



Bishop Wordsworth's School

Exeter Street, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP1 2ED

Telephone: 01722 333851

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Website: www.bws-school.org.uk

Head Master: Dr S D Smallwood BSc (Hons) PhD NPQH

20 October 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians

I am writing to you to bring the attached letter regarding the school's Gift Aid Scheme to your attention. This year – for the first time – the letter was issued electronically with all of the other joining papers, and I fear that it may have become a little 'buried' in the rush leading up to the start of term. As a result, the number of Year 7 parents who have opted to support BWS is markedly reduced on previous years.

It is hard to over-estimate the importance of the scheme to the school. As you will know, schools generally remain underfunded and grammar schools especially so. Without the Gift Aid Scheme it is simply not possible to offer the breadth and depth of our programme, and future developments which will benefit your boy(s) simply won't happen. It really is that stark.

Please read through the letter and then sign up to the scheme if you feel that you can; all the necessary details are there for you. Any size of commitment is welcome, as if we all work together then all of the boys benefit.

Thank you

Stuart Smallwood
Head Master



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May 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians

Boys who are admitted to Bishop's are part of a very fortunate 4% minority able to benefit from the quality of education available in one of the country's remaining 163 selective schools (from the high water mark of 1379 grammar schools in the mid-1960s). Thus we are both very fortunate and proud that for more than 125 years Bishop's has been a centre of academic excellence in the heart of Salisbury.

Sadly, as many of you will realise, our pre-eminent position has been threatened with incremental reductions in funding over successive years. Since 2013-14 we have lost over £400,000 per annum, while at the same time we have had to absorb the cost of significant changes to the National Insurance and superannuation schemes. We hope that in due course the introduction of the National Funding Formula will at last iron out the regional variations in schools' funding; these hit us particularly hard because Wiltshire is one of the most poorly funded local authorities in the country.

Therefore, we are writing to you to request that you sign up to the Bishop's Gift Aid Income Appeal Scheme. Quite simply, the only way to avoid any further erosion of what we offer is to turn to our hugely supportive parent body and to ask for whatever financial assistance you are able to give (the form is attached to this letter). It is only with your help that we can add the distinctive edge that sets Bishop's apart.

On a brighter note, through the generosity of parents who respond to our Income Appeal, we have not only remained in the black but also been able to retain some of the most committed members in the teaching profession; complete a brand new teaching block for Mathematics and for pastoral offices (public funding was insufficient); refurbish two science laboratories; build a new Reception; create a new classroom in the 'Paddock Block'; deliver site-wide Wi-Fi; purchase a 14-seater minibus (in addition to the fabulous 17-seater purchased by the BWSPA); refurbish a Design Technology room; improve the recreational outdoor space; and purchase a double decker bus for overflow seating from the dining hall! The Income Appeal really does make a massive difference to the life of this fantastic school!

Please help me and my staff to do what we all entered the teaching profession for – to help your boys achieve fantastic things each and every year. In Bishop's, Salisbury really does have something to be proud of – please do what you can do to help us preserve it.

Yours faithfully

Dr S D Smallwood
Head Master

Miss J Horsburgh
Chair of Governors

GIFT AID

Gift Aid is a scheme from HM Revenue & Customs that allows us to reclaim an extra 25% on your donations made during the past 4 years, as well as on all future donations, without costing you a penny. This means if you donate £40 we can claim £10 making your gift worth £50.

GIFT AID DECLARATION

Bishop Wordsworth's School Income Appeal

Title..... Forename(s) Surname

Address

.....

..... Post Code

Son's Name Year Group

I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities or Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify.

Signature Date

For Office Use: MOP

Donor Record
No.

Bankers Order in favour of Bishop Wordsworth's School

To the Manager of Bank plc, Bank Branch..... Sort Code...../...../.....

Address..... Postcode.....

Account in the name of:..... Account Number.....

Please pay Lloyds Bank, Salisbury, SP1 1DA, (Sort Code 30-97-41) for the credit of

Bishop Wordsworth's School (Gift Aid) Account No 03905201, the sum of

£20 £40 £50 £100 or other amount **£**

I wish to donate £ (in words)

Please start on ___ / ___ / ___ and each month until further notice.

Title..... Forenames Surname.....

Address..... Postcode.....

Signature..... Date.....

If you would prefer to set up an Online Standing Order Payment yourself please tick box

Please return to: **The Finance Office, Bishop Wordsworth's School, Exeter Street, Salisbury SP1 2ED**

Telephone 01722 333851; Fax 01722 325899; email finance@bws.wilts.sch.uk
[Registered Charity No. 309475]