



The Royal Latin School

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## Dear Friend,

After 3 years of hard work, the 600 Campaign has raised £2.3m towards a new, transformational Sports Campus at The Royal Latin School. Despite being one of the worst funded state schools in England, the project has zero government investment. Thankfully, recent generous gifts from the London Marathon Charitable Trust and the Football Foundation means that we have enough to begin construction this Autumn.

However, a further £700k is needed to complete the project and open the facilities to young people and vulnerable local groups. To help meet that shortfall, and in celebration of the start of the build, the 600 Campaign is staging a spectacular Gala Dinner at Williams F1 in Oxfordshire on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2019.

This glittering evening will take place amidst the private Williams Grand Prix Collection, with the highlight being a thrilling, interactive auction for the enjoyment of our guests in the room as well as our network of thousands of supporters across the globe, who can join in the excitement by bidding online. This will be a truly special occasion for us; an opportunity to unite our supporters live for the very first time, to enable them to show their support for a cause they feel passionately about.

We'd love to ask you to be a part of this special event, and wondered if you would consider creating a really special gift experience or item for us to auction? Our funding challenge remains exceptional, so we're looking for auction lots that really are exceptional 'money can't buy' items or experiences, that will surprise, delight and inspire our bidders. We're asking the worlds of entertainment, sport, the arts, travel and luxury brands to dig deep and take part, so that the auction is full of unique and exciting items.

We appreciate that creating something special may require a little time and effort, and we're happy to discuss any ideas you may have - or to just leave you to it if you prefer! To give you an idea, 'private access to/behind the scenes with', 'an hour with', 'private lesson with', 'family/group experience doing' would all be popular, along with unique memorabilia. We will need to confirm the details of auction lots by 21st October.

In recognition of your contribution, we will of course recognise your generosity on the night, and via our social media channels and the auction website which will be live online for 14 days prior to the dinner. If you want to join in the fun and attend the event, we would be delighted to offer you dinner tickets at our partner rate (£125 per head).

I hope that you feel able to support our fundraising effort. To save me cluttering up your inbox, and so that we can reserve a special place in the auction catalogue for your contribution (and dinner tickets if you require them), please do get in touch as soon as you are able to confirm your involvement, by emailing me at jballantine@royallatin.org or calling me on 01280 827309. Huge thanks in anticipation!

## **Jo Ballantine**

Director of Development, The Royal Latin School

RLS 600 Campaign Board Lead Patron: Rt. Hon. John Bercow MP Co-Chairs: Giles Derry, Denise Griffiths



600 Sports Campus

Energise • Enjoy • Excel

Join us for a truly special evening of glitz & glamour at our Spectacular Gala Dinner & Auction on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2019 at Williams F1, Grove, Oxon

Book your early bird tickets now via www.rls600.com

Registered Charity No. 1060724







**Sport matters**. Giving young people a positive sporting experience at school is vital for their development and is the essential foundation for lifelong fitness. Statutory funding is but we don't believe that a lack of funding is a good enough reason to justify under-investment in our sporting facilities, when there is so much at stake. We believe that UK state school sport is in need of a serious step change. Our vision for a Sports Campus is to:

- ✓ create a sporting education which benefits young people, their future employers, and our community
- ✓ encourage sport for all
- ✓ invest in facilities that inspire everyone to have a go, and raise their game.

The Royal Latin School has a unique opportunity to build on 600 years of educational excellence to deliver this step-change, and to share that expertise with others – but doing so will require a level of investment in sporting facilities that cannot currently be met from public funding alone. We are seeking support from Sport England, sports governing bodies, corporate sponsors, professional sportspeople, community organisations, parents, alumni – and everyone who shares our belief that helping more young people to be more active, more of the time, is an essential priority. Find out more about our plans at <a href="https://www.rls600.com">www.rls600.com</a>.