

## Shirley Infant School

Head of School  
Mrs C Gregory  
B.Ed Early Years



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**Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day**

Executive Headteacher  
Mrs H Hayter  
B.Ed / NPQH

## Shirley Junior School



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B.Ed Hons

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Dear Parent/Carer,

You will be aware that schools across the country are facing challenges in regard to their Government funding; our schools are no different and we have had to make difficult financial cuts over the past three years to ensure that we continue to operate within our financial means.

We have worked hard to ensure that every area is considered for economies; for example, reducing expenditure on resources and decreasing our staffing levels where we feel it will have the least impact on our children's learning.

Our parent groups, FOSIS and the SJS PTA, are very aware of our schools' needs and have been superb at organising fund raising events to which you have contributed wonderfully, and we are very appreciative of the funds we receive which have been put towards school events and resources.

However, there are concerns about the extent to which the schools are having to subsidise school trips and events because we do not receive sufficient suggested voluntary contributions from parents. In the last academic year the schools have had to find several thousand pounds from their already stretched budgets to make up this deficit. This year, for example, only 60% of parents made the suggested voluntary contribution towards a workshop event. **This is not sustainable in the current financial climate.**

It has been agreed with Governors that we must take further actions to ensure that our schools remain on a sound financial footing. A discussion has taken place about whether trips or events should be cancelled if insufficient funds are received through suggested voluntary contributions but it was decided that this would be unfair for the many who do contribute and would also impact on the children's learning. However, this may become unavoidable in the future.

Therefore, we urge you all to consider carefully and respond to requests and reminders for voluntary contributions as a matter of importance. If you feel unable to make the suggested voluntary contribution towards an event or trip please come and talk to the admin team about alternatives such as delayed or staged contributions. Our aim continues to be that every child will attend every trip or event.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs H Hayter  
Executive Headteacher

