

The Friends of
Queen Elizabeth's

Giving to QE

Creating opportunities
for a new generation

2022-2023

Thank you

Money raised through the generosity of parents plays a vital role in securing Queen Elizabeth's School's continued success.





Our history of philanthropy

Boys at QE enjoy an inspirational learning environment. That is in large part due to parents' regular giving through the Friends of Queen Elizabeth's (FQE): parental generosity has transformed the School, funding landmark projects including The Queen's Library, Martin Pool and new dining facilities. FQE, a longstanding registered charity, has a twofold mission: to raise funds for facilities, and to help integrate new families into our community. FQE-funded projects form part of an estates strategy focused squarely on enabling the highest levels of achievement. We aim to move quickly so boys benefit directly from their parents' giving: pupils started using our Music building just 30 months after funding was confirmed.

The Friends' Recital Hall and Music Rooms: a resounding success!

The Friends' Recital Hall and Music Rooms were officially opened with a special gala festival in May 2022.

With participation in extra-curricular music booming and a full subject curriculum offered through to A-level, the School has sought to provide pupils with the finest facilities for practising and performing music. Our Governors pressed ahead with construction through

the pandemic; the building's completion confirms music's central role in the QE experience. It is fully equipped so that our star soloists, our many and varied ensembles, and our popular choirs have everything they need to make great music. All seven practice rooms have their own upright piano, while the recital hall houses our magnificent new Yamaha CF6 grand. The complex includes a smart addition to QE's catering and breketime facilities, the Mayes Atrium Café.



The next act in our Estates Strategy

Fundraising is now under way for the School's next significant project: The Robert Dudley Studio.

This 104-seat facility for drama, the performing arts and spoken-word activities will be created from existing rooms to the rear

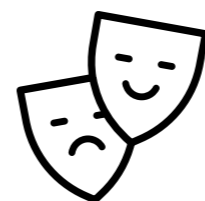
of the Main Building. The studio will have its own foyer and a landscaped external entrance with disabled access. It is named after Robert Dudley, 1st Earl of Leicester, a favourite of Queen Elizabeth I, patron of theatre and the arts, and a key figure in the founding of the School.



An impact for generations to come

Internet personality and world-leading podcaster Jay Shetty is backing the **Robert Dudley Studio**: "an incredible investment for all the current students". An Old Elizabethan (1999–2006), Jay, lived as a Hindu monk before starting his career at Accenture. In 2017, he was named on the *Forbes 30 Under 30* list of internationally influential young people.

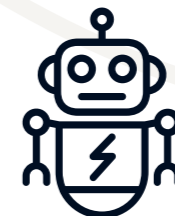
"I genuinely believe that the new studio will provide students with an exceptional space to cultivate self-presentation, empathy, reasoned argument, debate, and, deeply, confidence. These skills will build the foundation of not only success in their careers, but self-expression, reflection and introspection – skills we so desperately need to navigate the world today. I am giving this studio all my support... I cannot wait to see the incredible impact that it will have for generations."



A Cyberforce to be reckoned with!

Neel Bhatt's VEX **robotics** team, Cyberforce, headed to the 2022 World Championships in Texas fresh from their terrific triumph in winning the Design Award at the UK National Championships. Neel, of Year 9, got involved as soon as he could in Year 8. Giving up breaks and lunchtimes, he devotes seven hours a week to robotics – "all part of the commitment" – and has made T5, the FQE-funded dedicated robotics room, his second home. "It's a really useful space for VEX, providing great resources, including computers for the programming."

Alongside the technical aspects, Neel relishes the sense of team: "We are always helping each other out, sharing design ideas and working together to solve problems." Most of all, he says: "Robotics is really good fun."



Grand passions: pianist's delight at new building

Accomplished Year 8 musician Noah Morley joined QE just as the first 'concrete pour' took place at the site of **The Friends' Recital Hall and Music Rooms**. A Grade 8+ pianist, flautist with Junior Winds and member of the School Choir, Noah is "very passionate" about the extra opportunities the building offers for many more people to enjoy, study and perform Music.

Having watched it take shape, he was picked to join masterclasses and perform as a soloist in its May 2022 opening festival. Noah played Beethoven on the hall's Yamaha CF6 grand piano in the Festival Concert. "The recital hall has great acoustics, which makes it a special place to perform, while the new piano is a fantastic instrument, which it is a privilege to play."



Be part of QE's future: your support will make a difference

We are sure that parents will share our wish to provide a learning environment that enables pupils to fully realise their academic potential.

Our facilities now rival many top public schools, where fees in excess of £20,000 per year are the norm. As a state school, the *per capita* amount we receive by no means matches this. It is in fact thanks to the generosity of very large numbers of parents in years past that we are able to offer the enriched academic and extra-curricular provision for which QE is known. We are often asked what is a reasonable amount for parents to commit: a simple answer is that the

budgeted plans we have could be fulfilled with a monthly donation of between £75 and £150 from each family. We understand that for some this would be difficult, whilst for others a greater contribution might be possible. We ask simply that every family give as generously as they possibly can. If you have a business able to offer corporate donations, including match funding, please contact our Development Office at developmentoffice@qebarnet.co.uk.

Your donations will often directly benefit your own sons. They will help future generations and the wider community, too, corresponding with the QE ethos of seeking the good of others. In order that we can continue developing the School, we appeal to current parents and friends to give generously.

Please be assured that all contributions are treated with the utmost confidentiality.



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