

Camden School for Girls
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Dear Parents/Guardians, Supporters, Friends and COGA members,

I am writing to you regarding the effects of spending cuts on this school and to ask for your help. Now is the time to begin fundraising again. We have been successful with this in the past, and we hope to raise £30,000 during 2011-12 to help maintain some of the activities that make Camden so special.

Our priority is to maintain all aspects of the excellent education provided at Camden School for Girls over the next few years, but we know this will be extremely difficult. Government funding received by the school is likely to fall by over 3% per year, so that it will reduce by another 10% by 2015. (This is before the effects of inflation on our costs are included.)

The projects we have identified as priorities are as follows:-

1. Hardship Fund - School Journeys and Music tuition (£10,000)

This is used to enable students to go on trips and receive music tuition if their parents are unable to pay for them, and are in receipt of benefits.

2. School Productions (£10,000)

We have reduced our spending on school productions but we recognize how important they are as a learning experience for students and as a way of bringing the school community together. We need to raise money towards related costs so the range of productions can be continued across all years.

3. The School Kitchen Servery (£10,000)

Most students use the school Dining Hall and it is a focal point for the school community. The serving area is outdated, and we could promote and sell a wider range of food if we install a new serving hatch and display units.

The reason we are asking for your help is because the school's budget for 2011-12 is around 2.8 % lower than last year, based on the amount we have been allocated by the government and the effects of inflation. This is an effective reduction in real terms of approximately £200,000 overall.

We are concerned about the effect this will have on our students' education. We have made a number of savings in order to balance the budget, but we have lost the equivalent of 2 teachers and 1 support staff, who will not be replaced.

How you can help

If you would like to contribute to these projects, please send a cheque payable to “Camden School Foundation of Frances Mary Buss” to the school finance department. Please let us know if it is a general donation, or specifically given to support one of the projects mentioned above. *We can also boost the value of your donation by 25% by reclaiming income tax you have paid: you just need to fill in a gift aid declaration form.* You can also make a contribution at the next school event you attend.

We now have a fundraising group and we will let you know about our fundraising projects and activities over the next few months through the Friday News or by post.

If you can help with fundraising, please come along to our next meeting (details from the school office) or contact the finance department (email finance@camdengirls.camden.sch.uk).

Please do what you can to support the school! Many thanks.

Yours sincerely,

Elizabeth Kitcatt
Headteacher