



Standing Up for St Peter's: Why Our School Needs Its Community

St Peter's is, and always has been, the heartbeat of our town. Generations of Budleigh families have passed through our doors. We are proud of our history, proud of our community, and proud of the education we offer.

However, the state-funded education system is broken. To keep St Peter's thriving, we need to talk openly about why we need your help today.

1. The Systemic Reality: A Country Disinvesting in Its Children

This is not a St Peter's issue; it is a national funding crisis.

- **The GDP Collapse:** Twenty years ago, the UK invested **5.7% of its GDP** into education. Today, that figure has plummeted to **4.1%**. In real terms, our schools are operating on a fraction of the funding they had two decades ago.
- **Exploding Costs:** While funding has shrunk, the cost of running a school has skyrocketed. Energy bills, essential resources, and basic operational costs have soared.
- **Soaring Pupil Needs:** The profile of pupil needs—particularly Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)—has grown exponentially, without the corresponding local authority funding to cover it.

2. The Devon Penalty: Why Our Children Are Framed as "Worth Less"

The situation is made significantly worse by where we live. Under the current national system, **a child in Devon receives over £500 less per year** than the national average.

Devon is part of the **f40 campaign**—a coalition representing the 42 lowest-funded local authorities in the country. The funding formula actively penalises rural communities like ours. The reality of the current formula is clear: **the system acts as if a child in Budleigh is worth less than a child elsewhere.**

3. The PTA Gap: Funding Essentials, Not "Extras"

For years, we have run a tight, prudent budget. We shielded our staff and children from these pressures for as long as possible. But the gap has grown too wide.

Today, our fantastic PTA isn't just raising money for "nice-to-have" extras like playground toys—they are increasingly having to step in to subsidise **core curriculum resources** that state funding should cover. That is an unacceptable position for any school to be in, but it is the reality we face.

It Is Not Our Fault—But It Is Our Community



We didn't create this crisis, and we cannot fix the national funding formula overnight. **However, we can protect our school.**

Even if the government is failing to invest in our children, **we as a community still can.** If you used this school, or your children, grandchildren, or neighbours - we need your help - it belongs to us all!

How You Can Stand With Us

We are not backing down; we are fighting to provide our pupils with what they need. We are inviting local businesses, residents, and alumni to help us bridge the gap:

- **Become a Business Partner:** Sponsor tech, reading programs, sports, or our pool.
- **Sponsor a Child or Project:** Support our 'St Peter's Village' or fund targeted learning support.
- **Use Our Facilities:** Hire the Venture Hall, our sports pitch, or our swimming pool.
- **Make a donation,** join the School Lottery or get involved with the PTA:

<https://www.stpetersfundraising.co.uk/>

Join us, support us, and let's secure the future of our school together.

To discuss sponsorships, facilities hire, or community donations, please contact Headteacher Steve Hitchcock at head@sps1.org.uk.

Investing in Our Children: A Partnership with St Peter's School

Turn your tax bill into a child's future.

At St Peter's, we are the heartbeat of Budleigh. We aren't just a school; we are the starting point for the next generation.

However, schools in Devon face a significant funding crisis, receiving **£500 less per pupil** than the national average. To ensure our children continue to thrive despite these national challenges, we are inviting local businesses to become official **School Partners**.

Why Partner With Us?

- **Tax Efficiency:** Sponsorship is a 100% tax-deductible business expense.
- **Community Visibility:** Every partner receives a physical sign in school, features in our newsletter, social media "Spotlights," and a digital supporter badge for your website.
- **Direct Impact:** Your investment goes exactly where you choose—no red tape.

Choose Your Impact



1. Tech Partner

- **Sponsor a Learner:** £500 to provide a dedicated Chromebook.
- **Headline Tech Sponsor:** £7500 to equip a full classroom and ensure digital equality for all.

2. Education & Legacy Partner

- **Sponsor a Reader:** £1000 to fund a year of intensive reading interventions for a disadvantaged child.
- **Building Sponsor:** Secure the ultimate legacy with your business name on one of our school buildings.

3. Sports & Wellbeing Partner

- **Kit Sponsor:** £500 to see your logo on our team kits as we compete across the county.
- **Pool Sponsor:** £500 to ensure the ongoing maintenance of our pool to keep our children swimming.

4. Facilities Hire

- Host your next event, club, or party at St Peter's. We offer competitive rates for our **Venture Hall**, **sports pitches**, and **swimming pool**.

Ready to partner with us?

Contact head@sps1.org.uk to reserve your sponsorship or discuss a bespoke package.



FEATURE PROJECT: The 'St Peter's Village'

We are building a **"Mini-Budleigh"** in our Early Years play garden, and we want you to own a piece of it! We are looking for local firms to sponsor and "brand" miniature versions of their businesses for £500.

This isn't just a sign; it's an interactive role-play space where children learn about your trade.

- **The Construction Site:** For building firms (includes "Digger Corner" and big block play).
- **The Village Café:** For hospitality stars (includes a mud kitchen and shaded seating).
- **The Growing Area:** For nurseries and gardeners (includes tools, seeds, and planters).
- **The Fitness Hub:** For gyms (includes a dedicated outdoor equipment store).
- **The Mechanics Shed:** For garages (includes a bike maintenance and repair station).
- **The Numbers Shed:** For finance and accountancy firms (focused on outdoor maths).
- **The Mini Library:** A calm, outdoor reading space for book lovers.

Become a "Founding Business" of St Peter's Village and inspire a career before they even leave primary school.

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