



School Development Fund - February 2024

As your governing body, we have several responsibilities that include:

The governance and oversight we provide to ensure we give our children the very best possible catholic education and experience in attending St Charles Borromeo and in supporting Mr Holt and all staff. As part of this remit, we also have the important responsibility to prioritise additional incremental investment opportunities.

The Governors fund, to which you so generously contribute, serves as an opportunity to invest in real added value projects that would not be possible through the existing underspend in state funding. The fund also compensates for the challenge in the successfully sustaining a single form entry junior school.

In the past 12 months, we have made sizeable contributions to streamlining and decluttering the classroom learning environment that has been proven to reduce sensory overload and enhance academic attainment. This has included the provision of a material increase in accessible storage, modernised fit for purpose furniture and a general refresh to the look and feel of classrooms. In addition As your governing body, and over and above the governance and oversight we provide in order to ensure we give our children the very best possible catholic education and experience in attending St Charles Borromeo and in supporting Mr Holt and all staff, we also have the responsibility to prioritise additional incremental investment opportunities.

The Governors fund, that you so generously contribute to, serves as an opportunity to invest in real added value projects, that would not be possible through the existing underspend in state funding, as well as compensating for the challenge in the successfully sustaining a single from entry junior school.

In the past 12 months, we have made sizeable contributions through your support. As such we have been able to invest in:

- Provide air conditioning to 2 further classrooms, that are south facing and as such, uncomfortable in high summer.
- Upgrading several of the interactive classroom screens to larger enhanced systems that further enhance our children's learning experience.
- Most recently we have invested a significant amount in the upgrade of teacher's laptops to improve delivery of the curriculum.
- Over and above these initiatives we have approved investment in streamlining and decluttering the classroom learning environment that has been proven to reduce sensory overload and enhance academic attainment. This has included the provision of a material increase in accessible storage, modernised fit for purpose furniture and a general refresh to the look and feel of classrooms.

Similar to the PTA, we also make an annual contribution to the school's overall income to ensure the school remains financially sustainable, and to support a number of other key projects and investment in required resources, requested and agreed by Mr Holt.

In the coming year, we plan to complete the classroom full refresh and redecorating the exterior as part of the refurbishment cycle, thus ensuring our building and facilities can be the very best they can be for our children to experience.

We can only do this through your ongoing support, and as your Local Governing Body, remain fully committed to supporting our children, our families, our staff and our community.