



Ashby Hastings Primary School

Headteacher – Mrs Rachel Mckeown

Senior Teacher – Mrs Amy Foster

“Inspiring minds to foster confidence”

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Our New PTA

A group of us parents have started to set up a PTA for our school, and honestly, we were overwhelmed with how many people who want to be actively involved!

Here is an overview of what we hope to be about, and how we hope to benefit the children of the school. Please have a browse through the following, and if you have any questions that remain unanswered, please contact one of the committee members:

- Chair – Jane (EYFS and Yr1 Parent)
- Secretary – Maria (Yr2 Parent)
- Treasurer – Rachel (Yr1 Parent)

via ashbyhastingspta@gmail.com or see one of us at drop off/pick up.

Why do we want a PTA?

We are fortunate to have a lot of our parents and carers who are eager to volunteer their time for the benefit of our school, and the forming of a PTA will allow us the structure to do it. We hope to raise a lot of monies for resources and activities to enrich our children's education, as well as have some fun ourselves and create a whole school community.

All parents and members of the school community are encouraged to get involved, even if they only have a small amount of time available, it will be appreciated.

Not all of our events will be run as fundraisers. The PTA will financially assist events aiming to give the children extra learning opportunities and a good time on the school grounds as well.

Charitable status

Charity law requires voluntary organisations such as ours with an annual income in excess of £5,000 (which we very much hope to be) to register with the Charity Commission for England and Wales. As a charity we must abide by Charity Commission rules and regulations, and we are bound by a governing document referred to as our constitution. Our constitution sets out the rules about how we operate as a PTA and how we conduct ourselves financially, as well as an entity. This constitution will be available on the school's website. Being a registered charity, we are able to:

- receive charitable donations from local and national companies.
- apply to grant-making charitable trusts; most charitable trusts will give grants only to groups recognised as charities.

- receive donations made through payroll giving and company matched giving schemes.
- Potentially apply for Gift Aid, which will give us an extra 20p/£ of sponsorship monies.

Links with local businesses

We hope, over time, to develop strong links with the local community and be supported by both residents and businesses, especially in the potential provision of donations, raffle prizes or involvement in school fetes etc.

We also hope to engage larger national businesses, such as the Tesco token scheme, to gain even more for our school.

Role of the Committee

Our PTA committee consists of three Officers: Chair, Treasurer and Secretary, all of whom are trustees of the charity. This is a minimum requirement for a charity, however all active PTA members will be involved in ideas, planning and executing all events.

The committee plan to meet at least once a term to discuss upcoming events, all PTA members will be invited and encouraged to join these.

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

An Annual General Meeting will be held towards the start of each academic year to set up the committee for that year, as well as discussing the previous year. This being our first year, we have had to do this in a bit of a rush so we can register and be ready to put together a Christmas Disco!

How we will raise money

Like most PTAs, the majority of our funds will be raised through the events that we run. Some popular event ideas are:

- Christmas/Easter Fairs
- Disco's
- Quizzes
- Sponsored activities etc

We also hope that the newly formed school council will be able to support by giving us some ideas of events, as well as ideas as to how they want to spend the raised funds!

Even if you do not wish to be a member, you can still support by donating your time, items for sale, raffle prizes etc and offer your skills and expertise.

How we will spend the money we raise

Following a fundraising event, the money will be banked straight away. We have to first register as a charity before we can set up a bank account, but it is in motion.

Mrs Mckeown will consult with children and staff to discuss how the funds raised could be spent – this wish list will be given to the PTA to discuss at meetings and decide which

to fund. We hope to provide those 'extras' that are not provided by the school budget, to make our children's experiences more fulfilling and exciting.

Company matched giving

Company matched giving is very simple. Companies or businesses pledge to donate to a charity such as ourselves an amount of money relating to the amount that an employee(s) donates or fundraises for us. This is another way you can help! So speak to your company leaders (or if you are the company leader...) and explain the benefits to them, such as

- employees' morale is boosted by having their efforts supported by their employer.
- the company benefits from having charitable donations written off against taxable profits.
- the company can endeavour to get publicity for their giving.
- and our PTA benefits from receiving perhaps double what we have raised at an event!

How we get information to you

We will advertise our events long ahead of time, so you will have plenty of opportunity to help support! We will try and be paperless as much as possible, so watch out for messages on Weduc. If you want to be part of the PTA WhatsApp Group, please talk to a committee member.

How you can get involved

There are lots of ways you can help and support your child through the PTA.

Offering to help before events or at other times during the year is so valuable. It doesn't matter if you can't help on a regular basis, or even if you cannot come into school. There are always jobs that can be done from home if you have half an hour to spare e.g. wrapping gifts, preparing raffle tickets etc. We won't be able to achieve what we want without your support.

If you would like to be more involved, you can volunteer to be a Committee Member or active member. Or you can simply support in the AGM's and give us your ideas for fundraising events. This is also the time to ask questions or voice your opinion.

You can help by letting us know if you have any contacts or skills we could use, everything is potentially valuable to us.

And finally, we are always extremely grateful to receive donations as mentioned before!

Thank you for taking the time for this, we hope this PTA will be a great success for years to come in support of our school!

Our Next General Meeting will be on 3rd November at 2pm – everyone is invited to share ideas and plan our first events!

Thank you, from your new PTA