

Dear Parent/Carer

January 2019

### **Knox Academy Inclusion (Equity) Fund**

Following our values of Ambition, Respect & Community as a school we have decided to set up an Inclusion (Equity) Fund. We are all too aware there are so many amazing opportunities offered to pupils throughout their school career that can be difficult to access because of financial constraints and this should not be a barrier to participation. We want to encourage our pupils to be ambitious, support our school community and respect the individual circumstances of every family and therefore hope you will agree that an Equity Fund would go a long way to improving the educational experience of a number of our pupils.

We are proposing to support this fund via two avenues: Community Grants & in-school fundraisers. The school has a long history of supporting a huge variety of different charities through events such as dress down days, bake sales and the ever famous “pie a teacher in the face”. These events will continue, however, the money raised will now be split between the Equity Fund and the nominated charity. This approach was discussed at the Parent Council and was agreed as a positive way forward.

In order to ensure the fund is audited and managed correctly, we are liaising with East Lothian Council with regard to council guidelines and any other relevant statutory obligations. Parents/carers will be asked to make an application to be supported by the fund and any requests for funding will be considered based on individual circumstances.

The Inclusion fund will aim to make the following more financially viable for pupils & parents/carers:

1. Extra-curricular activities costs
2. Activities Week day trips
3. Activities Week residential trips in the UK & abroad
4. Additional dress code costs

Should you require any further information regarding the above please contact the school directly. By the same token, should you wish to be involved in any of our fundraising efforts, either individually or through a corporate link, please do let us know. Any support would be hugely appreciated.

Yours sincerely

**Sue Cook**