

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **The Friends of Droitwich Spa High School Appeal Fund**

The Friends of Droitwich Spa High School is a registered charity which exists to enrich and enhance the educational experiences available to members of Droitwich Spa High School. It is made up of parents, staff and students at the school.

In order to extend the ways in which The Friends add to the experience of students at the school, we have decided to instigate an annual appeal. The Committee of The Friends will then have funds to help activities or projects which it chooses to support. This fund will not be used to provide basic needs, but to enhance facilities or create additional opportunities for our children. In deciding which projects to support we shall consult other parents, the staff and the school council. The list below shows some of the school's current needs and illustrates the kind of requests which the committee might have to consider.

- Updating the lighting and sound systems in the theatre, purchase of new projector and new staging accessories
- Equipment for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme
- Equipment for Design and technology such as lathe tools, cutters, graphics kits, laser cutting materials, laser printer
- ICT equipment and software to enhance the work for various department
- Kindles and more up to date resources for the Library
- New kits for the sports teams

You will have learned from the local media that schools in Worcestershire have for many years been less well funded than those in most other parts of the country. In the current financial year, for example, the county was in the bottom 10 of 151 Local Authorities. This affects all Worcestershire's mainstream schools, whether they are academies or still with the Local Authority. The funding for each is calculated in the same way.

We know only too well that household budgets are still very tight and we would not want to add any unwelcome pressure. However, if you do feel able to contribute to the Friends of DSHS Appeal Fund, either by a one off donation or a monthly amount, we would all be very grateful. The Friends of DSHS will be eligible to claim Gift Aid so a £10 donation, for example, would be worth £13 to the school.

All contributions will be treated in confidence. We ask that all returns (even nil returns) are sent back to student reception or main reception no later than Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March. Please be aware that tutors are being asked for a 100% return and therefore the return of the envelope (even if a nil return) will be requested.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Yours sincerely,

Alison Battin

Parent and Chair of the PTFA

Iain Paston

Chair of Governors' Resources Committee and  
member of the PTFA

**Contribution to the Friends of Droitwich Spa High School Appeal Fund**

I wish to contribute

I enclose cash/a cheque (made payable to FDSHS) for:

£5.00    £10.00    £15.00    £20.00    £30.00    £50.00    Other (£.....)

I do not wish to contribute

Name ..... Signature ..... Date.....

Student Name..... Tutor Group.....

I am a regular tax payer and would like to Gift Aid my contribution (s)

**Gift Aid Declaration**

**Name of Charity: Friends of Droitwich Spa High School**

Details of donor

Title ..... Forename(s) ..... Surname .....

Address:.....

..... Post Code .....

I want the charity to treat:

the enclosed donation of £ ..... as a Gift Aid donation

all donations that I make from the date of this declaration until I notify you otherwise as Gift Aid donations

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. I understand the charity will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I give on or after 6 April 2008.

Date: ...../...../.....

Signature: .....

**Notes:**

1. You can cancel this Declaration at any time by notifying the charity.
2. If you pay tax at the higher rate you can claim further tax relief in your Self-Assessment tax return.
3. If in the future your circumstances change and you no longer pay tax on your income and capital gains equal to the tax that the charity reclaims, you can cancel your declaration.
4. If you are unsure whether your donations qualify for Gift Aid tax relief, ask the charity, or, refer to help sheet IR65 on the HMRC web site.
5. Please notify the charity if you change your name or address.

**Confidentiality**

This covenanting system protects parents/carers confidentiality. School staff do not know who is/is not donating and we recognise that some parents/carers will be unable to help us in this way.