

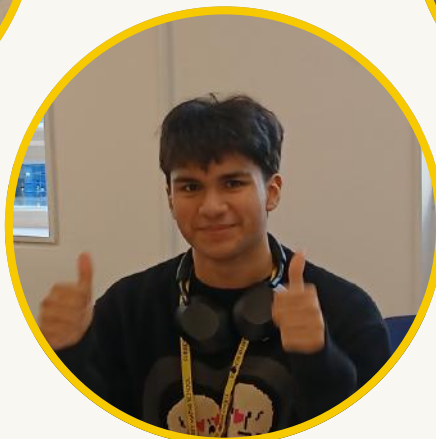
The SuMS Parent/Carer Donation Fund



SURREY
MATHS SCHOOL

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Co-Headteachers' Introduction

Dear Parent/Carer,

At Surrey Maths School (SuMS) our students do more than just study A levels. We are ambitious for every individual, and we strive to ensure that they have the opportunity to participate in a variety of extended-curriculum activities such as Problem-Solving lessons, national competitions (e.g. Senior Maths Challenge and Olympiads such as the British Chemistry Olympiad) and the SuMS Project Qualification (SPQ), as well as the Duke of Edinburgh Awards scheme. We work to support them to learn new skills, overcome obstacles, build confidence and resilience, and contribute back to society through volunteering. This is part of what makes SuMS unique: a real opportunity for enrichment and extension as part of the normal day-to-day curriculum.

As part of our mission we want to enable every student to access the broadest possible range of opportunities to develop, both academically and pastorally. In this brochure we will explain in more detail some of the projects for which we would like to raise funds, and the impact that we believe they will have upon your young people.

Warmest wishes,

Nora Kettleborough and Sahar Shillabeer

Why do we have a Parent/Carers Donation Fund?

At Surrey Maths School our mission is to provide opportunities for students with an interest and aptitude for mathematics, especially to those from backgrounds currently under-represented in the mathematical sciences.

We are fortunate that our educational provision including our core and extended curriculum is fully funded. However, we must look further ahead to make broader programmes such as Outreach, trips and other enrichment activities a sustainable reality.



Why do we have a Parent/Carers Donation Fund? (contd.)

As a state school we are funded by the government in the same way as other state schools. Over three quarters of this funding is spent on staffing costs, in line with other state schools.

We have access to a small stream of additional funding for Outreach activities, and a grant to counter the lack of economies of scale as a small school - but this does not enable us to provide all the extra-curricular enrichment that we know is of significant benefit to our students, particularly those who are financially disadvantaged.

We are hugely committed to ensuring that disadvantaged students are given the same opportunities as their peers through a high-quality inclusive educational experience. This means that our school needs financial backing with regards to supporting students who might be on Free School Meals (FSM) or receiving travel bursaries and/or discounted equipment such as laptops.

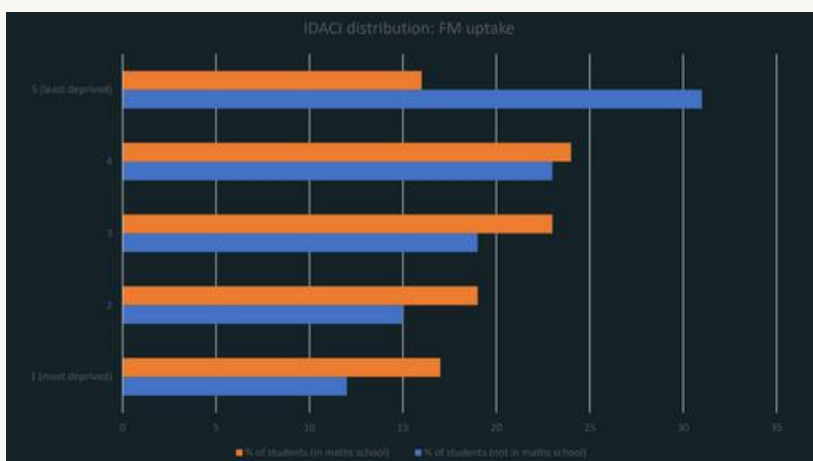
U-Maths, the University Maths Schools network, describes maths schools as “engines of social mobility, working with students from under-represented groups to widen participation in high-quality STEM degrees and careers”.

Maths schools are by design inclusive, diverse communities, with:

- 31% vs 27% female students
- Autism x 8.5 & 25% of the population
- 12.1% vs 4.6% FSM students (Free School Meals)

(Data correct as at 2024 - U-Maths)

Data gathered by U-Maths for the academic year ending 2024 clearly illustrates the significant positive impact that maths schools have upon outcomes for students from the most financially disadvantaged families. In all categories bar the “least deprived” a much greater percentage of maths school students go on to study Further Maths in higher education than students from other sixth form settings.



(Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index)

How will we use the SuMS Parent/Carer Donation Fund?

There are three areas of focus for the Parent/Carer Donation Fund:

1. Curriculum enhancement and enrichment
2. Targeted support for individual students/groups of students
3. Specific items

1. Curriculum enhancement and enrichment

Examples of curriculum enhancement and enrichment activities that you could support include:

Cultural trips programme

We are eager to develop a cultural programme at SuMS to ensure that all students can access and attend at least one cultural event across the year, every year, free of charge. This is important to ensure breadth and depth of student learning, beyond the STEM-focused subjects taught at the school and ranges across music to sport, theatre and gaming conferences.

Access to Mental Health First Aid training for students

Access to Mental Health First Aid training is of growing importance for young people so that they know how to look after each other and keep each other safe. We aspire to give all of our students a basic level of training, and to work with a smaller group of Wellbeing Champions who will receive more in-depth training and take a leadership role within the school in this area. We do not receive any funding for Mental Health from the Department for Education.

We are keen to explore further ways in which we can enrich our curriculum and we would welcome your ideas too - please get in touch if you would like to discuss this area with us.



How will we use the SuMS Parent/Carer Donation Fund? (contd.)

2. Targeted support for individual students/groups of students

Examples of targeted support to which you could contribute include:

Individual student learning support packages

Providing bespoke funding packages to support a specific student through their time at SuMS, offering anything from: resources for learning, equipment for learning at home, IT equipment, travel bursaries and funding school trips and visits, including residential.

Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme

Funding to ensure that disadvantaged students can fully participate in the Duke of Edinburgh scheme, including the Silver or Gold multi-night Expeditions and purchase required kit. Currently the cost of participating is in the region of £650 for the Gold Award or £430 for the Silver Award, not including the costs of purchasing the required Expedition kit and any costs associated with the Residential section.

We are keen to explore further ways in which we can deliver targeted support to our students and would welcome your ideas too - please get in touch with us if you would like to discuss this area.

3. Specific items

Examples of specific items that you could support include:

Specialist equipment

We have several rooms, ranging from classrooms to study spaces, SEND spaces, a prayer room to a canteen which will require specialist equipment.

School library

No school is complete without a library! And this is even more important in a school where the subjects taught are generally non-literary in nature.

We need fiction and diversity in our novels – a whole section by female authors perhaps, and another by black authors. It will be a celebratory and exciting space which all students will be encouraged to use regularly.

We are keen to explore other specific items that could deliver real benefits to our students and we would welcome your ideas too - please get in touch with us if you'd like to discuss this area.



How will we use the SuMS Parent/Carer Donation Fund? (contd.)

In the table below we have included some example costs associated with the priorities that we'd like to address via our Parent/Carer Donations Fund. In line with other local schools we are suggesting a monthly donation of £15 (or whatever you can afford) to help us deliver on these priorities for our students.

Focus Area	Specific project	Target to raise
Curriculum Enhancement and Enrichment	Cultural trips programme	£5,000
	Mental Health First Aid training for students - approx. £325 per student	£3,250
Targeted support for individual students/groups of students	Individual student learning support packages	£2,000
	Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme - approx. £650 per student	£2,600
Specific items	Teaching rooms / specialist equipment	Limitless!
	School library	Limitless!



How can you donate?

We recognise that every family's financial situation is different, and can change as time goes on. We also want every family to feel able to contribute should you wish to, and it is certainly true that "every little helps". A monthly donation of anything from £1 to £100 will make a great deal of difference to our students; anything that you can contribute will be used entirely for their benefit. If you are keen to donate, and are able to do so, we'd be very grateful if you could set up a monthly Standing Order (e.g. for £15) using these details:

Bank name: Lloyds Bank

Account name: Surrey Maths School

Account number: 88055068

Sort code: 30-93-74

If your bank enables you to add a payment reference, please just add your surname and "Parent Carer Donation Fund" or "PCDF".

Donations made through Gift Aid mean that SuMS can claim an extra 25p for every £1 you give. It will not cost you any extra and in fact means that higher rate tax payers can claim extra tax relief on their earnings. In order for us to be able to do this you will need to complete a Gift Aid declaration and must have paid at least as much tax as the Gift Aid being claimed on your donation by the school. Please [CLICK HERE](#) to complete your Gift Aid Declaration.

Please note that all donations are confidential and we will never share details of anyone's donations outside of our Senior Leadership Team.

Other ways to give

We recognise that not every family will feel comfortable (or able) to donate a monthly sum. If you are able to make a one-off donation at any time we will be very grateful for that.

We greatly value other forms of contribution too; for example, do you have a skill that you could share with our students? Perhaps you are trained in presentation skills and would like to help some of our young people to build their confidence and capability?

- Could you visit us in school and speak to the students about your career, to inform their "future pathways" thinking?
- Maybe you could support them by offering interview practice as they prepare for their next steps after SuMS?
- Perhaps your workplace is in an area of STEM and we could arrange a visit for some of our students?
- Do you work for a company that would like to support us?



Other ways to give (contd.)

If any of these ideas (or others) sound like ways in which you could support our young people, please email us on office@surreymathsschool.co.uk; we'd love to talk to you!

Free donations:

Do you shop online, for food...clothes...gifts...anything?! If so, you can use the website easyfundraising.org.uk to easily raise funds for SuMS - at zero cost to you. It is simple to sign up, and you can add a reminder to your internet browser if you wish, so that every time you go online to make a purchase SuMS will receive a small donation - at zero cost to you!

Please click this QR code to go straight to Surrey Maths School's page on the easyfundraising website:



How will we report on this to you?

It is important to us that we report openly and honestly to you on donations received through the SuMS Parent/Carer Donation Fund and how we are using the fund to benefit SuMS students.

We intend to update you regularly through our parent/carers newsletter, to ensure that you have visibility of how your contributions are supporting the educational experience of our students, and the difference that you are making. At the end of each academic year we will also provide you with a summary report detailing funds raised, the initiatives into which we have prioritised investment, and the impact that this work has had upon our students' educational experience at SuMS.



Thank you for your support!

We look forward to you starting your fundraising journey with us and making a positive impact upon our wonderful students.





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