



**Education
Trust**

Inspiring the individuals of today, for a better society tomorrow

CEO Mr Stewart Biddles

Dear Parents and Carers

Riviera Financial Hardship Fund

The last few years have placed increased financial strain on many families and as a trust we have seen the impact that this has had on an increasing number of our children, including a rise in the number of families who have an increasing reliance on foodbanks and the generosity and help of friends and family.

We want to support all of our families and we are working hard to create more equity in the education system through our links with the council and with the wider education system in Devon, the South West and nationally.

Our trustees have asked what more can we do to support our families, to help ensure that the experiences and opportunities that are offered in our schools are eligible to all.

To this end, the trustees have created the Riviera Hardship Fund. Each year, £5000 of funds are set aside to support families most in need to meet the costs associated with schooling. This includes support with uniform, with musical tuition, access to before and after school clubs, school trips, visitors and residential experiences to highlight just a few. We recognise that families have different needs at different times, and all families are able to apply for support from this financial hardship fund.

As a caring trust, we also know how hard it can be to ask for help and we hope that by having this fund available with application via email, that families will feel they can apply in confidence and get access to the support they need, when they need it most.

To find out more about the Riviera Hardship Fund, please see the attached flyer.

If you are having difficulties and need someone to talk to, all of our schools have a dedicated pastoral support team who can signpost you to local and national agencies who can provide expert advice and guidance.

I hope that this will be able to provide some small relief to those of you in extremely challenging financial circumstances.

Thank you as always for your continued support of your school and the work they do for all of our children.

Yours sincerely

Stewart Biddles

On behalf of the trustees of Riviera Education Trust