

September 2016

Dear Parents,

## Parents' Gift Aid Scheme 2016

We are pleased that your son or daughter has selected St. Aidan's for their A Level studies.

As you are aware, as a Church of England School, St. Aidan's enjoys a distinctive status among other secondary schools in the area. You may also know that St. Aidan's is an Academy, and as such our Gift Aid Scheme continues to be absolutely essential to enable us to pay some of our building costs and maintain a high quality environment in the school.

The Gift Aid Scheme at St. Aidan's has been in operation since the school's foundation in 1967. Even in a large school like St. Aidan's, funding has never been tighter. We remain hugely ambitious for our school and hence for your child's education. St. Aidan's has gone through massive changes in recent years and much of the school has been rebuilt, and this has only been possible because of parental generosity. There is an urgent need for us to refurbish several areas of the school in order to bring them up to the standard of the rest of the school. that are in need of updating, maintenance, repair and bringing up to the standard of the rest of the school. These areas include the top floor of the English block, the annexes adjacent to Bede House and a number of other classrooms around the school. Furthermore, the Astroturf synthetic sports pitch is being replaced in the forthcoming year. Recently the following projects have been undertaken, all supported by the Gift Aid Scheme.

- Reception redesign and development
- New windows and refurbishment of a number of History classrooms
- Creation of a study facility on the first floor of Bede House
- Refurbishment of communal areas

The Governors have decided to invite each family to make a donation for their son or daughter of between £72 and £120 per year, subject, of course to your being able to afford these amounts. If you prefer to contribute monthly, we would suggest a donation of between £6 and £10 per month. Please let us reassure you that such donations are entirely voluntary, confidential and not known to anyone other than the Finance administration team.

If you are a taxpayer, you can make your contribution to the school more valuable by completing the enclosed Gift Aid Declaration, which will add 25% to the value of your donation at no extra cost to yourself.

The Governors and staff are committed to providing the best possible education for your son or daughter within an outstanding learning environment. We would very much appreciate your help in this task. Whilst we would prefer to receive gifts by

Headteacher: Mr J Wood

banker's order, a donation by cheque will also benefit from the legislation providing you complete the Gift Aid declaration enclosed.

If you have any queries about this scheme, please contact the Bursar at school. Thanking you in anticipation of your generous support of the work at St. Aidan's.

If you already contribute to the scheme for your child, please accept our apologies for the request and you may ignore this letter.

Yours sincerely

John Wood Headteacher

Claire Kelley Chair of Governors

Please return to the Finance Office at St. Aidan's as soon as possible and, preferably by 23<sup>rd</sup> October latest

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Name of student:......Form:.....

Please find enclosed:

A completed Gift Aid declaration form

A completed Banker's Order

I am not able to donate at this time

\* Please tick as appropriate

Please return to: The Finance Office St. Aidan's CE High School, Oatlands Drive, Harrogate, HG2 8JR