



Building each other up –  
with God as our firm foundation

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## St. Paul's Church of England (A) Primary School

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Tuesday 21st November 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you will be aware, this year, we are seeking to broaden our extra-curricular offer to ensure the children of St Paul's experience a rich and exciting school journey.

However, balancing our school offer with budget pressures and family finances is an ongoing challenge! Travel expenses in particular, have increased significantly in recent years, meaning coaches now often cost in the region of £300-500 for one visit. We understand that for some families, the additional cost of trips and events can cause some anxiety and can impact on already tight family budgets. Due to this, as you know, we do heavily subsidise the cost of all visits and events as a school.

As communicated previously, our school budget also has its own constraints and limitations and we do require sufficient payment for trips to enable them to go ahead and for us to continue offering them in the future. Where some families are simply unable to pay, we do work with them and support them to make a smaller contribution if possible. We also try to give as much notice as possible with the option of paying in installments for our more expensive trips. I would like parents to please be reassured, a child would never be prevented from accessing the experience of a school trip for financial reasons.



Recently, some parents have approached me to ask if they would be able to pay a little extra than the requested cost of a trip (or even make a full additional payment) to support both the school and other families in enabling trips to go ahead. This is a thoughtful and kind gesture. We have therefore, created a 'Pay it forward – community kindness option' on the Gateway app. Parents (if able to) can go on and make an additional payment (part or full) towards the cost of a visit or event.

What a wonderful example of 'making a difference to others' and 'building each other up'!

Thank you in advance for any kind donations you may be able to make.

Best wishes,

Mrs J. Ferretti  
Headteacher

