



31<sup>st</sup> January 2018

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Dear Parents/Carers

As you may remember we wrote to you last year to outline the school's financial position and the need for a school fund for parental contributions. Last year you have helped us to raise nearly £20,000 and we would like to offer our huge thanks for your support. We would also like to give you an update on the current position.

The government have been looking at setting up a new funding formula; we believe this new formula will eventually benefit Edgbarrow. At present we continue to have a cash flat budget settlement which means that the school has to absorb any cost increases by generating savings. Should the new formula be put in place we may receive some relief from September 2018. Our provisional figures show that we may receive an increase in spending of 0.2% above inflation – this will mean it's the first year in the last 4 that we are not expecting to have to make significant cuts to spending.

Last year parental contributions to the school fund have generated nearly £20,000. This money has been vital in protecting the education we deliver. We used the money to protect subject budgets so that lessons had sufficient resources to meet the needs of our students. Your donations allowed us to fund English work books; practical equipment for science such as microscopes and desk top video cameras; laptops for the Sixth Form and maths department and a great many other items that would simply not be available without your help. Thank you!

We are very proud of our students and the success they achieve. These are standards that we are committed to maintaining and we would appreciate your support. **For each family, the school is asking for a voluntary £60 annual donation. This can be paid either as a one off annual payment or through a monthly direct debit for £5.** If you already have a direct debit set up, then thank you; this will continue to run as normal. Of course, should you feel able to donate more, then you would not be limited to this amount, and equally we will be grateful for whatever help you are able to give us.

**We want to make this as easy as possible, so we have created an Edgbarrow page on the Justgiving website: <https://www.justgiving.com/edgbarrowschool/>.** You can choose to donate through a one-off payment or to make a monthly donation. There is also a link on the school website. **We would be very grateful if you could also tick the relevant box to add Gift Aid.**

Whilst we will not be recording payments against students' names, we are asking that you complete the form below to acknowledge receipt of this letter. Tutors will chase the return of the form, but not money, in order to ensure all parents have received and read this letter.

We would also ask if you as parents could investigate whether your employer has funds available to support schools and would be grateful for any information in relation to this.

Our priority is the education of your children and to support this we are hoping that, where possible, our fantastic parent body may be able to make a further, significant contribution to maintaining our high standards. We will also write to you later this year to explain how the school intends to close the funding gap.

Yours faithfully



**Mr S Matthews**  
**Operational Headteacher**



**Mr G Oakley**  
**Chair of Governors**



**Mr A Johnson**  
**PTA Chairman**

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**REPLY SLIP: Please return to form tutors**

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Tutor group \_\_\_\_\_

We acknowledge receipt of the School Fund letter dated 31st January

Should you have any queries or comments regarding this letter please send them to:  
[schoolfund@edgbarrowschool.co.uk](mailto:schoolfund@edgbarrowschool.co.uk) . We will then create a frequently asked questions area on the school website with responses.