

SOUTHEND HIGH SCHOOL FOR BOYS

ACADEMY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Robin M Bevan MA MEd PhD FRSA



12th March 2024

Dear Parent

The Spring Term is accelerating towards the Easter holidays and recent weeks, in school, have been an extraordinary festival of learning, activities, competitions, rehearsals, examinations and trips. We don't even attempt to provide reportage from each and every event; but please – if you don't already – follow our posts on the school's [Facebook account](#) or Instagram. You'll see news from Charity Week, House Music, Prizegiving, Holocaust Memorial Day ... and even the morning when 5 of our Sixth Form students met the Prime Minister!



Minibus fund-raising: an opportunity for every family to contribute



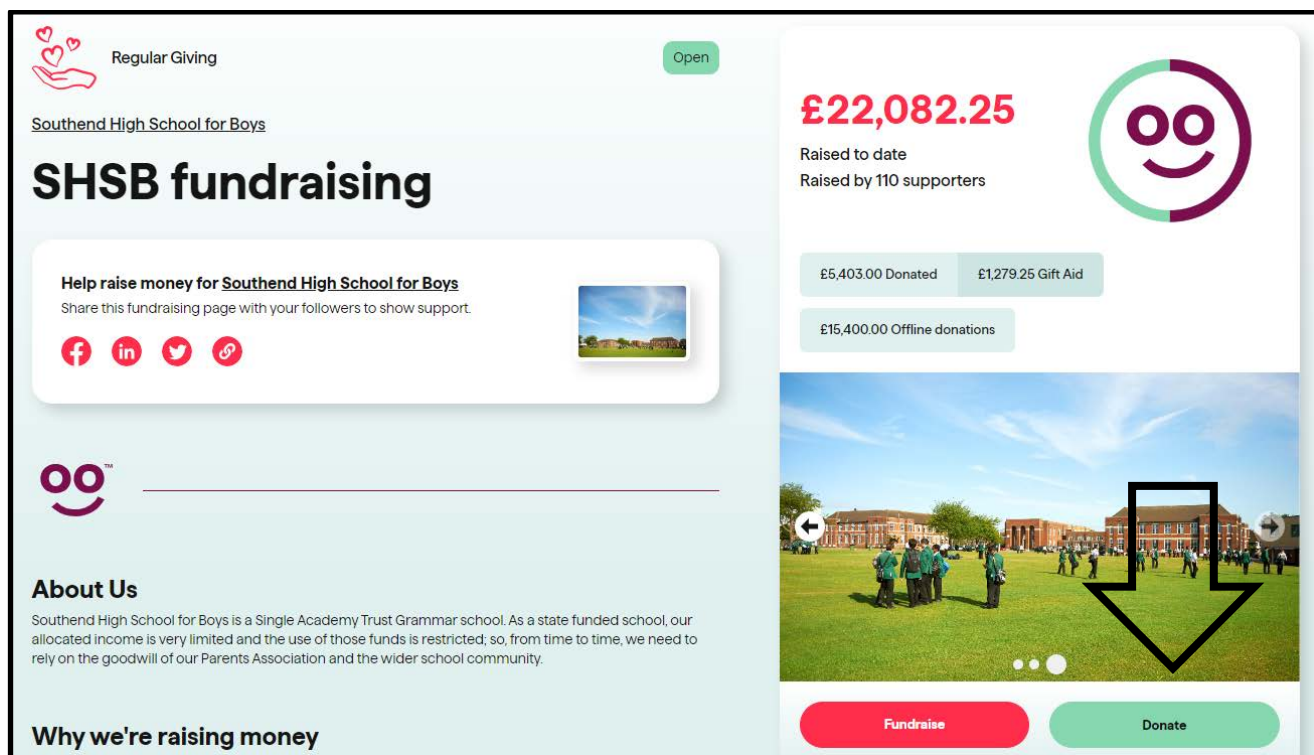
We are working in partnership with 'goodhub' to enable every parent, every family, every supporter of the school to make *either* 'one off' or 'regular' monthly donations to this fund-raising appeal.

Please visit <https://app.goodhub.com/shsbfundraising> to register your regular contribution.

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. With your help, if all our parents contribute, 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.





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. Thank you, in advance, for your financial contributions.

Oliver! and the school Spring Concert

Parents have already received details of the forthcoming stage performances in school of ‘Oliver!’ – evening shows on Thursday 21st, Friday 22nd and Saturday 23rd March; matinée tickets also available for Saturday 23rd March. Full audiences are expected: **buy your tickets NOW on Wisepay.**

A matter of a few days later, the school’s Spring Concert – 27th March – is set to play to a capacity crowd. It’s one night only, so, **secure your tickets on Wisepay before they’ve all gone!**



Parents Association

SHSB Parents Association comprises a small group of friendly parents who support the school by helping to raise vital funds.

In recent months the PA has been raising funds at a number of events and would like to pass on a big thank you for parents' ongoing support at these events including: the Year 7 Disco, Christmas raffle, Christmas pudding sales, refreshments at Christmas Concert evenings, secondhand uniform sales and Mother's Day which **have raised a total of £5,175.**

The PA will also be busy at our forthcoming events this term including **Oliver!** and the **Spring Concert**, running a bar, selling other refreshments and holding a raffle.

All parents can help with fundraising, with very little effort and at no cost to yourselves, is to use this link to [SHSB EasyFundraising](#).



Sign up and choose SHSB as your chosen charity – shop through this website and earn money when using the retailers identified (who show the percentage of your spend which will be given to the school). We already have 129 supporters who have raised nearly £5,000 over the last few years. Thank you.

The PA are currently busy planning future fund-raising events which will continue to contribute towards the school minibus fund. Watch this space!

As ever, if you'd be interested in joining the PA to help at one of these events, or to find out more about how you could assist, please do contact them at southendhighschoolforboyspa@gmail.com. They would value your support.

Term ends on Thursday 28th March, and pupils will be released at 12.30 pm after our final assembly.

Please note that school site will be closed from 1.00 pm on the last day of term. Your child will not be able to remain on the premises after 1.00 pm so please ensure that you have made suitable arrangements for their journey home.

School re-commences after Easter on **Monday 15th April**.

Valedictories

Earlier in the Spring Term, staff had the opportunity to offer Mr Baines their very best wishes as he moved on to new employment beyond the school. His contribution to, and connection with, the school community stretches over almost 20 years – first, as a student, then returning to teach Physics and, in time, securing promotion to the Senior Leadership Team as Director of Key Stage 4. He leaves behind an impressive legacy in the classroom and in his support of many individual pupils.

I am very pleased to confirm that Mr Nzemeke succeeds Mr Baines in that senior pastoral leadership role.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robin M. Bevan".

Robin M. Bevan
Headteacher