



Aylesbury High School | #AHSWalksTall

Developing uniquely talented young adults, who are independent, strong and confident

29 April 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

I'm delighted to share some positive news regarding our ongoing efforts to improve our School's facilities.

We have successfully secured several capital grants, specifically:

- We have been awarded £82,000 from The Wolfson Foundation to completely refurbish our food technology room over the summer holidays, ensuring our students have access to modern, well-equipped facilities.
- We have been awarded £32,000 from the William Harding Trust and also a grant from Sports England of £15,000. Both of these are for the much-needed refurbishment of our sports courts, providing our students with enhanced sporting opportunities. The current courts are risk assessed, but in desperate need of attention; they will not be usable for another year. We hope to complete this work over the summer.

The cost of the sports court refurbishment is c.£65,000, and the grant from Sports England is conditional upon us raising matched funding through a community crowdfunding campaign. This is to ensure that it becomes a community project, a key requirement of their giving. As such, we are launching our '#PlayYourPart' campaign, which will run from today until 13th June 2025. Please see the link to our Crowdfunder page:

<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/refurbishment-of-sports-court-and-aylesbury-high>

or the QR Code below.

Your support in this initiative will be crucial in unlocking this significant investment and ensuring we can fully realise these improvements for our students.

If we can support each student in raising £11.11, we will reach our target. In the coming days and weeks, students will hear about a range of activities taking place at school. They can choose to participate in these activities or create their own. This week, students will have assemblies on the topic and instructions for how to get sponsorship and how to participate will be shared with students.

We are also reaching out to our suppliers, hirers and Alumnae Society, again to show that we are building a community around this project. #PlayYourPart.

This project directly supports three of our school's priorities:

- Strengthening co-curricular opportunities to facilitate dynamic personal development for our students
- Creating a welcoming environment by continuously improving facilities
- Embedding and developing engagement with the wider community, to draw the very best out of all

As a research-driven school, we are particularly concerned about the impact of the Covid pandemic on young women. These courts are vital for promoting physical activity and wellbeing, which are essential for the health of our community. Sport has proven positive effects on mental health, boosting self-esteem, reducing stress, and fostering teamwork and resilience. High-quality facilities are crucial for encouraging participation in sport and developing healthy habits for everyone.

Thank you for supporting your daughters with their fundraising. The successful procurement of grants and our ability to work together as a community, is an immense source of joy and is truly appreciated. Thank you!

Yours sincerely



Marieke Forster
Headmistress

