



# St Catherine's BRAMLEY

Patron: Her Majesty The Queen

Headmistress: Mrs AM Phillips MA Cantab

## **St Catherine's School – Vulnerable Adults and Association and Development Activities**

We think that the starting point is that everyone should have a fair opportunity to engage with and support causes and organisations that they care about. We also don't believe that it would be right to exclude whole groups of people from giving just because they might be more likely to be in a vulnerable circumstance (for example, elderly people). But we do believe that as a charity which fundraises for St Catherine's School we must ensure that we are taking reasonable steps to engage people in the right way, be mindful of the needs of our financial supporters, and of course avoid any instances where a donor feels they have been taken advantage of.

We believe that it would not be appropriate, and likely to be discriminatory, to treat individuals differently and exclude them from fundraising based only on the age of that supporter. The age of an individual does not, in itself, mean that that individual is vulnerable. However, if an older supporter happens to also be in a vulnerable circumstance, or need further information or support, then that individual has the right to be treated fairly.

As a charity in the course of our Association activities and fundraising, it is inevitable that we will come into contact with people who will need additional support to help them make an informed decision about donating. It is possible that members of the Association community, find themselves in a vulnerable circumstance (for example have a medical condition, or are experiencing a stressful time), or just need more time, help and patience to make a decision about whether to donate. There will also be times when we inadvertently approach people who don't have the mental capacity to make a financial decision or when they approach us.

We recognise that every situation, circumstance, and individual, is different. We also know that it can be difficult for us to identify if a potential donor is in a circumstance where additional care and support would be appropriate or is able to make an informed decision about their donation. For this reason, we make the following commitment to our Association community.

### **Our commitment**

When we become aware, by direct contact, that one of our supporters is in a vulnerable situation we will always cancel any existing regular donations.

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We will always stop direct debits received from donors if a third party (e.g. a family member, carer or friend) advise us that the donor is vulnerable in some way; if we are satisfied that such third party is entitled to act on the donor's behalf.

Where we become aware, by direct contact, that one of our supporters is in a vulnerable situation we will ensure that no further direct ask fundraising communications are sent. This will either be in perpetuity or until they advise they would like to receive such communications.