



Case for Support



“All of us should have an equal opportunity to develop our talent”

John F. Kennedy

A Thriving Academy

Chelsea Academy is recognised by Ofsted as an outstanding school. This has been made possible in part because of the generous support of local residents and grant-making charitable trusts in their support of the Chelsea Academy Foundation at the level of £75,000 per annum.

However, to fulfil our ambition of providing for all our students an education comparable to the best independent schools we believe that we need to significantly increase support for our students and staff in non-core activities. This document sets out our ambition to increase our fundraising to £200,000 per annum.

“Outstanding performance
– as measured in all ratings” (Ofsted report, 2012)



Mission

The Academy's mission is to provide an outstanding education for each of its students and ensure that they have access to every opportunity available. With the right foundation, every child is capable of flourishing in life – and we all know from our own experience just how important the school years are for that journey.

In its strategic Plan for 2015-2020, the Academy has identified four key priorities:

1. Achieving academic excellence
2. Providing the skills and opportunities to develop happy and employable young people
3. Demonstrating excellence in all links with external partners, innovative staff development and behaviour
4. Providing a safe, respectful, tolerant community based on Christian values

What we do at The Chelsea Academy Foundation

Careful management of the Academy's budget means it can deliver on its first priority to provide an excellent academic education.

However, it cannot stretch to providing all the opportunities and experiences it would like for its students. Our work at the Chelsea Academy Foundation is to raise enough money to ensure that students have the life skills and aspirations to successfully begin their journeys and flourish into exceptional, well-rounded members of society.

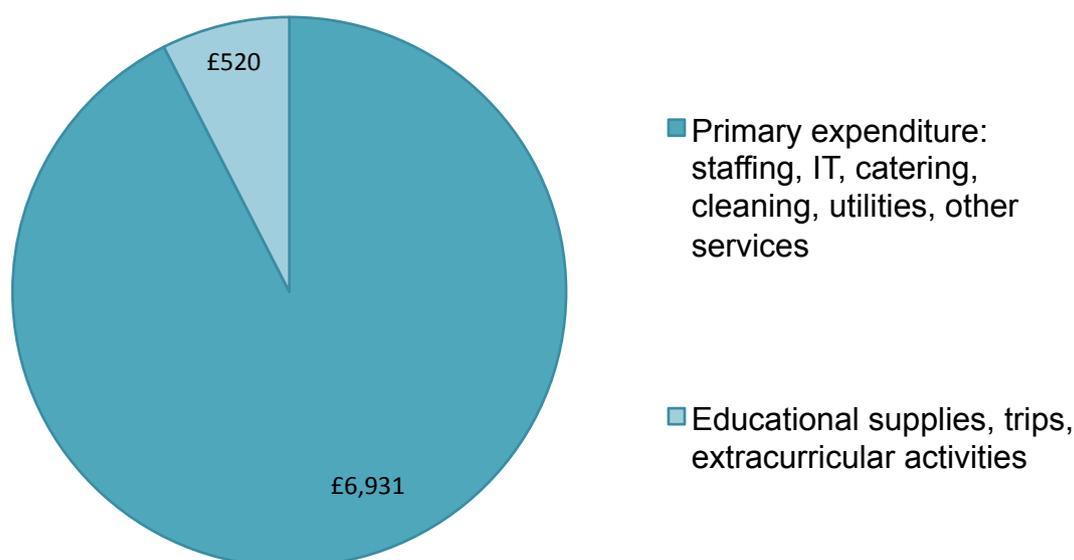


Why do we need your Support?

The Academy receives its funding direct from central government, so why do we need more?

The government grant only covers core costs and does not substantially provide for any extra-curricular activities. As shown below, the Academy has £520 out of the £6,931 it receives per pupil to spend on educational supplies, trips and extracurricular activities. The additional funding the Foundation can provide can make a real difference for our students.

2018/19 Total Income per Pupil



What we Fund

So far, the generosity of others has helped in supporting students to:

- Compete in mathematics competitions in Serbia each year
- Participate in Biology and Geography field trips for GCSE and A level study
- Join the National Youth Theatre Summer School
- Go on Outward Bound courses such as the Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Allow students to have access to horse riding, kayaking, electric car racing, Mandarin lessons and other unique opportunities as part of the enrichment programme.
- Start a thriving music scholars programme for talented musicians

We have also been able to:

- Comprehensively fit out our Learning & Research Centre
- Refurbish our gym facilities

Going forward, the Foundation will continue to support extracurricular activities but also increase its focus on helping every child to reach their highest academic potential. Over 40% of Academy students are eligible for pupil premium. It is of particular importance to the Foundation that a student's background does not limit their opportunity to thrive at the Academy or in later life.



“Over the last few years, the Foundation has been incredibly fortunate to receive the support of local residents, and local grant-making charitable trusts. This support has enabled the Academy to provide extra academic support and enrichment activities it otherwise could not afford.

Your support will ensure that all students have access to extracurricular activities, exceptional facilities, and exposure to culture, the local community and wider society. In return, our students will develop into responsible, respectful, productive and caring members of the Chelsea community.”

Tim Church, Chair of Trustees, Chelsea Academy Foundation

Chelsea Academy Guarantee

Every child deserves:

- Access to an outstanding education
- To be able to fulfil their own potential
- The opportunity to follow their chosen career pathways
- The opportunity to experience the wonder of the theatre, of music, and to visit museums and historical sites
- To experience the outdoors and to test their physical strength to the limit
- To experience different cultures, including at least one educational visit abroad
- Access to further education
- Access to high quality Science activities
- Access to high quality learning resources ie: textbooks for every student, access to cutting edge technology and a fully stocked library.

Parents

We recognise that not all parents can afford to make a gift. However, there are many other ways in which you can support the Academy which are also vitally important such as volunteering your time and your skills. Do you work for a local business that might be interested in sponsoring the school's football/cricket/rugby/netball team? Can you provide work experience placements for a Year 10 or Year 12 student? Do you have graphic design, web or printing skills?

Having opened in 2009, the Academy does not have a large group of alumni to call upon as many other schools do. We are, however, starting to build our own community of students, parents and recent leavers to strengthen our provision to current students.

Your support as a parent at any level – or in any form – will strengthen our community and help the Academy provide the best possible education and set of experiences for your children.



Local Business and Community

Local businesses and community groups can have a profound impact on local young people and their life aspirations. Whether it is donations – either financial or in-kind – to enhance our provision to students, or offering work experience, mentoring opportunities, or partnering with the Academy for community activities.

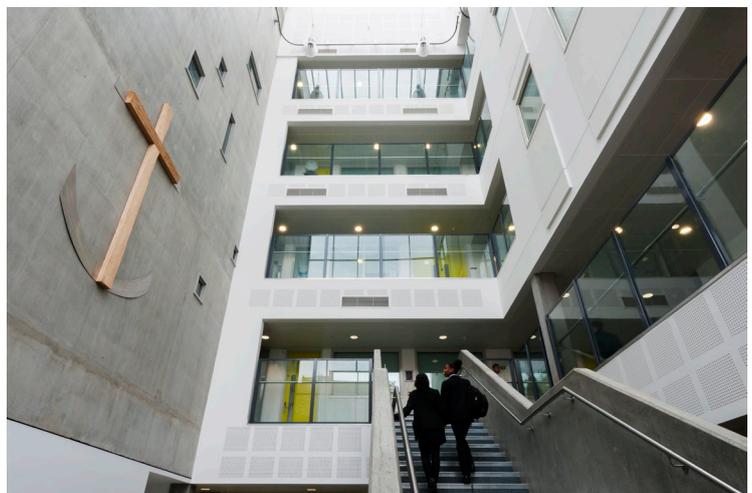
Our students and their families form an integral part of the local community. Fostering partnerships between the Academy and nearby organisations will nurture our shared community, and give businesses the opportunity to shape the skill set of potential future employees.

Individuals

Past support from benefactors has been vital in helping to establish a remarkable Academy with an outstanding reputation. The Academy has filled a need in the Chelsea and Kensington community to offer an exceptional education provision to students from any background.

Today, we are leading the way in what Academy schools can achieve and want to rival the best independent schools. In keeping with the tradition of philanthropy that enabled the Academy to open, we look to generous benefactors to help us lead the Academy forward, to offer the best experiences to the young people coming through our gates.

Supporting the Academy is an exceptional opportunity to be part of the Academy's growing success. Your support will make a transformative impact to the lives of thousands of young people in the Chelsea community.



Where could you Support?

We are looking for donations to support five key areas:

Academic Excellence and Employability

- Tutoring sessions for students who are underachieving on entry to the Academy
- Supporting the study of modern languages with country visits
- Developing skills by linking students to local businesses and organising work experience for year 10 students
- CV writing skills
- Public speaking and debating skills
- The Access Project, which helps young people on pupil premium to progress to top UK universities

Community engagement

- Developing a programme of community education and support for local people
- Hosting science fairs for local primary schools
- Running citizenship events, with external speakers and visits

Extracurricular activities

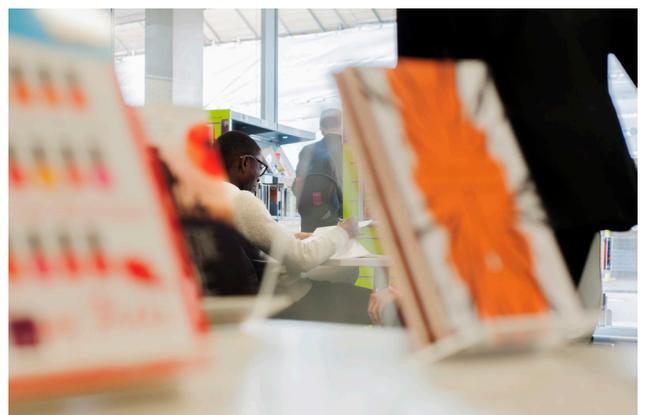
- Musical instrument tuition for one term for all students in a year group
- Enrichment activities that would not normally be possible: for example, kayaking, rowing, or horse riding

Experience of culture and wider society

- Enabling students to explore first-hand a different language and culture through a short visit to France
- Ensuring that students are made aware of the option and realities of university through a funded visit
- Enabling students to experience the arts via visits to the theatre and galleries

Facilities and equipment

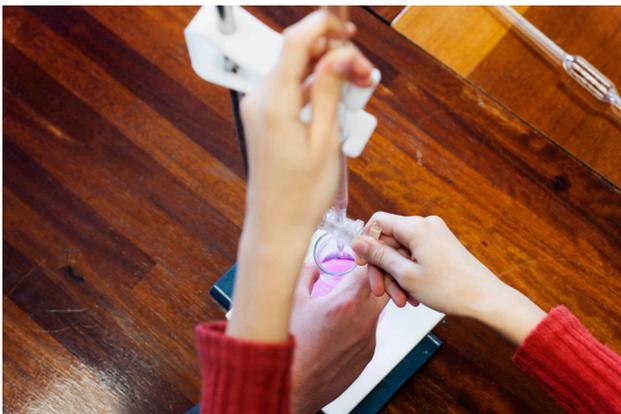
- Providing sports equipment, uniform and kit
- Equipping science labs with excellent apparatus



“The Chelsea Academy Foundation allows us to offer our students experiences and facilities that they would not otherwise have access to. Competing in international maths competitions, learning musical instruments, being able to participate in outward bound activities such as the Duke of Edinburgh scheme, and giving all students access to such opportunities is key to developing rounded and talented citizens of the future. Indeed, our mission is to ensure that every student has the opportunities that will engage, motivate and support them through school and into employment or a university education.”



Matthew Williams, Principal



"I believe in the transformative effect of music on young people's lives. It brings so many benefits. I believe all children should have the chance to play a musical instrument but for many families the cost is a barrier. I also believe in helping my local community. That is why I am proud to support the Music Scholars' Programme at Chelsea Academy."

Bryan Adams

Music at the Academy

Our Music Scholar programme comprises free tuition of 30 minutes per week for 10 weeks each term on a chosen voice or instrument, the opportunity to be part of the Academy music ensembles (Instrumental Group, Vocal Ensemble or Steel Band) and after school targeted sessions. Since the start of the scholars' programme, 23 music examinations have been taken by scholars, over 60% resulting in achieving a Merit or Distinction. Across the whole Academy, we have had 80 entries for examinations to date, since 2010, with a pass rate of 99.96%.

Music across the Academy is also continuing to grow thanks to donations from the Chelsea Academy Foundation. We have been able to purchase a stock of instruments which can be loaned, free of charge, to students who wish to receive music tuition but do not have the means to acquire an instrument themselves. The Academy and Foundation support has also developed our music facilities, benefiting all students across the Academy with the investment into a suite of Mac computers running Logic Pro sequencing software as well as providing acoustic and electronic instruments for use within the classroom.

The Foundation has also specifically supported various theatre productions through donating funds for scenery, costumes and props.



Maths at the Academy

Maths has been a phenomenal success at the Academy. The results are some of the best in the country and each year students head to Serbia for a prestigious international maths competition. The photos above show our students representing us at the competition. Last year the team won medals in both Mathematics and Physics. This couldn't happen without an annual £5,000 donation from the Foundation.

“It was an amazing, life changing experience. I really enjoyed being in such a unique environment, surrounded by gifted Mathematicians, where competing in Maths and Science is normal. Without the money from the Foundation there is no way my family could have afforded to send me to Serbia to compete.”

Year 12 Maths student



The Duke of Edinburgh Award

The generous contribution from the Chelsea Academy Foundation over the last four years has been instrumental in the success and development of the Duke of Edinburgh Award at Chelsea Academy. Funding from the Foundation has meant that the award is accessible and inclusive. Students in receipt of free school meals need only pay for their enrolment and certification; the cost of kit hire, transport and the assessor is subsidised for them.

In addition, the Foundation has generously contributed to the Academy's store of kit, making the award self-sufficient and sustainable. In 2012, 12 students in year 12 completed the award and in 2018, the number of students has increased to more than 60.

"I learnt many writing skills, including how to develop a dialogue in a story, and how to come up with original ways to describe something, by free writing."

Year 10 student

First Story

The Academy have partnered with the charity First Story to bring talented, professional writers to work with students to foster creativity and communication skills.

By helping students find their voices through intensive, fun programmes, First Story raises aspirations and gives students the skills and confidence to achieve them.



Geography Trip



Geography field trips within the UK for GCSE and A Level have been part-funded by the Foundation.

This has enabled many of our students to take part in outdoor educational opportunities that are crucial for their exam success and to experience other environments and landscapes.

Did you Know?

Some more information about the Academy...

Science specialisation

There is a sports science centre, an earth sciences laboratory, and a medical sciences laboratory. Eighty per cent of sixth formers study a science, and they can develop their interest through partnership projects with leaders in science, such as Imperial College and the Science Museum.

Support for music

All students learn to play an instrument, or sing – or use technical skills to support musical performances. Each year, up to 18 school places are reserved for students of high musical aptitude.

Christian ethos

The Academy has an inclusive approach to religion, welcoming children of all or no faith. Children have the chance to learn about Christian beliefs and engage in acts of worship. There are close relations with local church leaders and all the major Christian festivals are celebrated.

The Foundation

Overseen by trustees who are local residents – people who are committed to helping the Academy provide an outstanding education and all the experiences that together create well-rounded individuals.