



# Rugby School

## Public Benefit 2009

### Introduction

Since Rugby School's foundation in 1567, charitable behaviour has been part of the core beliefs. The Lawrence Sheriff bequest, the original foundation, continues to support the education of local boys and girls some 450 years later and the more recent Arnold Foundation, named in honour of the School's most famous nineteenth century Head Master, provides similar benefit to boarding pupils of limited financial means. Outreach work of all sorts typifies the School's approach and is representative of its deep seated sense of mission in the field of education.

This document contains a summary of the present day activities in which our current community is engaged. Respect for others and a spirit of generosity are central to our ethos. These principles help to explain the wide range of charitable activity listed, which enriches the life of the School and which provides opportunities for pupils of all ages to broaden their horizons and to learn the value of giving.

The areas of public benefit identified come under the headings:

1. Educating our own pupils, including scholarships and bursaries
2. Financial support for local schools
3. Public benefit through savings to the taxpayer
4. Community partnerships
5. Fundraising and charity events
6. Curriculum development and impact on national developments in education

### Areas of public benefit within the School

#### 1. Educating our own pupils, including scholarships and bursaries

- The School currently awards scholarships and bursaries of more than £1.9m per annum.
- From 2005, all scholarships were restricted to 10% of fees with all awards eligible for means-tested financial support up to the full value of the fees if justified by the financial circumstances of parents or guardians, enabling the School to direct bursary funds to those most in need.
- Bursary support up to 100% of fees is available on a means-tested basis. More than 30 pupils currently receive bursaries of 100% of School fees.
- Rugby School has always been able to offer support to local children through the funds available in the Lawrence Sheriff bequest. Means-tested awards are available for day places to anyone living within 10 miles of the Chapel Bell. 42 pupils are currently supported at Rugby in this way.
- The Arnold Foundation for Rugby School is much more recent. In 2002 we established this new charitable foundation to offer boarding places to children who might attend Rugby School irrespective of parental means. Up to 100% of fees and extras are available to pupils, normally from the maintained sector, who have all round ability and a need for boarding. The first 3 pupils funded under this programme

joined the School in September 2004. In 2008/9, we have 23 Arnold Foundation pupils at Rugby School at a cost of more than £650,000 per annum.

- We are committed to providing full support to our Arnold Foundation pupils and their families. We have an Assistant Head with special responsibility for these pupils, an Arnold Foundation tutor (who provides support in addition to regular tutors) and we have a volunteer Parent Co-ordinator, who provides support and advice to Arnold Foundation pupils' parents through meetings, e-mail and phone contact when it is needed.
- Our aim is to provide support for 10% of the School or 80 pupils either through the Lawrence Sheriff bequest or the Arnold Foundation for Rugby School (currently we are at 8.2%).
- Some form of financial assistance is provided to more than one quarter of pupils in the School.

## 2. Financial support for local schools

In the 1870s Rugby School founded and endowed a free boys' grammar school in Rugby which now operates in the state sector (The Lawrence Sheriff School). Rugby School continues to provide endowment to The Lawrence Sheriff School, paying to it one-fifth of the net annual income from properties in London; this is confirmed by Acts of Parliament promoted by Rugby School (the Rugby School (Transfer) Act 1906, as amended by the Rugby School Act 1922). The amount of such payment in the year to 31 July 2008 was more than £450,000.

## 3. Savings to the taxpayer

Educating over 780 children each year is in itself a substantial public benefit, saving the state well in excess of £3.5 million a year. (This is based on the government's own data for the cost of educating a child in the state sector).

## 4. Community partnerships

- Each week during the year, over 170 pupils, supported by more than 30 members of staff, undertake community-related projects on one afternoon per week as part of our "**Thursday afternoon activities**". The activities are various, ranging from pupils spending time in local schools, working with charities and volunteer agencies to working with inmates of a young offenders institution.
- In the field of education, our community partnerships include "**the Warwickshire Independent State School Partnership**" which began in 2003. Rugby School shares its Science, Maths and IT teaching and learning facilities with local maintained schools. Initially these schools were Lawrence Sheriff School, a grammar school for boys, and Bishop Wulstan RC School. The success of the liaison work resulted in an expansion to include Rugby High School for Girls and Harris School. In addition to providing its physical facilities, without charge, Rugby School supports this project with over 500 hours p.a. of staff time. The project is part funded by the Warwickshire Education Business Partnership, who provide about 50% funding from a total cost of about £5,000 a year. The rest is funded by Rugby School. We train a number of our students as mentors each year, and every Thursday afternoon they help with teaching Science and Mathematics. INSET courses for teachers and technicians are organised by Rugby staff; a large number of lectures have been organised for local primary and senior school pupils (some given by our staff and others by luminaries such as Simon Singh); annual *Gifted & Talented* events have been created, most notably *Einstein Day* and *Forensic Science Day*, which both involved lectures and workshops given by Rugby Science staff for maintained school pupils. A large number of schools from outside the partnership also attend our events. The cost is met by Rugby School.

- Rugby School has set up a partnership programme for Sixth Form students working on the new Level 3 Extended Project Qualification. The “Philosophy Zone” has been attended by over 60 students from Rugby High School, Lawrence Sheriff and Ashlawn School. They have been provided with a seminar discussion programme, led by Rugby School’s Director of Critical Skills. This has involved group discussion of philosophical and ethical ideas, such as genetic modification, cloning, animal rights, abortion and euthanasia, the mind/body problem, mental illness, personal identity, science and religion. The aim of the seminars is to help students starting off on project work to enhance their thinking and communication skills and to explore ideas which could form the starting point for interesting projects. Rugby School students with experience in these areas have joined the discussions as mentors. There are four 45 minute zone sessions happening during the week. As well as seminars, each participating Sixth Form has had research support sessions using Rugby School’s Library facilities with access to the online archive, JSTOR. These sessions are supervised by Rugby School staff with expertise in project research areas. Partnership schools are also being offered access to a virtual learning platform Rugby School has set up for EP students. To support the work Rugby is doing in this area, and especially the philosophy zone partnership with local schools, in September 2008 Rugby School appointed a ‘Philosopher in Residence’. The School has also released a number of its staff from other duties to give them time to be involved in curriculum development and resource writing, resources which were made nationally available from March 2009.
- Rugby’s work on the Extended Project and the partnership with local Sixth Forms are seen by the School as the first steps in the creation of a ‘Creative Learning Centre’ (CLC). The aim of the CLC is to make available to other schools the valuable learning experience which Rugby School students and staff have enjoyed thanks to their involvement in teaching and developing resources for the Extended Project.
- Rugby School combines with 3 local schools in the state sector to host the **Annual Challenge of Management and Leadership Conference** which is open to all Lower Sixth pupils studying at schools in Rugby.
- Each year Rugby School organises and runs a “**First Schools’ Day**”. Local primary schools are invited to send some of their pupils to Rugby (about 300 in total) for a whole day. We organise lessons, activities, quizzes and competitions for the pupils and give them lunch in the boarding houses. About 300 Rugby School pupils and 25 members of staff are involved in the running of this day.
- Our Graduate Teaching Assistants spend at least two hours per week in a local primary school: running netball and cricket clubs and taking PE lessons.
- Since September 2008 the Rugby School CCF has supported pupils from Avon Valley School.
- Rugby School **organises and hosts a number of events** during the year which are open without charge to the public, including concerts in our chapel and in the Temple Speech Room, plays, art exhibitions and educational talks. Local Primary Schools are invited to matinee performances of school musical and theatrical performances. Academic departments including Mathematics, IT, English and Science invite local secondary school pupils to their society talks and lectures – these are often given by leading inspirational speakers such as Simon Singh, Anthony Horowitz etc. Many departments offer “mock” interviews for Oxbridge candidates from Rugby High School. The English department run a poetry competition for pupils from local secondary schools. The Modern Languages department has regularly been used as an oral centre for students from outside who have wanted to take oral exams with our own candidates in non-mainstream subjects such as Italian, Portuguese and Chinese. When Sebastian Coe unveils a plaque at the School in April 2009 commemorating Rugby’s influence on Pierre de Coubertin and the founding of the modern Olympic Games, pupils from local schools will be involved in competing in relays, cricket matches, tag-rugby and an Art Exhibition.
- The School **facilities are provided free of charge** for a number of charitable fund-raising activities, e.g. NSPCC, Rotary Club, “Children in Need” and other local groups.

- Members of the School's staff contribute their time voluntarily to a number of charitable causes such as: assisting in the running of the Bradby Club the Rugby Portobello Trust, the Lawrence Sheriff Almshouses, Trustee for the Council for Voluntary Service in Rugby, governors of local maintained schools, and organising charity events which take place within the school such as the whole-school sponsored walk and the Children in Need day. In the "extended community" Rugby has developed strong links with Future Hope an educational charity which helps boys and girls in Kolkata.
- We donate used but very serviceable machines to local schools.
- Rugby School Enterprises, on behalf of Rugby School, is responsible for facilitating the use of School venues and facilities by a number of organisations and individuals during non-school periods. This manifests itself in a variety of different ways:
  - Various local bodies, including schools, use the School venues free of charge, from time to time, for information giving or fund-raising activities.
  - A number of other organisations at local, national and international levels benefit from using the facilities at cost for training, coaching and similar purposes.
  - Local primary schools, currently 12, and other council operated groups are able to make use of the School's swimming pool, all weather pitches and tennis courts on a weekly basis at reduced rates. In addition local High Schools benefit from the same low rates when they make use of the School Chapel for various ceremonies.
  - The local community benefits from access to the School's Sports Centre and facilities at very competitive prices. Over 650 local individuals are members of the centre and 80 local clubs are able to use the sports hall and pitches for training purposes. The School also operates children's clubs during the holiday periods and over 1000 local children enjoy the facilities.
  - A number of major charitable events are hosted every year on an annual basis and the services and facilities are provided at a reduced rate

## 5. Fundraising and charity events

During the past 24 months the school has raised over £90,000 for a wide range of charities.

## 6. Curriculum development and impact on national developments in education

Historically, Rugby has played a major part in developing science courses such as the Nuffield curriculum work, the **Salter's Horners Physics** A Level Course and recently the **Perspectives on Science Extended Project Course**. In addition, each year we host **the Annual Schools' Physics Group**, which invites teachers of Physics from all over the country. Rugby also played a role in developing the new **Cambridge Pre-U** Qualification with our Deputy Head being on the steering committee and other members of staff assisting with curriculum development.

Please contact Tracey Broadhurst, [tlb@rugbyschool.net](mailto:tlb@rugbyschool.net) for a more detailed breakdown of any of the above areas.

**March 2009**