



# CARGILFIELD

5<sup>th</sup> July 2022

Dear Parents

As we enter the last week of term, David Nisbet and I are able to look back with pride at all that has been achieved at Cargilfield during this last year, as the School has finally been able to emerge from the long shadow of COVID.

We would particularly like to thank all the staff for their flexibility and adaptability as the School has returned to the full range of activities that Cargilfield pupils and parents value so highly – particularly the Headmaster and his senior management team for so ably steering a course through the complexity of COVID restrictions, so that the return to normality was able to be achieved at the earliest opportunity.

Your own flexibility and that of your children during these last two difficult years must also be acknowledged – it truly has been a team effort that brings us to where we are today. It was wonderfully heartening last week to see the Summer Fair so well supported after a two-year absence. All the parents and pupils that I spoke to on the day were delighted to be able to take part in one of our trademark community events in person once again. We hope to see many more of you at the Pentland Round, the end of term Prizegiving and any of the other events taking place during the final week of term, as we give our Form 8s a rousing send-off as they embark on the next stage of their educational journeys, building on the solid foundation that they have received during their time at Cargilfield.

As you will all now no doubt be aware, we will also come together as a community on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> July to mourn our colleague and friend, Sian Mackenzie. Sian's devotion to the School and its pupils during her twenty-year career at Cargilfield has been exemplary. David and I would like to extend our deepest sympathies to Sian's parents, Hywel and Pam, her children, Murray and Ellie and all her family and friends as they come to terms with their loss. Much has already been written elsewhere about Sian's achievements and we will have a further opportunity to celebrate these with her family on 9<sup>th</sup> July.

Like all independent schools, Cargilfield has been - and continues to be - exposed to a number of cost 'headwinds', over which it has no control. As such we will have to increase the fees.

Many factors have impacted us; The removal of mandatory business rates relief, the imposition of a 1.25% increase in employers' national insurance contributions and continuing upward pressure on catering costs, fuel costs and building materials all have a significant impact on the School's finances.

For the 2020/21 year the School froze its fees, to help parents to deal with the impact of COVID on their own personal finances, as well as providing substantial financial support to help those families most significantly affected by the pandemic. In 2021/22 fees were frozen for a second year in the Nursery as parents digested the removal of government funding for early years; whilst fees in the Pre-prep and Upper School were subject to modest uplifts.

Whilst the Headmaster, the Bursar and their teams work tirelessly to find cost savings to help to mitigate the impact of the increases the School is now facing, the Governors have approved the following fees for the 2022/23 academic year.

CARGILFIELD SCHOOL

45 Gamekeeper's Road, Edinburgh, EH4 6HU

Telephone: 0131 336 2207

Email: [admin@cargilfield.com](mailto:admin@cargilfield.com) Website: [www.cargilfield.com](http://www.cargilfield.com)

Cargilfield is an Educational Charity No. SC005757 Company Registration No. SC025080

As detailed below, and after no increase in the Nursery for two years, we have added £223 to the termly fee in the Nursery; £220 to the termly fee in the Pre-prep and £460 to the termly day fee in the Upper School.

- the Nursery fee will be £3,750 per term (for five full days)
- the Pre-prep fee will be £3,850 per term
- the Upper School fee will be £6,210 per term (£7,610 for weekly boarding)

The Governors understand how hard parents have to work to juggle the cost of a Cargilfield education at a time of significant increases in the cost of living, but we are satisfied that an appropriate balance has been reached between affordability for parents whilst generating the funds that the School requires to continue to invest in its teaching staff and its facilities and so provide the best educational outcomes for your children.

In closing, may I take this opportunity to thank David Nisbet, Caroline Cook and Susan Younger for their unstinting support of Cargilfield, first as parents and latterly as Governors, as they retire from the Board this Summer. Their leadership and tireless dedication to the School during an extraordinary period has been immeasurable.

I very much look forward to meeting as many of you as possible during the various celebrations during this final week of term and, for those that I do not get to meet in person, may I wish you and your extended families a peaceful and enjoyable Summer holiday.

With all best wishes,



Lord Sinclair  
Chair, Board of Governors



David Nisbet  
Outgoing Chair, Board of Governors