

Specialisms in Media Art Mathematics and Computing

QEGS Development **Fund** 2010 Appeal



"An outstanding school" Ofsted November 2007

Dear Parent

Will you help us to provide the best for your daughter?

Queen Elizabeth's Girls' School and QEGSA, its Parent Teacher Association, want to give your daughter the best BUT it is increasingly difficult to provide this from government funding. Over the last few years, schools have been asked to make savings of 1% per year and we know that from next April things will be much more difficult. In September 2006 QEGSA set up a Development Fund supported by a monthly giving scheme with the aim of offering your daughter the highest quality educational facilities. The scheme has the full support of the school governors.

What is the purpose of the Development Fund?

We need to add to the money which the school receives from the government and to make sure that we raise more than QEGSA can raise through events alone. The Development Fund also gives the school a guarantee of additional income to invest to improve facilities for your daughters. As a registered charity, QEGSA can reclaim basic rate tax (28%) to increase the value of your donation.

How much would you like me to give?

The suggested minimum donation is £10 a month by direct debit. The school will be able to reclaim tax so that your donation would be worth £12.80. We appreciate that not everyone will be able to afford this amount, but we would welcome <u>anything</u> which you are able to give. One-off donations are also very welcome. Donations are completely confidential.

What has the Fund done so far?

The fund has made a real difference over the 5 years it has been running. It has purchased new tables for the dining room, contributed to equipping the Media Arts studio, contributed to the redesign and refurbishment of the school Library and on 2009-10 purchased a second mini-bus.

Why does the school still need your support?

The school has made several major investments in recent years to improve the accommodation—these have included the Meadway block extension and the new Lindani building which was completed this summer. We have funded these from our own resources because as a high achieving school we have not been a priority for investment. These improvements have exhausted our reserves. The next few years will be very difficult and we need as much parent support as possible if we are to maintain the level of staffing, upkeep of the buildings AND continue to invest in replacing textbooks, ICT equipment and everything we need to keep QEGS an outstanding school.

What will this year's project be?

We have two major projects. The most immediate priority is to replace our lighting and PA equipment in the school hall as these are now out of date and unreliable. This project will directly benefit all pupils as the Hall is heavily used for assemblies, teaching drama and dance, major school occasions and many performances by Dance, Drama, Music and Media. It is essential as a Media Arts specialist school that we have high quality lighting and sound systems which can enhance and support the delivery of the curriculum and school events and performances. This will cost £40,000. We also want to re-landscape the upper courtyard so that there it is more pleasant area for girls to sit and relax throughout the school year. This is really important as the school grounds are too wet for use at break and lunch for much of the year. Both of these projects would make a real difference to the whole school community but are beyond the scope of our budget.

Yours sincerely

Kate Webster

Previous projects which the Development Fund has contributed to



2006-7 QEGSA contributes to Dining Room furniture and Media equipment



2008 Development Fund contributes to refurbishment of library, including furniture, shelving and ICT equipment

Queen Elizabeth's Girls' School

2009 QEGSA buys new mini bus

The 2010-11 projects 1. Hall lighting and sound





Our lighting and PA system in the Hall need to be replaced. New lighting controls and lights will cost £25,000 and a new sound system will cost another £15,000. This would enable us to make the most of our limited stage and support a range of different performances. Ideally, we would reuse the existing lights and sound in the Drama Studio to enhance teaching and performance in the full range of Drama techniques which would cost £9000.

2. Courtyard landscaping, shade and seating





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