



The
Henrietta Barnett
School

Funding the Extraordinary

*THE POWER
OF YOUR GIVING*



FROM THE HEADTEACHER

WHY PARENT DONATIONS ARE VITAL

As I write this in May 2026, early indications of our government funding for next year indicate that it will be over £150,000 short of expectation.

HBS outperforms schools in the independent sector with fees of over £34,000 per year. Government investment into HBS is on average just £6,563 per year per student. Every penny HBS receives is strategically deployed by our team of skilled, experienced professionals (including myself, the School Leadership Team and the Board of Governors) but we cannot continue to bridge a £27,000+ per student gap with the most competitive independent schools through efficiency alone.

We have an exceptional PTA which works tirelessly to raise funds for smaller, ring-fenced or specific resources. We also have a number of parents who already donate monthly to the HBS Trust, for which we are very grateful. However, at this time we need to ask for direct financial support for school's larger scale needs from an increased number of parents.

In this booklet I explain why we need increased funding and the vital difference it makes to your daughter's education.

You can set up a regular donation [here](#).

Thank you for your understanding and your support.

Mrs E MacLeod
Headteacher



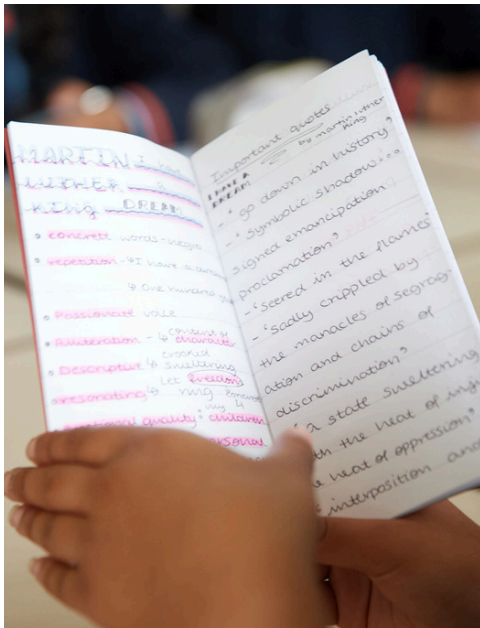
TRANSFORMATIVE TEACHERS AND EXCEPTIONAL SUPPORT STAFF



HBS has a staff of highly experienced subject specialist teachers. These elite educators have a direct impact on your child every day. As you would expect, this staff profile (which has a transformative impact on the education your daughter receives) is more expensive than a less specialist staff profile would be. We intentionally recruit at the highest level to ensure the highest quality of education for our students.

We also employ a much wider range of language assistants, specialist lab and workshop technicians and counsellors than most other state funded schools. This means that your daughter gets more than the bare minimum of support, has access to significantly more practical work than in other state schools and is a beneficiary of the small-group support and enrichment opportunities required for excellent academic challenge and pastoral support.

**HBS STAFF ENSURE A
COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE
NOT AVAILABLE AT A
STANDARD STATE SCHOOL**



INDIVIDUAL CARE AND ATTENTION

FOR YOUR DAUGHTER

Part of what makes HBS special is our commitment to ensuring every student in our school is seen - including your child.

As students at a much smaller than average state school, HBS students are individually known by staff which leads to excellent relationships and exceptional academic and pastoral support.

Teachers don't just know their students' names; they know their learning styles, strengths, passions, and areas where they need extra support.

Our school inherently feels more like a community. This close-knit environment significantly reduces the intimidation factor, making the transition from primary school and onward journey through from through secondary school much smoother.

However, the consequence of being a smaller school is that we don't benefit from the same economies of scale as larger state schools. The same essential and statutory services and resources in e.g. information management, IT support, SEN support, recruitment - without which schools cannot function - cost proportionately less when spread across the funding foundation of a larger state school or a multi-academy trust. These still need to be in place in a small school such as ours but without the same financial cushion.

SAFETY AND MAINTENANCE

UNSEEN ESSENTIALS OF AN EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATION

We refuse to let our facilities decline. Your contributions allow us to maintain an internally- and externally-listed London site in a protected area with high premiums that reflects the high aspirations of the girls who study here.

HBS ensures that our site is safe and well maintained by the use of a continuous and thorough assessment process and the employment of a skilled and efficient site team.

However, continuously making the required remediations and modifications to our infrastructure in a heavily-regulated urban conservation area is quite simply a different order of challenge than that facing schools with more extensive grounds, less complicated planning and less overlooked buildings.

We are currently at the beginning of a site masterplan and audit process, in partnership with an architectural practice, to allow us to understand the full long-term opportunities and challenges of our school site, from education to environment to safety and security. We are hopeful that this will identify the best ways for us to develop our Sixth Form independent learning accommodation and canteen. In order to take advantage of such development opportunities and realise them, however, will need further investment.



Recent donations have supported the school to:

- Obtain multiple levels of complex planning permissions and consents for site development
- Convert an old building into a modern WellBeing Hub, with services and resources supporting mental and physical health of our students
- Repair the roofs of the DTE and Music wings
- Redevelop the pathways and quads leading to Bigwood
- Upgrade the canteen extractor system to meet requirements
- Refurbish the main building hallway
- Upgrade lighting around the school
- Recarpet the MUGA
- Refurbish the Gym flooring



REDRESSING THE BALANCE FOR YOUR DAUGHTER

A 2021 study by a UK based alumni software company revealed a significant gender disparity in school philanthropy, with contributions to boys' schools being four times greater. This is not an emerging trend; traditional giving patterns in the UK reveal a stark, historical imbalance. Generation after generation, boys' schools have consistently benefited from significantly higher levels of charitable donations and alumni giving.

The roots of this disparity are structural:

- Secondary education was historically reserved for young men meaning that some boys' schools sit on centuries-old trust foundations, wealthy land endowments, and established investment funds.
- For generations, capital and disposable wealth were concentrated in the hands of men, creating a self-perpetuating cycle where wealthy male alumni gave back generously to their former schools.
- This legacy means that even today, many equivalent boys' institutions possess a financial safety net - and a stream of regular private philanthropy - that girls' schools simply do not inherit.

When a girls' state school and a boys' state school face the exact same government funding pressures, the boys' institution is far more likely to have a historical trust foundation or a robust network of generational donors to bridge the funding gap.

CAN YOU DO MORE TO SUPPORT HBS?

We hope that this booklet has helped you to understand the importance of parental support to HBS, which provides such an exceptional and unique state school education to your daughter.

One-off donations are always welcome but regular gifts allow us to plan ahead with expected income.

Your support will have a vital impact.



Yes, I would like to make a single or regular donation

If you have any questions or would like to speak to someone about an existing donation, please contact development@hbschool.org.uk



SUPPORTING HBS



As a school, we pride ourselves on being responsible stewards of your donations. As a registered charity (1071460), financial information is available via The Charity Commission.

For data protection reasons, we cannot publish line by line ledgers. However, if there is a specific area where you would like to understand the impact of your gift more deeply, we would be happy to discuss further. You can contact the Development office at development@hbschool.org.uk.

**THE
HENRIETTA
BARNETT
SCHOOL
TRUST**

**Your support is
vital.**

Thank you.



**The
Henretta Barnett
School**