



The Arnewood School

11-19 Academy

Working Together - Shaping Tomorrow

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Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing on behalf of the Governing Body of The Arnewood School to thank those of you who have taken the time to respond to Mr Pressnell's letter regarding 'School Funding and Staffing', dated February 2019.

With public funding of schools under constant pressure, the staff and governors of The Arnewood School are working hard to ensure that pupils continue to receive an education provision that is diverse and of a high standard. Our school is not alone. In a poll conducted by the National Association of Headteachers last year only 8% of leaders said they could foresee a year where they would not have an untenable school budget. A staggering 86% had already had to make cuts in support staff to make their budgets balance and over a third had been forced to reduce teaching staff.

Mr Pressnell has received a range of suggestions from parents regarding how the community may be able to support the school and these were discussed at a recent governing body meeting.

Parent and Staff Association

Several people are keen to bring together parents, staff and the local community to raise funds to support the school. The process of reinstating a Parent and Staff Association includes many steps, including discussions with the school, gauging interest from parents and staff, launching the group, writing a constitution and charity registration before commencing fundraising. There would then be opportunities to request 'matched funding' from employers and to apply for various grants. A small group of parents are currently working on this but it will take time and they will need more help.

However, there are a couple of fundraising initiatives that can start immediately, including:

- School fundraising with 'Stikins' – the school receives 30% commission when parents/carers purchase name labels via the following link: <https://www.arnewood.hants.sch.uk/parents/school-life/uniform/>. Please quote the school fundraising number 36030.
- 'Your School Lottery' – unlike most other lotteries you are able to support your school directly. As a supporter, you can join for as little as £1 per week and for this, you will have the chance of winning a guaranteed weekly prize PLUS entry into the weekly £25,000 grand prize draw too! More information can be found here: <https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/the-arnewood-school-hampshire/supporter>



Voluntary Contributions

Another suggestion has been to request voluntary contributions from parents for a specific priority identified by the school. For this academic year, The Arnewood School would like to replace all the computers in one of the existing ICT suites, as they are obsolete. The cost to replace them is £10,000 and this would benefit all students, as technology is now so critical to all aspects of education. With approximately 500 families involved with the school, we can achieve this target if each family offers a one-off, voluntary contribution of £20. *This equates to just over ten pence per school day.*

Many schools throughout the country regularly ask parents to offer a voluntary contribution to help improve the overall student experience and ensure the continued provision of a multitude of opportunities on offer. We would like to encourage families to do this on an annual, one-off basis if they are able to.

You can pay your voluntary contribution of £20 (or more/less as circumstances permit) on Scopay here: <https://www.scopay.com/arnewood?redirect=true>

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for reading this letter and hope that we can work as a school community to continue to invest in the future of all children at The Arnewood School.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elizabeth Cook', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Elizabeth Cook
Chair of Governors