

RPTA THRIVE FUND – FAQs

Frequently Asked Questions

Q – Is contributing to the THRIVE Fund compulsory or expected?

A – Absolutely not. Contributions to the THRIVE Fund are entirely voluntary. Families should make their own decisions based on their individual financial and ideological positions.

Q – Are contributions to the THRIVE Fund anonymous?

A – Yes. Contributions to the charity will be anonymous. The administration will be handled by the RPTA in partnership with the Charities Aid Foundation (“CAF”). Whilst CAF administrators will have visibility of donor information, the wider school community and other donors will not.

Q – Will my child be disadvantaged if we do not contribute?

A – No. All children and families will be treated exactly the same, regardless of whether they have made contributions or not. The objective of the THRIVE Fund is to enable all children to benefit from the advantages that come from additional school funding – irrespective of whether/the extent to which their family/parents contributed.

Q – Do contributions need to be regular?

A – Contributions made in any way will always be welcome, even if one-off. However, setting up regular donations by Direct Debit (however small or large) are most helpful for supporting the school’s medium-term financial planning. You can cancel or change your contribution at any time.

Q – How is the THRIVE Fund different to what the RPTA already do?

A – The RPTA is already established as a charity for the purpose of supporting the school and to advance the education of the pupils. The THRIVE Fund is an additional fundraising initiative but there will be no change to its broader activities/objectives.

Q – How is the money raised by THRIVE Fund used?

A – In the same manner as all fundraising that has historically been undertaken by the RPTA, the funds raised will be utilised by the school in line with the charitable objects of the RPTA, as agreed with the Charity Commission. This will be overseen in discussions between the RPTA Trustees and the Senior Leadership Team.

Q – Who are the Trustees?

A - Current trustees are Marie McGrath and Catherine Newley. The RPTA is always looking for new trustees and/or for volunteers. If you are interested in helping, please email redbournpta@gmail.com, or speak to the school office.

Q – Do contributors get to have a say in how the money raised is invested?

A – The objective of the THRIVE Fund is to create a broad-based and recurring enhancement of the school's funding – which will invariably face different financial constraints at any given point in time. Of course, the school is always open to dialogue with all parents and carers if they see an unmet need which they believe should be prioritised for investment, but this will not be linked to specific contributions and will be considered in line with the school's overall budget and allocation of funds.

Q – Will we still need to pay for school trips and visits?

A – The school will continue to ask for parental contributions towards the cost of special curriculum-related activities such as these. Just as they have always been, these will be voluntary, to ensure that no child is excluded from an activity due to their family's financial position.

Q – Can the RPTA receive Gift Aid on contributions?

A – Yes. As the RPTA has charitable status registered with HMRC, it is able to claim Gift Aid from UK Tax Payers and the RPTA has registered for Gift Aid in connection with the establishment of the THRIVE Fund. Processing donations through the Charities Aid Foundation facilitates the claiming of Gift Aid.

Q – How do we cancel or change our Direct Debit contributions?

A – You may cancel or change your Direct Debit contributions at any time by contacting your bank.

Q – I have more questions! Who should I contact?

A – Please contact governors@redbournprimary.co.uk. Your question will be passed on to the Finance, Personnel and Premises Committee of the Governing Board for a response.