**Cheadle Hulme School - Case for Support - Bursaries**

**Looking back, moving forward**

Times may have changed since 1853 when Cheadle Hulme School began life as the Manchester Warehousemen and Clerk’s Orphan School, but our philosophy remains the same.

We no longer provide an education solely for those in need, but we still firmly believe that any child with ability and determination, regardless of financial circumstances, should be able to benefit from the CHS experience – and those whose education is affected by financial hardship or bereavement should be helped to continue their studies with us.

The School is proud of its tradition of increasing access through bursaries. We currently contribute £1 million every year to our bursary fund and 10% of our students receive some financial support. We also remain true to our heritage by continuing to provide educational stability for our modern ‘Foundationers’ - students who lose a parent during their time at School.

As the School grows and develops, however, we are struggling meet the increasing demands placed on our Bursary Programme. We regularly have to turn down requests for financial support, which goes against our mission to be a truly inclusive institution.

***We would like to help more students achieve their full potential – but we can’t do this without your support.***

Together we can help the School to focus once again on offering opportunities to children whose parents could otherwise not afford a CHS education, and give them a real chance of success in the future.

There are several ways in which your support can directly benefit talented young people:

**Transforming lives**

***Bursary Programme***

Education has the potential to raise aspirations, open doors and change lives. As an Old Waconian you will know first-hand the benefits of studying at Cheadle Hulme School and, through supporting our Bursary Programme, you can give more children this incredible opportunity.

From 2014, our goal is to award 100% bursaries to a small number of very disadvantaged children each year who we think will thrive at CHS. We plan to support them throughout their time at the School to make sure they get the most from their CHS experience and leave us with the confidence and ability to change their own and other peoples’ lives in the future.

As well as anonymous gifts, there are opportunities to be more personally involved in our Bursary Programme, through ‘named’ bursaries or sponsoring individuals throughout their education.

**Supporting families**

***Hardship Fund***

Many families experience unexpected financial difficulties during their lives – often through illness, loss of employment or housing, or divorce. In these exceptional circumstances the School offers temporary financial support to enable students to continue at CHS, reducing the distress to both parents and students.

The Hardship Fund will support a student until the end of their current academic year, which takes the pressure off parents to find school fees and gives the student much-needed stability and continuity.

Without the generous support of Old Waconians, this valuable resource would not exist and many of these students would never make it to graduation.

In a tough economic climate, when any family could find themselves struggling to make ends meet, it is even more vital that Cheadle Hulme School can continue to provide this crucial funding.

**Safeguarding the future**

***Long-term endowment fund***

In times of financial uncertainty, forward planning is essential. To ensure the School’s long-term growth and development, and to continue our mission of accessibility for all, we need to be financially prepared with a ‘safety net’ of funds we can fall back on.

Since the launch of the 150th Bursary Trust in 2006, Old Waconians, parents and Friends have helped us raise more than £1 million – money which has provided means-tested bursaries and increased funds for Foundationers.

With your help we aim to raise another £XX million to make even more support available to bright young people who would gain a great deal from CHS – and give a great deal back to the School as well.

**In 1853, Cheadle Hulme School was founded on the generosity of a group of Manchester businessmen. You can help us continue this proud tradition of philanthropic support, and ensure our students benefit from a first class educational experience well into the future.**