



29 January 2015

Dear

School Donation 2015.

Welcome to the 2015 academic year. Following on from the letter regarding start of year organisation, this letter is about our school donation – a media taking point as school starts.

Please take a moment to read the following carefully and we would appreciate you following the instructions on page two.

As a parent at Grammar, you will realise that the donation is not a luxury the School can do without. With state funding falling further and further behind, the donation is the most important contributor to the School's annual operating income. It means we can keep providing the quality education our families currently enjoy for their sons.

The Board of Trustees has set the parental contribution for attendance at Auckland Grammar School in 2015 at \$1075.00 per student (\$2150.00 for two or more boys).

Why donations are so important

- Without the income generated by the parent donations each year Auckland Grammar School would struggle to operate
- Auckland Grammar School is a Decile 9 school which puts it at one of the lowest possible levels of funding from the Government
- Auckland Grammar School receives \$932 less funding for each student than the government's operational funding available to a Decile 1 school of the same size.
- Operational funding from the government is expected to cover learning resources (books, equipment, and classroom materials), support staff salaries, professional development, maintenance of buildings and grounds and all information technology and administration costs. However every year this government money has to be augmented by locally raised funds.
- Less than half of the Auckland Grammar School annual operating budget is funded from government grants. The remaining income is "locally raised" and school donations from parents contribute 40% of this locally raised income.

Generous parent financial support over many decades has helped make Auckland Grammar School the pre-eminent state school it is today. Your contribution for 2015 will ensure the continuation of the quality learning experiences for which our School is renowned.

Government funding to Auckland Grammar School is \$932 per student less than that paid to a Decile 1 school. This implies an expectation from the Government that parent support will bridge this gap. By passing this onto parents in the form of a donation we afford to parents the tax benefits of one third of the payment and minimise the multitude of subject and course charges passed on by other schools.

While the 2015 contribution eliminates most compulsory payments for academic subjects, payments for some items such as subject work books and special competitions will still be required. The Form 4 Outdoor Education experience at Venturelodge is an example of an additional cost.

Easy payment options

To make it as easy as possible for you to donate, the School offers different payment options to suit – whether it is via a lump sum or monthly amounts. While lump sum payments are best for the School, you are also welcome to commence a monthly payment arrangement of \$107.50 per month from February through to November. An Automatic Payment authority form is enclosed for you to complete and send to your bank should you wish to take up this option. If you have any queries regarding payment of the contribution please contact Karen Blank in the Finance Office Ph. 623 5425 or email k.blank@ags.school.nz

Payment option – via Parent Portal

Payments may be made via the Parent Portal of the School's Student Management System, PC Schools. If you are a new parent this year your access to this portal has recently been emailed to you. By accessing this portal, payment may be processed by either credit card or direct bank transfer from your bank account. While we encourage your use of the Parent Portal other payment options are detailed on the attached sheet.

Payment can also be lodged with the Finance Office by mail or in person at any time.

All donations are tax deductible

We ask that you continue to support Auckland Grammar School and in so doing contribute to the provision of a quality education for your son and all young men at Auckland Grammar School. A receipt will be issued for all contributions received and contributions are income tax deductible.


If you have questions or comments for the School, please write them on the form enclosed and return it to us. Likewise, if we do not have your correct details, including your address and payment details, please let us know.

Thank you again for your on-going support. Together we look forward to the challenges, opportunities and rewards that 2015 will bring.

Yours sincerely



Tim O'Connor
Headmaster



Mr J Blackburn
Chairman Board of Trustees

2015 Auckland Grammar School Donation payment options for

I would like to pay my 2015 Auckland Grammar School Donation of \$1075.00 by:

I have accessed the Parent Portal and have paid by credit card or by direct transfer from my bank account.

Visa/Master Card:

Card No:.....Expiry Date:.....

Name on Card:.....

Bank:.....Signature:.....

Cheque: Please make cheques payable to Auckland Grammar School and post to Private Bag 99930 Newmarket Auckland 1149

Internet Banking: Credit Auckland Grammar School BOT account:
02 100 0172985 00 with your son's name and form and reference as "Donation"

Automatic Payments from my Bank Account: \$107.50 will be debited from your account in February - November 2015. Please complete the attached form and return to Auckland Grammar School or scan and email to k.blank@ags.school.nz.

Eftpos: Available at School Finance office.

Partial Payment: I would like to make a partial payment of \$----- towards the School Donation.

Do we have your up to date contact details? Please advise any changes below

We appreciate any feedback you may wish to supply:

Act now to ensure your tax rebate on your School Donation

31 March is fast approaching. Paying your School Donation in full, before or on 31 March, means you can claim a tax rebate of \$358.33.

Attached is the link to the parent portal {PaymentPortal}.

Payment may also be made at the finance office at School or by internet banking to our Bank Account, 02 0100 0172985 00 referencing your son's name, form class and 'Donation.

Your prompt payment of the School Donation is much appreciated

For account assistance please contact Karen Blank, Assistant Accountant, Ph. 6235425 or email: k.blank@ags.school.nz



16 October 2015

Dear Parent / Guardian

Throughout the year we have communicated with you regarding the School donation for your son <name>. We have outlined the reliance the School has on income from parents to fund the unique advantages the School provides. Our records show that to date you have not contributed to the 2015 donation and we are hoping that as your son prepares for his Cambridge / NCEA examinations you will take this opportunity to do so. However if our records are incomplete, please contact us.

The Parent Donation is essential to help us provide a quality education for your son. As you are fully aware Auckland Grammar School offers both Cambridge and NCEA qualification pathways and this has financial implications on the School's operations. Your donation goes some way to fund the dual pathway which your son is taking advantage of. Parent Donations also bridge the gap in Government funding with Auckland Grammar School receiving \$945 less funding per student than lower decile schools of the same size.

As <name> is in the Senior School you will be very aware of the benefits the School offers both academically and in extra-curricular activities. The vast majority of Grammar families have shown their support for the School by contributing. We would appreciate your support at this time of the School year.

We acknowledge that some parents may find it difficult to meet this financial obligation. This is why we invite you to tailor your contribution to suit your situation.

If you wish to discuss your situation or raise any issues please do not hesitate to contact our Finance Office by emailing Ms Karen Blank at k.blank@ags.school.nz.

The \$1075.00 donation payment may be made via the Parent Portal of the School's Student Management System, PC Schools. Your access to this portal can be found at the bottom of the Schools home webpage at www.ags.school.nz.

By accessing this portal payment may be processed by either credit card or direct bank transfer from your bank account. Your user name for use of the portal is xxxx. While we encourage your use of the Parent Portal other payment options are:

- Cheque to AGS. Private Bag 99930, Newmarket Auckland 1149
- Cash, credit card or Eftpos at the School Finance Office
- Internet banking to account number: 02 0100 0172985 00 referencing your son's name, form and donation.

Auckland Grammar School absolutely relies on parental support. We thank you for your attention to this issue.

Please note that this school donation is fully tax deductible. Payment in full entitles you to a \$358.33 tax refund on your next tax return.

Yours sincerely

Ian Palfrey
Director of Finance and Infrastructure