

Stanborough



At the end of this school year our fantastic three FOSS officeholders (Chair: Edna, Secretary: Kirsty and Treasurer: Elaine will be standing down after many years of amazing work.

We need new team members to the FOSS team. By volunteering as a member of FOSS, you will be offering vital support to Stanborough School as well as having the opportunity to enhance your skill set, or make new friends whilst also putting back into the local community. We are therefore appealing to all parents whose children have at least two more years at Stanborough to consider volunteering for the FOSS committee or as event helpers. Please see reverse for more details.

WHY IS FOSS IMPORTANT?

FOSS raises money to support the education of children at Stanborough via the funding of equipment that enhances our students' experience at school. Without FOSS's help the school would not have received £5,800 worth of grants over the past four years for things as diverse as scanning pens for dyslexic students to use in exams, biology incubator and micropipettes, French & Spanish dictionaries and a new 3-D printer to replace the one that FOSS also provided back in 2014 but that got worn out making face shields during lockdown!

WHAT DOES BEING ON THE COMMITTEE INVOLVE?

The committee meets once every term under normal circumstances. The meetings are in the early evening and last no more than an hour and frequently less. During the pandemic we have, obviously, met virtually and less frequently because we haven't been active. Whether we meet face to face at school or continue to meet virtually next year is unknown at present.

The committee meetings follow an agenda and, apart from the usual meeting administration items, the core of the meeting consists of:

- reviewing our funds and deciding which, if any, of the pending requests for funding we are able to satisfy;
- reviewing the list of up-coming events and discussing and agreeing arrangements for covering them.

Outside of the meetings themselves there are role-specific responsibilities around running the accounts, submitting annual returns to the Charities Commission, submitting claims for Gift Aid to HMRC and the administration of meetings and minutes.

WHAT DO HELPERS DO AT FOSS EVENTS?

The single biggest fundraiser is the quiz night. For this we run a bar and sell wine, beer, soft drinks and some snacks. Helpers help set up the bar, serve customers, clear tables, wash glassware, clear up afterwards.

All other FOSS events consist of simple provision of hot & cold beverages and snacks at school shows and concerts. At these events we also offer second-hand blazers for sale.

Each individual helper isn't expected to be at every single FOSS event. In fact, the more helpers FOSS has, the better as it spreads the load.

WHAT HAPPENS IF NO-ONE STEPS FORWARD?

If no-one volunteers then legally, FOSS must be wound up. A charity cannot exist without trustees. All fundraising activity would cease.

SO HOW DO YOU VOLUNTEER?

Please contact FOSS via the usual email address fosschair@gmail.com

