

# YORK STEINER SCHOOL

## FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS - INFORMATION FOR NEW FAMILIES

Our intention is to find ways to make Steiner Waldorf education available to any family which sincerely wishes to join the school community. We aim to take into account the circumstances of your family and request that you commit yourselves to a realistic and reliable level of financial support for the school. The purpose is to arrive at a mutually satisfactory financial agreement between each family and the school. Your needs as a family must be balanced with the needs of the school.

### WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?

The Council of York Steiner School is responsible for setting contribution guidelines in consultation with the College of Teachers. The School Administrator and interviewers appointed by the Council are responsible for arranging and conducting financial interviews at which a commitment to financial support is agreed.

### FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

We would like income from parental contributions to cover the school's expenditure. In practice the school continues to rely on its other sources of income (rental of the Danesmead wing, fund-raising, etc.) to support the principle of not denying any child access to Steiner Waldorf education purely for financial reasons.

Once you have applied to join the school you will have an interview with two teachers. At the end of this interview there will be a financial interview with a member of the administration team, at which all aspects of your financial contribution will be discussed.

Each year you will be asked to complete a fresh contribution agreement. You will be asked to decide whether you are able to make a "per child" contribution or a "per family" contribution.

#### "Per child" contributions

If your family can afford to do so, you should pay at least a "per child" contribution for each of your children. If your family can afford to pay more, it is important to the school's finances that you do.

Annual "per child" contribution guidelines for the year 2008/2009 are:-

Classes 1-8 first child	£4800
Classes 1-8 subsequent children	£4600
Kindergarten:-	
rising Class 1	£3840
aged under 5:-	
attending 5 days	£3360
4 days	£2688
3 days	£2016
2 days	£1344

LEA funding is available for eligible 3 and 4 year olds which covers some of the cost of a place in Kindergarten

#### "Per family" contributions

For families who are not able to contribute at the "per child" level, the school's Council and College of Teachers have agreed a recommended **minimum** level of contribution per family. This should be 13.2% of the family's total gross income where income is up to £30000, or 15% where gross family income is above £30000. This contribution is "per family", irrespective of the number of your children attending the school or kindergarten, and is not reduced by the LEA early years funding claimed by the school.

You will be asked to provide evidence of income; it is expected that families who are able to pay more than the minimum 13.2% or 15% of their income will contribute as much as they can.

If you feel that neither the "per child" nor the "per family" contribution (minimum of 13.2% or 15% of gross income as appropriate) is possible for your family's circumstances, you will be asked to provide proof of income and expenditure so that a mutually beneficial level of contribution can be agreed.

#### ADDITIONAL CHARGES

In addition to your contribution, you will be required to cover the cost of some materials, outings and school trips.

If you would like more information about the school before requesting an interview for your child, please contact the school office.

11 June 2008