



Bishop's Hatfield Girls' School

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13th November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Request for your help

At Bishop's we are always looking ahead and planning for how we can continue to improve the educational experience of our pupils and the working environment of our staff. You will be aware that the financial constraints on schools have been significant over recent years with funding not keeping pace with inflation. We think that it is vitally important that we do not let this get in the way of making exciting plans for the future of our school.

This letter is a request for offers of support from our school community with these plans.

Please read on to find out more about how you may be able to help us to give everyone plenty to look forward to in the coming years. This letter is not a request for financial donations (though these of course are always very welcome - see below) but a call for anyone who may have some time, knowledge, contacts or expertise that could help our school.

There are three key things that we want to focus on that we think should be the priorities for the school over the next few years:

- **Improvements to our buildings and facilities**
Although we are very fortunate to have fantastic modern facilities, the reality is that we are very pressured for space. Additionally our Pupil Support Centre (PSC) is over-due for replacement. The construction of some new facilities could have a significant impact on what we can offer our school and the local community.
- **ICT equipment and infrastructure**
We know that technology is developing at a rapid pace and we want to make sure that we have everything in place at school to enable us to embrace those changes and prepare our pupils for the modern technological world.
- **Environmental sustainability**
This is a high priority for our school community; pupils, staff and parents/carers. We want to make sure that we can seek out and implement any projects to improve our environmental sustainability - and reduce our energy bills!

As a school we have limited human capacity amongst our staff and governors to fully explore these plans and so we are seeking expertise and guidance from you to support us. In particular we want to avoid escalating costs at the early stages of our projects by having to buy in expertise.

"Pupils flourish and support each other to succeed"



Please do contact the school if you feel you have the skills, experience and a bit of time to help in any way. Key areas of interest/skills include:

- **Energy:** Environmentally friendly and energy efficiency projects such as solar power and LED lighting (planning/procurement/implementation)
- **Sustainability:** Expertise in sustainability and environmental policy development and planning
- **Building expertise:** Skills to assess the condition and likely lifespan of our portacabin unit and assess works required to extend the life of this
- **Planning:** Ability to review existing feasibility plans for a new block and assess likely costs
- **Surveyor expertise:** Architectural/surveying background and understanding of local planning regulations
- **Utilities and/or telecoms** contracts or installation
- **Funding:** Identifying sources of funding and bid writing
- **Fundraising:** Experience of leading or supporting fundraising programmes
- **Lettings:** experience/knowledge of lettings opportunities
- **IT Programmes:** experience of IT programmes including server replacement, use cloud based IT including Google apps and hardware procurement

If you feel you are able to assist with any of the above or are able to suggest other sources of help, please could you contact the School Business Leader, Mrs Debbie Daniel on ddaniel@bishophatfield.herts.sch.uk or 01707 282055.

Your help, even if only on a small scale, could bring about some great new opportunities for our pupils. You can of course also help by making a donation to the school and the details for how to do this can be found on our website here <https://bishophatfield.herts.sch.uk/support-us/>

Yours sincerely,

Mr Andrew North
Chair of Governors

Mr Alf Wood
Headteacher