

SOUTHEND HIGH SCHOOL FOR BOYS

ACADEMY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Robin M Bevan MA MEd PhD FRSA




8th January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Happy New Year!

We were delighted to welcome all our pupils back to school during last week! May I take this opportunity to wish all our parents and families the very best for the year ahead – happy New Year!

At the end of last term, my Christmas letter to parents included a fund-raising 'preview'. It is now time to launch this vital fund-raising venture!

	<p>Watch this space! In the early weeks of 2024, SHSB will be launching a new 'digital tin' fund-raising venture to cover the cost of an essential new minibus purchase. £15000 has already been pledged by the Parents Association. Online, one-off and regular, automated gift-aided donations will be invited!</p>
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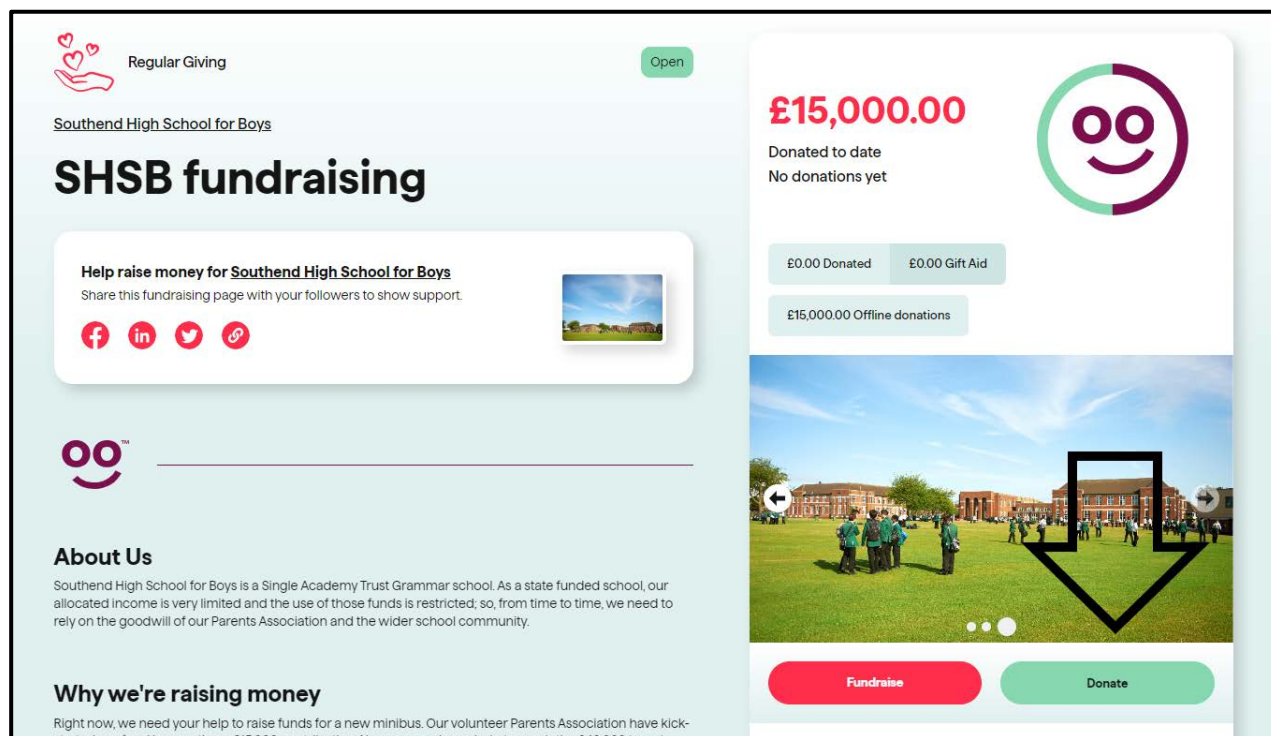
We are working in partnership with 'goodhub' to enable every parent, every family, every supporter of the school to make *either* 'one off' *or* 'regular' monthly donations to this fund-raising appeal.

We know that our school serves a diverse community in terms of income, wealth and circumstance. **We ask every family to consider making a minimum donation of £10 per month.** You may prefer to make a 'one off' contribution. Many families will be able to afford a higher level of donation. Goodhub also allows lower regular payments. Any contributions will be gratefully received. With your help, if all our parents contribute in some way, we will be able to secure the new minibus before the summer.

There is a simple 'gift aid' capacity to enable the school to claim back from HMRC a significant uplift (if the donor pays income-tax). Higher rate income tax payers can also benefit from an increased tax allowance if the donation is declared on your tax return.



Please visit <https://app.goodhub.com/shsbfundraising> to register your regular contribution or to make a one-off payment.



When you land on the SHSB fundraising homepage, click on the green 'Donate' button (bottom right) – indicated by the arrow on the image above.

Why we're raising money

Right now, we need your help to raise funds for a new minibus. Our volunteer Parents Association have kick-started our fund by granting a £15,000 contribution. Now we need your help to reach the £40,000 target.

Many schools have access to a single minibus, some have two, we need three! Regular sports fixtures in particular, fielding multiple teams on the same night, generate a substantial transport demand. It doesn't end there; our existing two minibuses are used extensively for many activities and not just sporting events. We regularly use them for science trips, theatre visits, careers events, DofE expeditions, our sponsored walks, and many other extra-curricular activities.

At present, we find ourselves booking 'third party' minibus coaches several times a month and the cost – across a year – would more than offset the depreciation/maintenance/running costs of a third minibus. A further minibus would also help to reduce the cost to parents of some of our trips; saving money when we can use a minibus rather than hire a coach.

Thank you for your continuing support and thank you, in advance, for your financial contributions.

Robin M. Bevan
Headteacher