

The immediate priority is to refurbish the PE changing rooms, which are in need of a facelift. Any money we raise this year is likely to go towards this project in the first instance.

## Can I specify what my donation is spent on?

Typically, it is most useful and most efficient for the school have the flexibility to use the money wherever the need is greatest. However, sometimes donors specify a particular project or resource that they would like their gift to be used for and we are always happy to accommodate such requests.

## **Are there other ways of helping the school, aside from financial contributions?**

Absolutely! We are always delighted to receive offers to support the education of our young people in whatever guise. For example, parents may have contacts with local businesses or individuals who can provide work experience placements, mock interviews or extra-curricular activities. Sometimes, local businesses are able to make contributions 'in kind' by providing their services at no or little cost, which can be extremely helpful. If you are able to help support the school in any way at all, please do contact us.

Joining the PTA is also a very effective way of helping the school. This does not necessarily mean a huge time commitment on your part - you can simply come and help out at school events when you can and coming to meetings affords you the opportunity to share your skills and ideas as well as meeting other parents and teachers.

## **How can I donate?**

The next page contains details of the different ways in which gifts can be made.

## How to Donate

<p><b>Regular donations</b></p>	<p>You can complete a standing order form which we will send to your bank and which you can cancel at any time, allowing you to make a donation annually, quarterly or monthly. Feedback from parents revealed that most would appreciate us providing a recommended figure for donations and we are suggesting £5 per child per month. However, we would be grateful for any amount people can afford.</p> <p>Please download the standing order form from the school website.</p> <p><b>Please note:</b> Donors who are liable at the higher rate of income tax can, additionally, claim tax relief for the difference between the higher rate and the basic rate of income tax using self-assessment forms.</p>
<p><b>Parent Pay (for parents and carers only)</b></p>	<p>We have set up Parent Pay to enable a voluntary annual donation and parents/carers will see this when you log on to credit your account in the summer term. In line with the suggested amount for regular donations, the default payment is £60 (Parent Pay doesn't easily allow monthly payments so this one-off £60 is the equivalent of £5 per month over a year). However, Parent Pay allows parents to pay whatever amount they would like and it is easy to pay more or less than this figure. <b>Please note, contributions are <u>entirely voluntary</u> and it is absolutely not our intention that any parent or carer feels obliged to pay.</b></p> <p>There is an option to Gift Aid your donation and we'd really appreciate it if you could do this; this allows the school to claim an additional 25% of the amount you donate.</p>
<p><b>Employer donations</b></p>	<p>Sometimes local companies like to make donations to help the school. If your employer would like to contribute (or indeed if you run a business yourself), either for a specific project or more generally, please contact Mrs McGuffie.</p> <p>Local companies may be interested in our <b>'Sponsor a Classroom'</b> programme, where they receive positive publicity from the school, including their company name attached to a classroom, in return for donations.</p>
<p><b>"Easy Fundraising"</b></p>	<p>This is a great way to raise funds for the school – every time you shop online, instead of going straight to the online store you want, go to <a href="http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk">www.easyfundraising.org.uk</a> and then select the store you want. This tells the shop you accessed their website via Easy Fundraising and they will then give you a cash reward of up to 15% of your purchase total that you can turn into a donation for the school – you don't pay any extra!</p>

	Simply shop online at places like Amazon, M&S or John Lewis, but set your homepage or a bookmark as Easyfundraising for Lymm High School. Once it is set up, you shop this way every time and raise funds whilst you shop.
<b>One-off donation</b>	Some people may wish to give only once, or only very occasionally. Any such donations are always most welcome. Please contact Mrs Chambers on 01925 755458 and she will be able to add the amount you wish to donate to your Parent Pay account.
<b>Payroll Giving</b>	If your company or employer participates in the Payroll Giving scheme, you may be able to donate to Lymm High School direct from your earnings, before income tax is deducted. See HMRC's website for further details ( <a href="http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/businesses/giving/payroll-giving.htm">www.hmrc.gov.uk/businesses/giving/payroll-giving.htm</a> ). Many companies also offer matched donations (see below).
<b>Legacy donations</b>	You may wish to remember Lymm High School in your will. For further advice on how to arrange this, please visit: <a href="http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/individuals/giving/will.htm">www.hmrc.gov.uk/individuals/giving/will.htm</a>
<b>Company matched giving/funding schemes</b>	<p>Many employers provide funding for charitable organisations such as our PTA through 'matched giving' schemes. These vary slightly from employer to employer, but the basic idea is that companies will match donations made to the school by individual employees – thus doubling the amount the school receives. The companies themselves can offset these donations against tax and it forms part of their 'corporate social responsibility'.</p> <p>Visit our website for a list of companies (by no means exhaustive!) that we understand currently match gifts donated by employees. If your employer is not listed, please contact your Human Resources department to find out if they operate a matching gift scheme. In most cases, the company will match your donation pound for pound up to a specific level. If you work for a company that isn't listed below, it's still worth asking the HR department whether they do have such a scheme or even if they are prepared to start doing it.</p>