



Dear Parents,

School Building Fund – Academic Year September 2024 – July 2025

I am writing to you on behalf of the Local Governing Body to explain why St. Cross needs financial support from our parents, and to ask you to join the parents who already help our school. While most of our income is derived from Government funds, as a Catholic Academy, should we be able to contribute 10% of the cost for major improvements and for the maintenance of our school buildings then we are awarded more Condition Improvement Fund points. This can result in a higher chance of a successful bid. The Diocese of Westminster Schools' Building Fund was set up in 1988 to help support capital projects and maintenance works within Catholic Schools and contributes 90% of the funding.

In November 2020 an inspection of the school was carried out which highlighted the need to improve and maintain the water hygiene system. It also identified the need for installing fire doors throughout the school to ensure the highest standards of safety for our children. I am pleased to say that we were successful in our bid to install the fire doors and this project has now taken place. We are now in the process of preparing two new bids to improve the school's water system and to replace the heating system.

These are both major projects. To help finance these projects we ask that each family makes a voluntary contribution to ensure that the school can continue to maintain and improve the facilities for the benefit of all the children and staff. Please note that although this contribution is very much appreciated, it is voluntary, there is no obligation to make any contribution, and children of parents who do not contribute will not be treated any differently.

We suggest a voluntary donation of £60 per child or £100 per family for the academic year September 2024 to July 2025. The ideal method of contributing to the Building Fund is through establishing a standing order to pay this in either monthly instalments, or a one-off payment. Please do so to the following account details:

Sort Code: 16-01-09

Payee: St Cross School SBF

Account number: 00165736

Bank: RBS

I have attached the Gift Aid Declaration which is optional but very important to us. If you are a UK taxpayer it allows us to reclaim the tax you have paid on your donation which will make a huge difference to the Building Fund. This provides an added bonus to St Cross Catholic School and can add considerably to the income of the Building Fund - an extra 28p extra for every £1 contributed by parents.

If you have any queries or would like to scan your Gift Aid form back to us then please do so to buildingfund@stcross.herts.sch.uk. Many thanks for your support.

Yours sincerely,

Wendy Bolivar
Chair of the Local Governing Body