



RGS Development Fund

Annual Target: £150,000 p.a.

Dear Parents and Old Riponians

In 2023 I wrote to all parents and ORs with the ambitious target of raising £150,000 per year in parental and alumni giving. Last year we received just short of £40,000 for which the school is immensely grateful to those parents and alumni who support the Fund. Therefore I thought you would like to know that over the last 18 months we have been able to allocate this money to many projects of which the following are highlights:

• Sports Transport	£20,000
• IT equipment – laptops, new screens and data logger equipment for science*	£15,000
• Performance Staging *	£2500
• Fitness Suite *	£2000
• Jump Pit sand	£1175
• Equipment for the Design Department	£1250
• Art Kiln*	£2000
• Regeneration of the astro pitch * *	£2000
• Library books	£1000

£46,925

*Also very generously supported by the Friends. ** With additional funding from the school's main budget and a locality grant

Unfortunately our current financial situation remains critical. As you are no doubt aware:

- Grammar Schools are the lowest funded element of secondary education. We have run in year budget deficits for the last 3 years and now we have no reserves left. Last year we avoided this by drawing on the Development Fund. This year we are forecasting an absolute deficit with no easy economies to be made.
- We receive no funding for the 'hidden extras' that make this school what it is. There is no money for sports transport and equipment such as IT, the kiln, staging etc. could not have been bought without your support. And there is a long list of other areas needing our attention - from library refurbishment to netball and tennis court resurfacing. However, we are now at the stage where even the day to day fabric of the school may require additional investment from the Development Fund.

Several parents in the last week have asked me - 'How can I help the school?' Here are three possible ways:

- A monthly donation of £10, gift aided, would raise **£150,000** for the school each year.
- Sponsorship of equipment or kit (please contact me if you would like to do this.)
- Knowledge about, or links to, business grants or charitable funds the school can access to support its work.

And it is *incredibly easy* to make a monthly or one-off donation, however small. Just click on the QR code and the online function takes care of everything!

Thank you if you can help in whatever way

Jonathan Webb
Headmaster

September 2025

