

Fundraising Impact Report 2025-2026





Mrs S O'Donovan, *Headteacher*

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and alumnae,

This is now our second impact report about fundraising and enhancements. We use Sacred Heart Connect, linked as a tab on the school website, to share news and events and to engage with adult members of our community: parents (past and present), alumnae, Sisters and staff. This platform also allows us to analyse our fundraising.

We are committed to report to you about fundraising on an annual basis to provide transparency about how much we raise and how monies are spent.

Section 1 highlights our Parent Teacher and Friends Association (PTFA) - who they are; what sort of projects they fund; how they raise money; and how they pass money to the school.

Section 2 explains about the school's Regular Giving Scheme for parents and carers, how you remain in control of this; and why it is so important.

Section 3 reports on the school's other fundraising activities through events, and trust fund applications.

Section 4 provides examples of enhancement projects delivered last year by monies raised.

Section 5 identifies some future and developing projects.

Section 6 provides a financial summary of fundraising last year.

Section 7 shows how you can support the school and the PTFA in fundraising initiatives.

Parental and alumnae support play a crucial part in enabling the school to retain its standing as one of the leading state schools for girls in the UK. I am incredibly grateful for your support.

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The PTFA

Our Parent, Teacher and Friends Association (PTFA) is legally distinct from the school but its charitable purpose is to develop relationships within the school community and to provide facilities or equipment to support the school and advance the education of its students. It has elected trustees and volunteer year reps from the parent body. The Headteacher is one of the trustees.

Who decides what PTFA money is spent on?

The school makes suggestions to the PTFA but the final decision on where to focus fundraising is made at the PTFA Annual General meeting (AGM).

In previous years this has included fundraising to pay for the installation of our rain shelters; to contribute towards the cost of resurfacing the outside courts; for some height adjustable netball hoops, the repainting of the running track, subsiding a school trip; and to purchase more sewing machines for the DT department.

The PTFA also regularly pay for photobooths for the end of year celebrations for Year 11 and for Year 13.

PTFA spend is normally directed towards a range of small to medium scale projects but last year the school asked, and the annual meeting agreed, that the PTFA would raise money to contribute towards two large projects at school.

One of these projects is the broad-brush upgrading of our IT infrastructure and the other project is to refurbish student toilet blocks, starting with those for Year 7 and 8 in the Digby Building.

How does the PTFA raise money?

The PTFA mainly raise money through their own events and sales, including the annual quiz night and auction. The PTFA also ask parents to sign up for Easy Fundraising so when you purchase items online, a small contribution is made from the shop to the PTFA charity. The school supports the PTFA with publicity and communications.

How does the school get money from the PTFA charity?

Within the context of the agreed plans for the year, the school then makes a formal request to the PTFA for funds. As ever, we are indebted to our PTFA for their tireless work in support of the school.

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Regular Giving

That Sacred Heart continues to be regarded as one of the leading state schools for girls in the country is in no small measure down to the financial support we receive from parents.

The Parents Regular Giving Scheme has been set up to support the school budget, enabling the school to maintain excellent facilities; offer a wide and varied curriculum; and continue to recruit and retain teachers of the highest caliber.

Now, more than ever, the support offered is of crucial importance to the school. We very much hope that parents, where they feel able, do contribute to the Parents Regular Giving Scheme.

The scheme is entirely voluntary and whilst monthly donations of £40 for a single pupil and £65 for a family are recommended, support of any size is welcomed and very much appreciated.

This money is used by the school to fund a variety of things needed to deliver excellence in education for the 21st century, this includes help for our rewards programme, enrichment opportunities to nurture student wellbeing and personal growth and the maintenance of our historic setting and traditions.

You Remain in Control

Parents can set up regular donations through the Regular Giving tab on Connect (which is a tab on the school website). This uses 'GoCardless' (similar to PayPal but for regular payments) and you can login at any time to amend the level of your giving or indeed to cancel it.

You can also email us for help at any time to do this (comms@sacredh.lbhf.sch.uk).

Gift Aid

On the Regular Giving tab of Connect there is also a link to set up Gift Aid in just a couple of clicks. This allows the school to reclaim from the government an extra 25% on top of the monies you donate. This makes a significant difference so do please complete the Gift Aid Declaration.

Tax

Parents can use their regular giving donations to set against their tax.

Corporate Donations

Some parents work for organisations who offer schemes where they match donations. We have a list of companies with Match Giving Schemes on our Regular Giving page on Connect but the list is not exhaustive. You may wish to check with your employer to see if they have such a scheme, but please also call or emails us with any queries about this.

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Other School Fundraising

Campaigns

Heritage project pages on Connect provide details of our Organ Restoration and Cloister Paintings Restoration projects, with buttons for donations to 'live' campaigns. These are promoted through press releases, social media and Connect emails. Members of the public and parents have made significant donations this year.

Events & Shop

The school raises its profile in part through public events. Ticket sales from these contribute to specific campaigns. Members of the public attending such events have gone on to make significant donations online. Sales from our online (and face-to face) shop also contribute to our campaigns. In 2025-26 we held four public events. A Heritage Trail (paid for by grant funding) was created over the summer to be used at events next year.

Trust Fund Grant Applications

Successful applications for heritage funding were made to the Vine Hill Trust, the Ruiz Corbella Trust and to the National Lottery Heritage Fund. Note: the income from these applications will come to the school later in 2026, 2027 & 2028.

A generous grant was received from the Society of the Sacred Heart towards the lighting and AV projects in the chapel and government funding was secured to help upgrade our heritage fire doors.









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Completed and ongoing projects 2025-26

Lighting in the Chapel

The old, mostly broken, fluorescent lights and old barn-door theatre lights from the chapel were taken down over the summer and replaced with two new rows of pendant lights (designed by the Chapel's architect JF Bentley), with scores of tiny discrete spot lights attached to the main brackets. Two original Bentley brass brackets were restored and put back up on either side of the arch, with new red glass sanctuary lamp fittings.

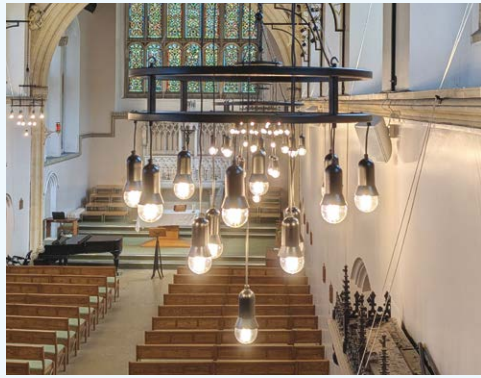
This scheme allows for 'scenes' to be pre-set with lighting for different events such as concerts, Mass or talks, which can be controlled at the touch of a button. The lights greatly enhance the ambience of the chapel as an architecturally significant, sacred space.

Improved Audio-Visual System for the chapel

We also needed to declutter the sanctuary, removing the two large TV screens and replacing them with a large screen which can be lowered as needed and then retracted, remaining wholly out of sight behind the main arch.

This helps us enormously with assemblies, information evenings and public admissions open days.









Catholic Social Teaching, 2026

We wanted to focus students' attention on the key aspects of Catholic Social Teaching with a permanent display on the main landing by the RE corridor.

This provides examples of student involvement in activities relating to:

- Human Dignity
- Solidarity
- Option for the Poor
- Participation
- Rights & Responsibilities
- The Common Good; and
- Care for Creation



New Toilet Door coverings to denote Year Groups

Quite separate to the toilet block refurbishment project, we wanted to denote more clearly, which toilet blocks are for which year groups. This was important to reduce over-crowding.

The new door coverings identify specific year groups, but we also used this opportunity to create some fun and curiosity about iconic doors. The first door shown on the left is in within our science department and is the entrance to the Large Hadron Collider. Other doors include the door to 221B Baker Street, and doors to the House of Commons, the Bank of England, 10 Downing Street, the door to the Secret Garden and to Bilbo Baggins' home.



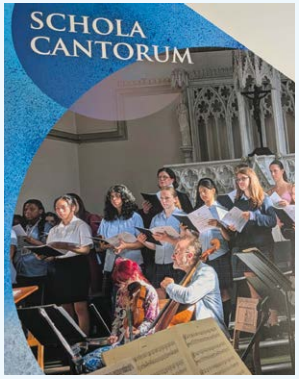


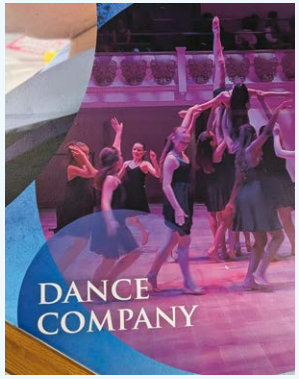




Enrichment Wall Art, 2026

We have enhanced a blank wall on the stairs in the Russell Building with a display of student involvement in our enrichment programme. This promotes many opportunities including sports clubs and rowing, band practice, theatre trips, book clubs, Model UN Society, Feminist Society, *Laudato Si* Eco Warriors, our Schola Cantorum, Classics Club, etc. This will serve as a reminder to students of how they can foster their own interests beyond the main curriculum.









IT Infrastructure

The school is making significant investment in IT Infrastructure, including a new server, part of the cost of which (£7,000) has been met by the PTFA.

Sacred Heart Loret Organ Restoration Project

The funding secured for this project will pay for restoration of our pipe-organ in the chapel and part of the grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund is to help us promote the wider heritage of this site.

The funding which will come to the school in stages across the next two years, will pay for the creation of a Sacred Heart Hammersmith Heritage Trail; and for the design and printing of a new book focusing on the incredible story of our rare pipe-organ.

The funding will enable us to host the following events:

September 2026 and September 2027
London Open House, with Heritage Trail and short talks.

Week of 19 October 2026
Community Exhibition in the café foyer of 245 Hammersmith Road, about our discovery of the provenance of the organ.

November 2026
Cross-School Heritage Dismantled Workshop aimed principally at local GCSE, A-Level and BTEC Music students, in the chapel with Dr William McVicker.

20 November 2026 (and repeated in 2027)
Public talk with refreshments and an exhibition in school: The Story of the Sacred Heart Organ Smuggled out of Paris in 1904.

February 2027
Cross-school event to explain the history of the society's expulsion from France and the saving of our pipe-organ.

March 2027
Trip for a group of Sacred Heart students to Canterbury to see our organ being restored in Mander's workshop and to learn about heritage management.

14 May 2027 (and repeated in 2028)
Public talk with refreshments and an exhibition in school: The Nunnery at Hammersmith.

18 June 2027
Heritage Garden Party with exhibition and project update.

August 2027
Heritage Reassembled Workshop for the public to come and see the organ being reassembled.

Sept 2027 or Spring 2028
Build an Organ event for 200 Sacred Heart students using a giant inflatable blower and real huge organ pipes.

November 2027
Grand Organ Recital to celebrate the return of the organ.

Dec 2027.
Cross-school Interactive Organ Demonstration to understand the functions and sounds of the organ with improvisations based on relatable themes.

April 2028
Fun Organ Evening with some accessible film music and fun.

Summer term 2028
Significant Choral event with music from the organ to end the project.

Rewards and Gifts

Our successful rewards programme includes the provision of gifts, trips (such as a recent trip to Thorpe Park) and other treats. Gifts are also given annually to the departing Year 13 and incoming Year 7.

Ongoing Landscape Maintenance

All the landscaping installed in late 2023, which has transformed our school grounds, needs ongoing maintenance from a professional gardening team who are on site one day a week.











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Future and developing projects

Toilet Block Refurbishments

Plans were commissioned last year looking first at the toilet blocks on the lower ground floor of the Digby Building for Years 7 and 8.

We are currently tendering for these works and subject to sufficient funds being available we hope to be able to proceed over the summer in 2027. The PTFA will be making a contribution.



Performing Arts Centre

After an exceptionally long wait of several years we have now been granted planning permission for our performing arts centre project (application submitted in 2021).

Overtime, the cost of this multi-million pound project has almost doubled. Governors are properly mindful of the need to review school priorities 'today' before immediately embarking on such an ambitious project and they are meeting before Christmas 2026 to review spend priorities.

Further updates will be provided in due course.



Later stages of Cloister Paintings Restoration

We have a responsibility to care for the historically significant cloister paintings depicting the life of Christ, as these add richness to school for students life and feature heavily in the memories of our alumnae.

Sixth Form Collaborative Learning Space

Designs are currently being reassessed as the study space has been relocated to a different part of the school.

Sixth Form Basement Enhancements

Exciting new enhancements for our sixth form common room are being drawn up with an aim for delivery summer 2026-27.

Russell Garden project

Landscaping enhancements and possibly a shelter in this area are being considered but may require borough consent, given the Grade II* listing of our site.





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Fundraising Financial Summary Sept 2025-August 2026

Total Income Raised (includes ticket sales, merchandise, corporate matching schemes, gift aid)

£116,297

Total Regular Giving

£67,007

Total Number of New Regular Donors

67

Number of one-off donations

97

Number of Regular givers

149 of which

67 were new

Total One off donations (to Organ and Cloister Paintings fund)

£18,190



Total number who have set up online profiles

1,213

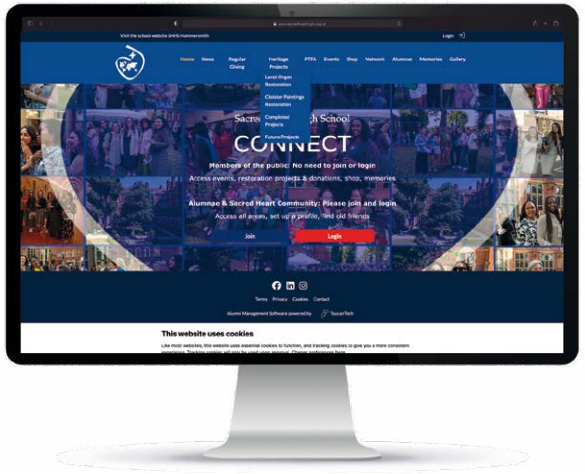


Total members of our community contactable through Connect

6,832

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Ways you can support Sacred Heart High School



There are donation links within Connect to enable you to set up regular giving or to make one-off donations to various fundraising projects. You can access Sacred Heart Connect directly through **sacredheartconnect.com** but it can also be reached through a tab on the school website.

Regular Giving supports School Fund

We ask that parents set up regular donations through the **Regular Giving page** – there is a link to take you to Go-Cardless. This is an incredibly simple way for you to set and control your payments and the school is extremely grateful to all those who already donate in this way. Profit from merchandise in our online shop also supports the school fund.

Cloister Paintings Restoration

There is a donation link for one-off donations in our **Cloister Paintings page**. Within our online shop on Connect, profit from sales of our book *The Nunnery at Hammersmith* specifically support the Cloister Paintings Restoration and profit from certain events also support this fund.

Buying items in our shop supports School Fund

All profits from our shop come to school fund.

PTFA

The PTFA also need help with volunteers. You can find out how to get involved on Connect. You can also support the PTFA by making a direct donation through the PTFA page or signing up to Easy Fundraising where money is given to the PTFA when you shop online!

Events

On the events page, you can book tickets to events that support our fundraising. This could be a PTFA event or a school event raising money for a specific project. Some events are only open to online members of Connect.

Any Queries?

Call the Development Office on 020 8748 7600 x291.

If you prefer you can also donate by cheque made payable to Sacred Heart High School and posted to the Development Office, Sacred Heart High School, 212 Hammersmith Road, London W6 7DG. At the risk of sounding like a major supermarket, every little helps!

Sacred Heart

HIGH SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM

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