



# St Benedict's Catholic High School

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- ✉ Headteacher: [head@st-benedicts.org](mailto:head@st-benedicts.org)
- ✉ Main Office: [admin@st-benedicts.org](mailto:admin@st-benedicts.org)
- ✉ Sixth Form: [sixthform@st-benedicts.org](mailto:sixthform@st-benedicts.org)



Headteacher: Mr N Gibson

Web: [www.st-benedicts.org](http://www.st-benedicts.org)

Assistant Headteachers: Mrs S Boote Powell  
Mrs M Parton  
Mr S Smallman

March 2017

Dear Parent/Guardians

## UGANDA 2017

As you know, we recently had to make the very difficult decision to cancel our trip to Uganda. This would have been a wonderful experience for both the students and staff with experiences and memories which would have lasted a lifetime.

This decision was not taken lightly; it has been cancelled as the safety and security of both our young people and our staff is paramount and the current risks are just too great. The political situations in the surrounding countries and in parts of Uganda have become potentially unstable and, consequently, as a party of Western Christian students travelling in a relatively large group, we may have been placing them in a very vulnerable situation.

We have pursued every avenue available to us and had lengthy discussions with the travel agent, who have spoken to Emirates on our behalf to try and obtain a refund for us, but unfortunately to no avail. These flights were purchased in good faith when we were arranging the trip and, as it stands, St Benedict's will initially have to stand the loss of this money (£5,208) as it was non-refundable. As you will appreciate this is a considerable amount, the loss of which could have a detrimental impact on our children's education as this money is desperately needed to support all areas of their learning in school.

A generous benefactor has stepped in and maybe willing to donate up to £3000 to the school to help ease this financial loss. We would also like to appeal to parents' goodwill by asking whether you would be willing to contribute to the remaining shortfall by accepting a refund of £135 rather than the £170 which you actually paid. At the time of booking, the deposit for each flight was in fact £186, and so we did ask for £16 less than what was actually required. If you would like to contribute more to this shortfall, it goes without saying that we would be extremely grateful.



If you feel that you could help and support us with this, then we kindly request that you sign and return the attached slip, giving your consent to a refund of £135 in the first instance.

We appreciate that this situation is far from ideal; should you have any queries or would like to discuss this situation, do feel free to contact myself or Mrs Whitehouse at school. Once again, thank you for your help and support it is greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely



Nick Gibson  
Headteacher  
**On behalf of the Uganda team**

✂.....

**Please return to : MRS K WHITEHOUSE in the FINANCE OFFICE (Room 10) no later than Monday 13 March 2017**

**RE: UGANDA JULY 2017**

**Please delete as appropriate:**

- We/I agree to receive a refund of £135 for the Uganda trip deposit.
- I am willing to donate £.....to the school to help address the financial shortfall for the Uganda trip

Student name:..... Form: .....

Parent name:..... Date: .....

Parent signature: .....