Sandringham School
'Everybody can be Somebody'

Ambition Education Trust

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Letter No: 095/2026

16th November 2026

Dear Families,

Year 8 – Request for contribution to curriculum enrichment activities: Extended Learning Days 2026-27

Wednesday 23rd September 2026 saw day 1 of our Extended Learning Days programme (or ELDs as they are known at school) which provide students with the opportunity to take part in activities not normally part of the mainstream curriculum. These 'super-curricular' activities are designed to enrich and enhance students' experience of particular subject areas by giving them the opportunity to engage in deeper learning and explore a wide range of exciting topic areas in greater depth.

In addition to extending their knowledge of specific subject areas, Extended Learning Days are an important vehicle for developing students' confidence, independence and study skills. To enhance in-school activities on these days, we arrange for guest speakers, theatre companies and other outside agencies to come and give talks, take workshops and lead sessions. As you can also see from the schedule below, there are also some off-site day trips.

Year 8 ELDs 2026-27

ELD1	23/09/2026	**Positivity Day** Students will participate in workshops around mental health covering topics such as bullying, coping with stress, online safety and emotional wellbeing
ELD2	19/01/2027	**Musical in a Day** To enable students to participate in a whole day Arts Activity and create a Musical in a Day- Matilda! Session 1- Launch in The Sandpit, Session 2 and 3- working in faculty areas to create show, Session 4- Completing work in faculty areas and rehearsing/ preparing in The Sandpit. Session 5- Final Performance in The Sandpit.
ELD3	03/03/2027	**Geography Fieldwork** An investigation into the sustainable management of St Albans city centre, and an opportunity to practice fieldwork skills learnt in school off site.

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To enable us to give each student the opportunity to benefit from these activities, we are requesting a voluntary contribution towards the cost. Feedback from our Parent Forum Group suggested that, rather than requesting separate contributions for each activity during the course of the year, we should instead request a single payment. Please note that this payment does not cover activities during E-Week.

In response to this feedback, we would therefore like to request a total contribution of £6 towards these activities during Year 8. This is a voluntary contribution but, without your continued support, it would be very difficult for the school to provide such a range of opportunities.

Please make your payment via ParentPay.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Nicholls
Acting Headteacher