

## IDPE and ISC Announcement

The Independent Schools Council (ISC) and Institute of Development Professionals in Education (IDPE) have formed a partnership to produce a publication that will raise awareness and support strategies for effective fundraising for means tested bursaries in schools.

Currently only 1% of independent school places are funded by 100% bursary, and yet the mission of independent schools is to support young people to achieve their full potential including children from lower income families. A number of schools, for example Bolton Girls School, already offer bursaries of 75 % or more to hundreds of less well-off families.

***‘The provision of means-tested bursaries is fundamental to Bolton School’s ethos: currently, more than 300 pupils - or one in five children attending either the Girls’ or Boys’ Division Senior School - receive assistance with their fees and, of these, half have all their fees paid in full. As well as the transformational impact a bursary place has on the lives of the individual pupils who receive a funded place, our bursary scheme has a positive benefit to both the school community and also on local and wider society, as these students leave school and make a difference in the world.’*** Philip Britton and Sue Hincks, Headmaster and Headmistress, Bolton School

The ISC advocates in its recent public affairs strategy that offering free places to disadvantaged children is one of the key ways schools can tackle the public misconception that independent education is only for the wealthy.

***“Many schools are working hard to achieve their mission of taking more disadvantaged pupils on zero fees.”*** Barnaby Lenon, ISC Chairman

The ISC and IDPE have commissioned John Cloughton, former Chief Master of King Edward’s School, Birmingham, to bring together in hardcopy a collection of case-studies to demonstrate effective fundraising for bursaries and the impact of this.

***“IDPE’s mission is to enable every school to develop a culture of giving so that greater numbers of disadvantaged children have access to the best educational experience. Fundraising for bursaries is achievable for all schools. Donors are attracted to bursaries because of their transformational impact and we believe that through our benchmarking, and continuing to share best practice in fundraising with schools, even more can be achieved to improve access.”*** Jo Beckett, CEO, IDPE

The ISC and IDPE publication will be available in summer 2019 and will be free of charge for ISC and IDPE member schools.

For more information please contact [info@idpe.org.uk](mailto:info@idpe.org.uk)

