



Scammonden Road, Barkisland, Halifax, W. Yorkshire, HX4 0BD
Email: admin@barkisland.calderdale.sch.uk
Headteacher: Mrs B. Schofield (B.Ed (Hons)NPQH)

Tel: (01422) 823324
www.barkislandcofeschool.org.uk

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Barkisland School Financial Support Fund

Dear Parents and Carers

Increasingly in school, we are becoming more aware that there are families within our community that might need support from time to time during their child's education at Barkisland CoFE (VA) Primary School. The past few years have placed increased financial strain on many families. We want all children to have equal opportunities to take part in a full and enriching education and school life.

I am frequently humbled by the offers that I have received over recent months from some of our parents and friends of the school asking if they can donate financially to help any of our families who may be struggling, particularly in the current economic situation.

Due to this, we are looking to establish a **Barkisland School Financial Support Fund** to help support these families as much as we can with a discretionary source of financial help.

I would like to donate to the Barkisland School Financial Support Fund – How Can I Do This?

We are now inviting offers of donations, whether this be a one-off payment or a regular payment. All offers will, of course, be treated with discretion and in the strictest confidence. Once a donation has been made, please send an email to admin@barkisland.calderdale.sch.uk to notify School. Any amount can be donated, no matter how small.

Payments can be made directly into the Barkisland School Fund account: Sort Code: 30-93-76; Account: 57826960 please ensure that you use your name and the word 'donation' as reference.

What is the aim of the Barkisland School Financial Support Fund?

The aim of the Barkisland School Financial Support Fund is to help children and their families who have difficulties paying for:

- Curriculum trips, visits, year group residentials and other activities
- School meals
- Uniform, shoes or sports kit
- Other materials or equipment to assist in academic studies
- Childcare costs
- Other necessary expenses

*Working with the Diocese of Leeds and the Metropolitan Borough of Calderdale
May he give you the desire of your heart and make all your plans succeed Psalm 20:4*



We recognise that families have different needs at different times. All families are able to apply for support from this Financial Support Fund. Payments from the Fund are discretionary. Payments are a grant, not a loan, and do not need to be repaid.

All applications for help from the Barkisland School Financial Support Fund are treated in the strictest confidence.

Who is eligible? – Any family with children registered at Barkisland CofE (VA) Primary School or Little Lambs Nursery Provision.

Rather than using income as the deciding factor, we will consider the following criteria:

- Families informing the school that they are in a state of immediate crisis and are not currently entitled to free school meals (FSM).
- Families who may have been impacted by job loss, loss of self-employed income or those already impacted by in-work poverty.
- Families where childcare issues have resulted in job loss or reduction of hours, forcing a crisis.
- Families waiting for benefits claims to be assessed resulting in short term financial difficulties, if emergency grants are pending or have already been used up.
- Families where we have identified that a young person is acting as a carer, thus creating additional vulnerabilities and pressures.
- Families impacted by potential homelessness.
- Any other factor that renders a family in need of financial assistance.

How do I apply?

If at any point in the school year, you feel financial support would be helpful, please contact the School Office either by ☎ 01422 823324 or via email admin@barkisland.calderdale.sch.uk

All requests will be considered on an individual basis and School and family will work together to agree a level of support. Agreements will be reviewed every half term.

If you would like any more information, please do not hesitate to contact the School Office.

Kind regards

Mrs Becky Schofield
Headteacher