Dear parents and carers,

# VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS 2023/24

#### What are Voluntary Contributions and why does the school need them?

North West London Jewish Day School is a state school that receives funding from the Government. However, the school receives no money from the Government for Kodesh (Jewish Studies), nor does the Government pay the 'real' costs of Secular Studies either. This is why we need to ask our families for Voluntary Contributions (VCs). VCs advance the education of our pupils by the provision of resources, equipment and facilities in addition to those provided from public funds. The VCs are essential if our school is to maintain its current high standards and achievements (including our recent excellent Ofsted and Section 48 reports, to name but two). At North West we are proud of **our high pupil-teacher ratio** and **security provision**, as well as the **Special Educational Needs resources which are extended to all our pupils**. These are only possible because of VCs.

Critically, as stated above, the school receives **no** state or other direct funding for Kodesh (Jewish Studies). As a charity we employ the Kodesh teachers and provide the resources for all Kodesh Studies and extra-curricular Kodesh activities, which **every** pupil receives. **We therefore rely solely on parents for VCs to help cover the entire cost of the Kodesh Education.** 

#### Are contributions really voluntary?

Yes, contributions are voluntary and are a charitable donation. There is no obligation for any parent to make any contribution. However, your contribution supports the quality of education and maintains the ethos of the school, enabling all our pupils to benefit from an excellent Kodesh and Secular Education, as well as facilities, which we would otherwise not be able to provide. No pupil at the school is treated differently, whether or not their parents have made any contribution. It is important to say that if we don't receive sufficient contributions from parents, then reductions in teaching provision will need to be made across the school.

#### How much is the suggested Voluntary Contribution?

**This year we are collecting a single Voluntary Contribution** (replacing the previous Annual General Voluntary Contribution and Jewish Studies Contribution), which we hope will make it easier for you. The payment will be made to a single charity, which will distribute the funds to both parts of the school. The requested total Voluntary Contribution is £4,800 per child per year. Contributions can be made annually, termly, or monthly by Standing Order over 10 months. Where parents can contribute more, this is always appreciated.

NORTH WEST LONDON JEWISH DAY SCHOOL 180 Willesden Lane London, NW6 7PP

T 020 8459 3378 F 020 8451 7298 www.nwljds.org.uk admin@nwljds.org.uk Headteacher Miss Judith Caplan B.Ed Hons Principal Dayan Ivan Binstock Patron Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis

North West London Jewish Day School is a charitable company limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales. Company number: 09104225. Registered office is at 180 Willesden Lane, London NW6 7PP

# Can I claim Gift Aid?

Yes, contributions **are** eligible for Gift Aid relief since these are considered charitable contributions, but only provided that a Gift Aid declaration has been signed. In this case the suggested contribution sum may be reduced.

Gift Aid allows the school to claim 25p for every £1 donated to the charity, from the Government, provided that the donor is a taxpayer and has signed a Gift Aid Declaration. If you have not already signed a Gift Aid Declaration or to request a new Gift Aid Declaration form, these can be found on the School's website, or please email mlaban@nwljds.org.uk. In addition, should you be eligible, higher-rate tax relief is available on Gift Aided donations.

## Can I contribute using Charity Cheque, Business Cheque or a Charitable Trust Account?

Yes, Contributions can be made by charity voucher (including Achisomoch, SmartGiving and CAF) or via a Business or Charitable Trust Account. These payments are not eligible for further Gift Aid, so we do request the full suggested contribution in these instances.

## What happens if I cannot afford to contribute?

For those who are financially unable to contribute, please contact Melanie Laban, Administrator for VC collections, (<u>mlaban@nwljds.org.uk</u>), in the strictest of confidence. We do ask that parents contribute as much as they are able.

IF YOU ARE ABLE TO DO SO WE CANNOT EMPHASISE ENOUGH HOW IMPORTANT IT IS FOR US TO RECEIVE FULL AND TIMELY CONTRIBUTIONS.

## How can I make my Voluntary Contribution?

Please see the table overleaf with full details on how to make the voluntary contributions.

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# N R T H W E S T

SUGGESTED VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION PER CHILD	ANNUAL	TERMLY	Monthly over 10 Months
WITH GIFT AID	£3,990	£1,330	£399
NB. TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS SUM A GIFT AID DECLARATION MUST HAVE BEEN SIGNED AND SUBMITTED TO THE SCHOOL BY THE PERSON MAKING THE CONTRIBUTION	Direct bank payment: (Account below)		Please set up a Standing Order via your bank to run for 10 months from Septem- ber to June, and send a screen-shot or copy of the confirmation to: mlaban@nwljds.org.uk. A printed standing order form is available on the web- site.
WITHOUT GIFT AID	£4,800	£1,600	£480
	<ul> <li>In addition to the above contribution options you may also contribute without Gift Aid by:</li> <li>Charity Voucher (SmartGiving/CAF etc);</li> <li>Cash; or</li> <li>Cheque from a Business or Charitable Trust</li> </ul>		

Yours faithfully,

DAVID LANDY

SARA ELIAS

Chairman - Trustees Email: dlandy@nwljds.org.uk Mob: 07836 563522 Chair of Governors Email: selias@nwljds.org.uk Mob: 07957 697769

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