

LATYMER - FOUR CENTURIES OF GIVING

Latymer, like most schools that predate the rise of state funded education, owes its origins to the foresight and generosity of a series of individuals who held the view that wealth brought with it obligations to help those who were less fortunate than themselves.

The Latymer Foundation has a long history of giving since the original bequest of Edward Latymer in 1624 to “clothe and educate eight poore boies of Edmonton”. The trustees are under a duty to carry out the provisions of his will “unto the end of the world”.

Further bequests were made in 1662 by John Wild and in 1679 by Thomas Style, both of Edmonton. For more than a century there were no further bequests until in 1811, Ann Wyatt, a widow of Hackney, left £500 5% Navy Annuities to build a new school and £100 in the same securities for its maintenance. Since the last of these historical bequests, the Foundation has benefited from a large number of donations, and while a few from former parents and pupils have been substantial sums in their own right, the main giving continues to be small regular amounts over long periods

THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE CAMPAIGN

The Campaign was launched in the autumn of 1996 to tackle two major problems facing Latymer - general overcrowding in the School and inadequate facilities for Music, Drama, Media Studies and Sport. The solution was to provide new performing arts and sports facilities. The support of the Foundation enabled a fundraising office to be established, and two years later over £1 million had been raised. In the spring of 2000 the performing arts centre, The Mills Building was opened.

In 1998 Latymer faced serious cuts in funding due to the abolition of Grant Maintained Status. The creation of the Latymer Standards Fund helped bridge this deficit by ensuring that despite the cuts we would still have the funds to maintain Latymer’s very high standards. The extra funding through the Standards Fund has enabled us to develop and improve the School and ensure it stays among the very best in the country. This is where we find ourselves again in 2016 due to Government cuts in 6th form funding.

Our Sports and Dining Hall Complex was completed in early 2006. The Seward Studio was completed in 2010. This state of the art space is used for assemblies, lectures, art exhibitions, media workshops, drama performances and concerts. In 2012 the West entrance was improved and this summer saw a significant refurbishment of the sixth form area. These substantial projects could not have been achieved without the support of parents and friends.

The Latymer School remains a leading co-educational state school. At the heart of the school’s aims is the cultural, social and intellectual development of all its pupils, and with your help it will continue to offer excellence to all - regardless of means or background.

