



# St Edmund Arrowsmith Catholic High School

*A High Performing Specialist Technology & Music College  
with Leading Edge Status*

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Headteacher: Mr. M. J. Dumican  
B.A. (Hons), PGCE, NPQH, MSc, MEd

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2018

Dear Parent/Carer,

## **Building Levy 2018/2019**

On behalf of the Archdiocese of Liverpool we are writing about the very important matter relating to the upkeep and future development of our Catholic schools. Unfortunately, unlike other categories of state schools, Catholic schools do not come free and 10% of any building and renovation costs have to be met by the Archdiocese. Therefore, the continued provision of Catholic education adds up to a huge sum- for example if a school has building work totalling £500,000 then the Archdiocese has to pay £50,000 of this total.

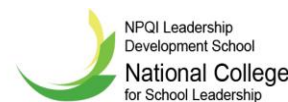
To assist the Archdiocese, the school must make a contribution based on our number of pupils. This money is paid directly to the Archdiocese who prioritise work and oversee developments. We have benefitted significantly from this funding in recent years and is something we could not have achieved without the Archdiocese who use schools' levies to access Government Capital monies by being able to meet their 10% commitment.

In September 2015, we were awarded £350k to begin a major refurbishment project of the Science department. This was only enough funding to provide three new laboratories, however are delighted to have just been awarded a further £335k to finish the remaining laboratories commencing in Spring 2019. After the success of Phase 1 of this project we are looking forward to seeing the benefit to staff and pupils.

Up until 3 years the school has always paid this contribution on your behalf as we have prioritised this within our budget allocation. Unfortunately we continue to see a reduction in funding from the Local Authority and are faced with a period of financial uncertainty as changes are implemented in educational funding. Therefore, we feel we have no alternative to ask parents/carers to make a voluntary contribution towards the levy.

All Catholic schools in the Archdiocese ask parents to contribute towards this levy. The contribution requested is £10.00 per year per family attending school and with currently around 985 families attending the school our figure for 2018/19 is £9,850. Last year we received £4,215 in contributions, which represents approx. 468 families in school. Our current Y7 pupils have contributed £1,590 already this year as 159 families from this year group have already paid. I would also like to thank all those families who made the contribution last year and would urge all families to make this annual contribution.

This is a small price we are sure you will agree, to ensure that Catholic Education is maintained and developed and that St. Edmund Arrowsmith benefits from this support. We need your help in order to contribute our share as there is no provision within our school funding for such a levy- any shortfall in parental contributions will have to be taken from



elsewhere within school funds. The decision to request a contribution in the autumn term will allow any shortfall to be budgeted for in the new financial year when we make difficult decisions about what we have to do without.

Please return your donation together with the completed attached reply slip. If your donation is in the form of a cheque please make it payable to 'St. Edmund Arrowsmith Catholic High School'. If you wish, you may give more than the suggested amount. Donations can be made via our online payment system, WisePay, if this is more convenient.

We hope that we can rely on your support in helping our school to pay its contribution towards this vital annual appeal. The model of Catholic education is very clear in seeing the implicit link between home, school and parish. If St. Edmund Arrowsmith and other Catholic schools are to continue to have buildings fit for purpose then support from parents for a Catholic education for their children is crucial.

Can I take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support, it is very much appreciated. Please confirm that you have received this letter, by completing and returning the attached reply slip to school by Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2018.

Yours sincerely,



Mr M Dumican (Headteacher)



Mr S Westhead (Chair of Governors)

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\*\*\*Please return this reply slip to school by Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2018\*\*\*

Archdiocese Building Levy 2018-2019

Pupils Name(s)

1) \_\_\_\_\_ Form: \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_ Form: \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_ Form: \_\_\_\_\_

I enclose/ I do not enclose (\*delete as appropriate) my contribution of £10 towards the School Building Fund Levy

Our donation has been made using the WisePay online system

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My child is in Y7 and I have already paid in July 2018 for 2018/2019

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Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_