**Add 25p to every £1 that you give to the school at no extra Cost to yourself with**

**Gift Aid**

**What is Gift Aid?**

Gift Aid is a Government scheme that allows your child’s school to reclaim the tax that you have paid on your donations.

This adds 25p to every £1 that you give and works like this.

If you are a taxpayer and give £30 to the school, you will have paid tax on that amount. The school can get £7.50 back with Gift Aid so your donation of £30 will become worth £37.50 and it wouldn’t cost you an extra penny!

**How do I sign up for Gift Aid?**

In order to help the school in this way, you must pay tax in the UK. If you do, simply complete a Gift Aid form (which requires you to give your name, address with post code and date) and then sign a declaration saying you are a UK taxpayer and that you pay more tax than the amount the school will reclaim.

**How much tax must I pay?**

You can Gift Aid all your donations providing the amount of tax that you’ve paid (from your wage, salary, pension or investments) is more than the amount claimed. For example, if you’ve paid the school £30 per year (School Building and Governors Fund), you will need to have paid at least £7.50 in tax.

**How does Gift Aid work?**

Once you have signed up for Gift Aid, the school will need to keep a record of how much you have given. So you may be asked to put your donations (cash or cheques) in special envelopes – with your name – or pay via School Money.

**What happens if I stop paying tax or move?**

If you stop paying tax you must tell the school as soon as possible. Yu must also tell the school if you change your address.

**Can both parents give with Gift Aid?**

Yes. If you both pay tax, you should both sign a Gift Aid form and make sure that the school knows who is giving what if, for example, you pay by cheque and have a joint bank account.

**What happens to higher rate taxpayer?**

If you pay the higher rate of tax, you can also get back some of the tax that you have paid for yourself when you complete your tax return. What this means is that if, for example, you give £100 per year and Gift Aid it, the school gets an extra £25 and you get £25 back as well – so it only costs you £75 to give £125.

**Is Gift Aid confidential?**

Yes. You don’t have to give the school any information on how much you earn or any other personal details.

**Can I use Gift Aid when I give to other causes as well?**

Yes. For example, if you give to a charity or your Parish, you can also Gift Aid these donations. But, you will need to sign a separate Gift Aid declaration for each organisation.

You must also ensure that the total amount that is reclaimed from all of your donations is no more that the total annual amount of tax you pay.

**Why does the school need to raise funds?**

Most Catholic schools are ‘voluntary aided’ and what this means is that, they have ro raise 10% of the cost of maintaining and developing the buildings and grounds. The School therefore has no choice but to ask parents to make a contribution.