

Petersfield Church of England (Aided) School Finance Report 23-24

As in previous years, despite the continued financial challenges due local, national and international challenges (including sickness, historic underfunding, the cost of living crisis, increasing staffing costs and strikes) we set a balanced budget for 2023-2024 focused on our underpinning vision to ensure all members of our school community **'Live Life to the Full'**. We are very grateful for all the voluntary donations of time, resources and money which we have received again this year. These continue to be spent directly on the children for example enabling us to purchase and facilitate resources, activities, improvements to the learning environment, visits and visitors. You can read more about the exciting events at our school by clicking here.

Following the successful completion of the £200k building project in Spring 2023, during the 2023 summer, we completed the second phase of our project to ensure our school is a safe, effective and energy efficient learning environment. Our grateful thanks to our Vice Chair of Governors for the significant work to ensure these building projects were completed successfully.

At a time where day to day life is so busy for the vast majority of people, our grateful thanks to everyone on our FOPS committee and to everyone who has supported FOPS events through the financial year. The Swop Shop – an initiative devised in conjunction with the School Council to reduce waste and provide uniforms for any family to "take what you need" – continues to be a popular resources thanks to the many donations. You can find out more about FOPS or make a donation here.

Following the impact of Covid on the Puffins provision, we continue to recouped the costs from 2020-2022. In addition, we continue to advertise for staff to cover this provision. Puffins is now fully operational and is oversubscribed on many nights.

This year, the Sports Premium has again been used to purchase a significant amount of resources, for both indoor and outdoor sport and for break and lunchtimes, and to enable pupils to attend sporting events. Click here to read about these events. The unspent funding is ring-fenced for funding sports provision in the future year. Details of the plans for this Sports Premium Spending, including our Gold award for the second year running, can be found on our school website. We are very proud of this achievement and our thanks to Miss Whitehead for leading our Sports Provision in conjunction with our sports coaches.

In line with EEF recommendations to raise attainment for our most disadvantaged pupils, we continued to spend our Pupil Premium money to support the three strands of high quality teaching and learning, targeted support and interventions and wider strategies. Training during this financial year has supported the initial implementation of our new systematic, synthetic phonics programme – Little Wandle - and this has been delivered to all teaching and teaching assistants. In addition, we have focused on English and Maths teaching with targeted support from County to further improve the high quality teaching and learning. Together with other local schools, we continue to fund the YMCA and Allayance play therapists to work in school. You can read more about how we have spent the designated Pupil Premium funding on our website by clicking here. The threshold for Pupil Premium recently changed so you may be eligible if you are entitled to Universal Credit. Please do apply by clicking here or contact us via office@petersfield.cambs.sch.uk for more information.

In the 2023-2024 academic year, we continue to deliver School Led Tutoring in line with the EEF recommendations. Our tiered approach mirrors the Pupil Premium strategy and is prioritising support in school provided by the highly trained adults who know the children best. Teachers use diagnostic assessment to identify specific areas where children need additional support and teaching and continue to identify where pastoral support and School Led Tutoring is required to best support all our pupils.

The Headteachers have continued to cover key roles, such as caretaking, Puffins and administration, and have therefore reduced spending. Recruitment continues to be a challenge locally and nationally. As a result of all the careful planning and spending, we ended the year on track with a carry forward of around £110k. This includes the ring fenced carry forward of the Sports Premium and School Led Tutoring which is allocated to be spent on these areas in the 2024-2025 financial year (April 24 - March 25). It also includes funding for the 2024-2025 6 class structure.

We have set a balanced budget for 2024-2025.