



# Streetsbrook Infant & Early Years Academy

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Dear Parents

## Re: Voluntary Contributions

At Streetsbrook we endeavour to ensure the curriculum is delivered in a way that makes learning real, stimulating and alive for all children. In order to maintain this high standard, we arrange many extra-curricular activities to enhance the learning experience making it exciting, memorable and fun.

As many of you will be aware from the letter Mrs Minter sent out earlier in the year, schools are facing significant funding challenges. In recent years it has become apparent that current budgets are unsustainable. The Governors and Senior Leadership Team at Streetsbrook have been grappling with these funding challenges, leading to a number of tough decisions being made. Whilst we have worked extremely hard to ensure that cuts have the least amount of impact on teaching as possible, with rising costs and a static budget we cannot guarantee that future cuts will not impact on core teaching.

It is also regrettable that the school budget can no longer fund, or even part-fund, the range of enrichment activities children at Streetsbrook benefit from. Therefore the Voluntary Contributions we receive from you are heavily relied upon to enrich our exciting curriculum.

A weekly contribution of £1.50 really does help!

We are unable to make this a compulsory contribution, and therefore when we request contributions from parents we refer to this as 'voluntary'; this reflects the fact that we cannot enforce payment. We would never isolate a child from an activity because a parent had not paid their contributions, but if we receive insufficient funds additional activities will not be able to take place for a whole class.

£1.50 per week pays for our weekly swimming lessons, and also helps towards the pool running costs. It also pays for authors, educational speakers/performers, workshops and other professionals we invite into school. Additional exciting resources are also purchased weekly to make topic work ever more topical! Voluntary Contributions are not used to pay for staff salaries.

Out of 237 children in School and Nursery last year, we had hoped to receive £13,864. Sadly this was not the case, resulting in a shortfall of £4,820:

- Full amount paid – 136 children
- Part payments (between £2.00-£58.00) - 42 children
- No payments – 59 children

I cannot stress how much we value these contributions, and thank those that have already made payment. As always, you can spread the cost over the year, choosing to pay weekly, half-termly, termly or annually. The termly amounts are noted in our newsletters and are also mentioned in ParentPay.

If you would like to discuss this with me in further detail, I'd be more than happy to meet with you.

Yours sincerely

Mr A Pierssene  
On behalf of the Governing Body Finance Committee

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