

Landkey School PTA

Aims and Objectives



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Introduction

The school has a very active and well supported PTA. All parents, carers and staff are automatically members. The PTA aims to encourage good relations between staff, parents and others associated with the school, to support the school and to advance the education of the pupils in it. The objectives of the PTA are; to organise fund-raising activities, to involve as many people as possible and to make the activities fun!

The PTA isn't just about raising money for the school, our role is wider than that, and has the education of our children at the heart of it. We aim to expand upon this in the future.

We are always looking for input and suggestions on what else we can do to support this fabulous school. If you have any comments or suggestions you can either raise these at one of the monthly PTA meetings or by e-mailing us at jude_nash@icloud.com. We look forward to hearing from you.

Mission Statement

Landkey School PTA aim to:

- ☺ Develop effective relationships between the staff, parents and others associated with the school
- ☺ Arrange events and activities that raise funds for equipment and projects in school to enhance the education of the pupils
- ☺ Organise social events for the enjoyment of the pupils, their families and the wider community.
- ☺ Support the school in making the leaving year a special one for pupils.

Why do we have a PTA?

We are very fortunate at Landkey to have a PTA that is an integral part of the school. In its time the PTA has raised many thousands of pounds, which have been spent on improving equipment and resources to enhance our children's education and the facilities in school in general.

But it is much, much more than just fundraising. The PTA exists to provide closer links between home and school, and it is an excellent way to bring staff, parents and friends together socially in support of the school working towards a common goal. And it's fun! Just ask any of the PTA Committee members. Obviously as in any organisation, there are times when it is more 'challenging', but with the continued support of parents and staff, our PTA has always succeeded in its efforts.

All parents and members of the local community can get involved if they want to, even if they only have a small amount of time available, and all parents are automatically members of the Association when they join our school.

The PTA is extremely conscious of the ethos and morals of Landkey school, and we try very hard when organising and planning events to respect this. Not all of our events are run as fundraisers. Our children's discos are run mainly with the aim of giving the children a good time.

Why Are We A Registered Charity?

The Charities Act 1993 requires organisations such as ours with an annual income in excess of £1,000 to register with the Charity Commission. As a Charity we must abide by Charity Commission rules and regulations and we are bound by a Constitution. Our Constitution lays down rules about how we operate as a PTA and how we conduct ourselves.

Being a Registered Charity gives us many extra benefits.

- ☺ We are able to apply for Gift Aid, which can earn us an extra 28.2p in every pound donated to the PTA.

- ☺ We can raise funds more easily from grant giving trusts, local businesses etc.

- ☺ We can take advantage of charity matched giving schemes

Links with Local Business

We have, over time, developed strong links with the local community and are always well supported by both residents and businesses, for which we are very grateful. Many of our local shops are very generous in their donations of raffle prizes etc, and some have taken part in our Christmas and Summer Fairs.

Role of the Committee

Our PTA Committee consists of seven Officers (Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, Vice Treasurer, Secretary, School Liaison and Grants Co-ordinator). We also have many other members to make up the full Committee.

The Committee meet on a regular basis usually once a month outside of school and working hours – guests are always welcome at the committee meetings. Smaller working groups meeting as necessary to organise our bigger events.

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Our Annual General Meeting is held at the beginning of the autumn term, and this is an opportunity for all parents to come along and hear in more detail about events run and funds raised, and how the money has been spent. It is also the occasion when we elect our new Committee.

A list of current PTA Committee members is at the back of this booklet for your information. Updated lists are sent out each year after the PTA AGM.

How we raise money

Throughout the academic year, the PTA arranges a variety of events which raise money for school funds and just as importantly enable pupils, parents, and teachers to have some fun together. The activities that are held during the year include something for parents/carers as well as the children. They generally include a Christmas event, Summer Fair, Valentines, Summer and Halloween Disco, an event/competition at Easter, a quiz night/auction, movie nights and home bakes. All the events rely on the generous support of parents/carers and everyone is most welcome to participate in whichever way they prefer.

We also apply for any relevant grants from local charitable organisations that the committee feel are appropriate. Any funding received is tied to the purpose applied for and we have a responsibility to ensure it is used in accordance to the application details.

How we spend the money we raise

Once money is raised from events the funds are banked straight away. It is at our PTA Committee Meetings, that the decisions on how to spend the money are taken.

Usually, the school will have a 'wish list' of items that the school would like to purchase. Sometimes this will be as a result of the children asking for something; at other times it will be for resources to improve a particular area of the curriculum or school environment. In the main the PTA funds are for the 'extras' not provided for by the school budget, that make our children's learning experiences so much more fulfilling and exciting. At staff meetings, the School liaison will gather requests and bring these to the PTA meeting for the committee to vote and approve funding. We always endeavour to spend our funds in ways that will benefit all our children across all areas of the school and curriculum.

The money we raise is usually spent fairly quickly. That way, you can be sure that in supporting our school, your and everybody's child will feel the benefit. Of course there are times when we have a big project underway that we need to save money for.

The PTA also have ongoing commitments every year.

-  Yearbooks for leavers
-  Leavers trip (usually Bowling)
-  Residential coach transport
-  Swimming transport donation
-  Christmas party donation
-  Sports Day ices
-  Crackers for Christmas lunch

How We Get Information To You

We collaborate with the school to use the school newsletters sent home via 'pupil post' or email. The newsletters give forthcoming dates for events also updates and requests for help when we are

planning large events. Following events, we always write to let you know how much was raised, and if we can, we tell you then what the money will be spent on. PTA minutes and newsletters are posted on the school website.

How Can You Get Involved?

There are lots of ways you can help and support your child through the PTA. Offering to help before events or at other times during the year is so valuable – it really is a case of ‘many hands make light work’. It doesn’t matter if you can’t help on a regular basis, or even if you can’t come into school. There are always little jobs that can be done from home if you have half an hour to spare e.g. wrapping gifts, preparing raffle tickets etc. We really couldn’t achieve what we do without the unseen ‘army of help’ that exists in school.

You can of course if you feel able, volunteer to be a Committee Member. You can attend the AGM and give us your ideas for fundraising events – this is also the time to ask questions or voice your opinion. You can help by letting us know if you have any contacts or skills we could use – anything is valuable to us.

And finally, we are always extremely grateful to receive donations as mentioned before.

List of Committee Members

Chair	Jude Nash
Vice Chair	Jenny Paulin
Treasurer	Becky Rudlin
Vice Treasurer	Ali McRae
Secretary	Sophie Woodford
Grants	Zoe Dorey
School Liaison	Nicky Williams

We hope you’ve found this useful reading and that it may have made you curious or willing to help the PTA – if so, please come along to our next event or leave your name with the school office who will put you in touch with one of our members. In the meantime, we hope your children enjoy their time at Landkey School and look forward to seeing their moves at the next disco!