



Firstly, we would like to say WELCOME. Secondly, thank you for taking the time to read this leaflet. We appreciate the amount of documentation there is to read and complete when your child starts school. However, we could not miss an opportunity to tell you about STOWFORD FRIENDS!

## WHO WE ARE

We all have a role to play in supporting our school, and together we can create an active, inclusive community in which our children can learn and thrive. As a parent, carer, relative or friend of a Stowford School student you are automatically a member of Stowford Friends PTFA!

Stowford Friends PTFA are a committee of parent volunteers, elected at the PTFA's Annual General Meeting (AGM) to lead the organisation on fundraising events, with support from the school's Senior Leadership Team. Our next AGM will be in September, and we'd love to welcome new members; so please get in touch if you'd like to learn more about what's involved.

## MEET THE COMMITTEE

**Joint Chairs:** Sarah Muirhead and Katie Rogers

**Treasurer:** Emma Coles

**Secretary:** Kirsty Lewis

**Members:** Anna Prout, Lottie Roberts, Charlie Ross, Krystal Zillah-Dudley, Janine Bunker, and Georgie Bowden

## WHAT WE DO

### Organise Events

We aim to organise events that create lasting memories for the children and bring us all together as a community. Events like our Christmas Fair, wreath making, quiz night and Summer Fair promote social cohesion and provide enjoyable experiences for the children that help them to engage positively with the school and their learning. We hope to hold many more fun events for the students over the coming years.

### Raised Funds

We collect donations and hold sales throughout the year to raise money for the school. This funding is used to support activities and improvements for the school. We have previously funded:

- Books for the school library
- Kitchen equipment in the cube
- The Yurt
- Playtime equipment (chosen by the children and paid for from funds raised by cake sales)
- Year 6 leavers experiences

### Easy Fundraising

The Stowford Friends PTA is registered with Easyfundraising, where you can generate donations through online shopping with your favourite retailers. Please find out more about how Easyfundraising works through the following link:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stowfordfriends>

### My Nametag

As you know, we encourage all uniform to be named and labelled, if you purchase name labels via the link below and use the school ID code 31769, this will provide an opportunity to raise funds for Stowford Friends at no extra cost to you.

<https://www.mynametags.com/affiliate?id=31769>





### Communication

To allow us to send you updates about all things Stowford Friends related, we need to get your permission in line with General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR). Please can we ask that you email us on [friends@stowford.devon.sch.uk](mailto:friends@stowford.devon.sch.uk), giving us permission to contact you in a number of different formats.



### Class Dojo

Class Dojo is the app used by Stowford School to bring you up to date information. Stowford Friends also use this app as our main method of communication with you all.



### Facebook

We have a Facebook page, [Stowford Friends | Facebook](#), where we keep not only our families up to date but also the local community, so everyone can get involved in helping raise funds for the pupils of Stowford School.

## HOW CAN I HELP?

The most important way you can support the PTA is by giving an hour or two of your time to ensure that our events run smoothly. No skills or experiences are necessary! The current committee has big ambitions for the PTA in the coming years, but we need support from the whole school community to make it happen.

There are a range of ways in which you can provide your support:

- Committee Member

To be part of the committee we ask that you attend 1 to 2 meetings of the 3 to 6 meetings that we hold each year, normally these are in the evening and can be in person or via Teams. You will be part of the WhatsApp group and will help to give ideas about fundraising and how the committee spends the funds raised. This role is instrumental in the organising of events and activities the PTA offer, however you are only required to help as and when you can.

- Volunteer

There is no set commitment for volunteers just an agreement to help out when you can. The majority of our volunteers help with supporting the running of events. The more volunteers we have the less time you need to commit to an event.

- Admin Volunteer

This is where you are unable to attend meetings or help at events due to other commitments but are happy to help with jobs at home such as wrapping, making up packs, packing or you have a skill in something (for example IT, financial) and would be happy to help with specific tasks or offer a workshop for other parents/adults.

- Class Reps

Probably the most important role for us is that of the class reps. We ask that the class rep helps with distributing information to other parents in their class either via class WhatsApp groups or via conversations in the playground. You will help to gain feedback and ideas on what is and isn't working and how we can continue to improve things.

Thank you for taking the time to read our welcome leaflet and we hope to see you at our events soon.



Many Thanks

Sarah, Katie, Emma, Kirsty and the Stowford Friends Committee

