

Dear parents/carers

## **Welcome**

Welcome to the Strode's College community. I am delighted that your son/daughter is joining us in September and hope that their time at the College will be happy and successful. We are here to provide the best possible education and support. In return, we ask students to respond by regular and punctual attendance, completing work to required deadlines and by making a commitment to regular and effective study.

Strode's College provides a wealth of new opportunities for young people. This makes for an exciting and enjoyable time. It is also, of course, challenging, as College students are expected to take more responsibility for themselves, exercising choices, making decisions and planning and organising work. To help with this adjustment, all students have a Personal Tutor who sees them through the transition, monitors their overall progress at College, and provides support and guidance along the way, including the preparation for future employment or further study. In this way we foster a strong relationship between Tutor and student and we try to identify difficulties before they become problems or crises. We rely on support from home in helping students to develop greater independence; we are very keen to hear of any concerns you may have and welcome all feedback.

Your son/daughter is joining us at a time when the educational landscape is changing. For many years, Government funding for sixth form colleges has been significantly lower than for schools, and the funding rates per student have fallen sharply in recent years. As a result, like Colleges across the country, Strode's College has to raise income in addition to that received from the Government to preserve and protect the quality of our educational provision.

## **Can you help?**

Can you make a contribution to Strode's, to help us meet our goals?

We rely on generous support from parents who share our vision, to invest in additional activities, facilities and services to enhance students' learning and their overall College experience. We request that all parents make a financial contribution to the College to help us in this way.

I would like you to consider making a monthly donation to the College. As a guide we recommend that all parents make a monthly gift of £10, to support the College's students. If all parents made a monthly gift of £10 each year we could raise over £100,000 per year! But we would, of course, be grateful to receive donations at any level, and one off gifts are also very welcome. I enclose details of how we are planning to spend the money we receive from parents this year.

If you could make a more sizable donation to the College, and would like to find out more about how your money could be spent, please call Rachel Burgess, our Director of Finance & Business, who will be pleased to speak with you. And if you have any general questions about the College please do get in touch.

As we are registered with HMRC for charitable purposes we can claim gift aid on your donation if you pay income tax. This means we can reclaim an extra 25p for every £1 you give, without any extra cost to you.

**And finally...**

Please fill out the form attached to make your contribution. Or alternatively you can donate online using Virgin Money Giving. Simply use the web link below and search for Strode's College in the 'find a charity' section to make your donation:

<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com>

I look forward to a successful partnership between the College, our students and their families. You play a very important role in the success of our students.

Yours faithfully

Rowan Cookson  
Principal

## How will we use the funds raised?

You can either donate to the College's general funds or, using the donation form below, you can select one of the following projects:

### 1) Learning Centre: books and resources

Strode's College's Learning Centre (LC) is a fantastic study resource for our students. In this sizeable open plan study space there are a large number of computers, online journals, newspapers, magazines, DVDs and books, as well as a variety of e-resources. The LC has many individual study spaces and networked computers which are available on an open access 'drop-in' basis and these are divided into silent, quiet and group study areas to suit all learning needs.



Your donation will be used to purchase additional resources to ensure a wide range of materials are always available to students. Just a few pounds can contribute to a new book or journal that can enhance a student's learning.

### 2) Student café refurbishment



Our spacious airy café serves meals throughout the day and provides a space for students to have a relaxing break during their busy College day. The café provides a wide variety of food choices which students can enjoy in a welcoming and friendly environment overlooking our large sports fields. In response to feedback from our Student Parliament we are committed to improving and enhancing the space.

Your donation will contribute towards a refurbishment of this area, including outdoor decking and parasols to make the best use of the outside space, as well as new facilities inside such as a video screen and furniture.

### 3) Sports activities and equipment

Students' health and wellbeing is very important to us here at Strode's College. We offer all students the opportunity to become involved in a range of additional cross-college sporting activities. Your donation will support sporting enrichment activities for students and, with your support, we can run activities such as BoxFit, Zumba, Yoga and Sports teams such as football, netball, rugby and basketball. Your donations will also be used to buy and maintain much-needed sports equipment for the students.



### 4) Enhance our premises – Urban Garden project

Strode's College spends over £500,000 a year maintaining its historic premises and grounds and your support can play a crucial role in helping to maintain facilities for students. A key project this year is developing our 'Urban Garden' area. This is a paved courtyard space for students, with seating, a large canopy for shelter and various landscaped planters. A small group of students have set up an 'Urban Garden Society' to further improve this area. Your donation will support additional enhancements to the Urban Garden, including new plants, features and furniture.



# Voluntary Contribution Form

## YOUR DETAILS

Full name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Student name \_\_\_\_\_

Student ID \_\_\_\_\_

## I WOULD LIKE MY DONATION TO GO TOWARDS (please tick):

1. Learning Centre books and resources
2. Student Café refurbishment
3. Sports activities and equipment
4. Urban Garden project
5. General College funds

## YOUR DONATION

- A regular gift by standing order – please complete the standing order form attached and/or:
- A single gift
- Amount of gift:  £90
- Other £ \_\_\_\_\_

- I enclose a cheque payable to Strode's College
- Please charge my credit card as follows

Cardholder number (16 digits):

\_\_\_\_\_

Name on card \_\_\_\_\_

Card expiry date  
mm/yy      \_\_ \_\_ / \_\_ \_\_

Last three digits  
on signature strip    \_\_ \_\_ \_\_

Contact email  
address \_\_\_\_\_

Contact  
telephone \_\_\_\_\_

I authorise you to charge the above amount to my Credit card detailed above.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## GIFT AID DECLARATION

*giftaid it*

Please treat as Gift Aid donations all qualifying gifts of money made (please tick):

- Today
- In the past four years
- In the future

I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for the current tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities and Strode's College that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for the current 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 have given.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Please notify the College if you:

- Want to cancel this declaration
- Change your name or home address
- No longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains.

*If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.*

Please send your completed form (with cheque if applicable) to: The Finance Office, Strode's College, High Street, Egham TW20 9DR. Thank you.



## STANDING ORDER MANDATE

To The Manager:  
(Your Bank) \_\_\_\_\_  
Bank Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please Pay to: Strode's College  
HSBC Bank  
61 High Street  
Staines  
TW20 9DX

Account Number: 21406647

Sort Code: 40-43-04

Banks: please quote this reference \_\_\_\_\_ (College to complete)

I would like to  
make a regular  
payment of:  
(please tick)

£10

£20

Other £ \_\_\_\_\_

Annually; or

Monthly; or

Quarterly

Starting on \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

Until further

notice or until \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

### My bank details

Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Sort Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Account name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please send your completed form to: The Finance Office, Strode's  
College, High Street, Egham TW20 9DR. Thank you.