



## Information for You and Employer about 'Match Funding'

### Matched Funding

Matched Funding refers to the process whereby we can boost, even double, our fundraising for the school's large projects. The government encourages businesses, from large multinationals like BT or Centrica to sole traders and self-employed individuals, to donate to charity. It does this by allowing the amount donated to charity by each business to be offset against their annual tax bills. This is not an underhand or controversial way of avoiding tax. It's the opposite. The government, in May 2012, reconfirmed that they want as much money as possible to be donated through this route by acting to remove the proposed cap on charitable giving.

### How Does It Work?

It is very straightforward. Our school has a number of active projects that require funding throughout an academic year. The SNSA, on behalf of parents, looks to fund as many of these as possible. To be eligible for matched funding, the school must request a specific amount of money from the SNSA for a specific project. The SNSA will then hold events where the proceeds are dedicated to that project. Members of the SNSA, and all parents / carers of children at the school are automatically members, can then request that their employers consider matching the funds raised for the project with a similar donation. If three parents work for the same employer the all three can ask for matched funding.

### Do All Employers Offer matched Funding?

All employers can, but not all do. Some employers prefer to nominate specific charities to make donations to and some employers operate grant schemes. The overwhelming majority of employers will have some method of making donations to reduce their tax liabilities, so it is always worth investigating.

### Should I Ask My Employer?

Yes! Please do! Remember, this is not asking your employer to give money away. One way or another, your employer will be spending the money. It is simply a case of asking whether they would consider giving the money to the school's projects rather than to the taxman! Most employers who provide matched funding will want to see details of the project their money will be spent on, and will ask you to fill out a simple form to apply.

Simply speak to one of us in the playground or give your name to the school receptionists and they will ensure it is passed to us.

If your employer does not provide matched funding but does operate grant schemes.

Remember, everybody wins with matched funding. Your employer pays less tax and you can make a fantastic contribution to the school with one simple application!

***Thank you on behalf of the St Nicolas School Association***