



10th November 2022

School Funding and Staff Days

Dear Parents and Carers,

Next Thursday the Chancellor of the Exchequer will announce the Autumn Statement, and we will learn of the Government's intentions regarding the funding of education in our country. Our school is one of many that has experienced funding cuts in real terms and this in turn affects our ability to recruit teachers, TAs and support staff. It also reduces our capacity to fund wider support for our students.

Our ability to improve and develop school resources is also restricted as a result of the school funding crisis, which preceded the pandemic, but continues still. You may be aware that various teaching unions are consulting their members currently with regard to proposed industrial action in the new year. For further information please see www.schoolcuts.org.uk and if you are in a position to support schools in petitioning your local MP, all schools would welcome such support. In the meantime, I ask for your understanding if sometimes our provision is less than we would want, but please know that we will continue to seek to provide the very best educational experience possible for your children.

Our dining hall project currently hangs in the balance due to international costs of steel and other supplies, and we are working closely with both Portsmouth and Plymouth Dioceses in order to find the best way forward in pursuit of this much needed facility for our students. I will keep you updated with information in the months ahead as and when I have it.

I would like to make you aware of a staff day now scheduled for Friday 27th January 2023, and also an additional Bank Holiday scheduled nationally for Monday 8th May.

Finally, I am well aware that schools are by no means alone in experiencing privations, and a squeeze on resources. Many of our families are suffering from increased costs, and reductions in income; and there may be ways in which we can help. If you would like to find out more about pupil premium, food vouchers, support with uniform, costs of trips etc. please contact enquiries@st-edwards.poole.sch.uk in confidence, for further information.

We receive many messages of support for our work as a school from our families. Thank you so much for all that you do to work with us in educating and forming our wonderful students.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. M Antram
Headteacher