



Dear Sponsor,

We're delighted to bring you the latest news from Sponsorstars, and report on what has been a very encouraging and exciting year for the charity!

We have continued to strengthen our relationships with our existing schools as well as introduce a new school into our remit. We have also strongly developed our online presence, with a brand new website now live and plans in the pipeline to expand further on social media.

With almost two years now behind us, we have been able to look at the charity's practices, namely how the whole process of sponsorship delivery has been working with the schools and students, and indeed how we can improve it still. In that light, we have some exciting changes to announce which will come into place in September for the next school year.

Read on to find out about our latest developments in greater detail, as well as hear some feedback first hand from the students you are supporting!



Meanwhile, recently in the News...

Child poverty in the UK is a topic that continues to draw increasing attention and focus in the media – this is no surprise given the shocking facts and figures we are now faced with:

BBC NEWS **WORSENING CHILD POVERTY HARMS LEARNING, SAYS TEACHERS**

14th April

- More than 8,600 NEU (National Education Union) members from across the UK responded to an online survey between March 20 and April 3.

Of these, an overwhelming 91% said poverty was a factor in limiting children's capacity to learn, with almost half (49%) deeming it a major factor.



CHILD POVERTY ABOVE 50% IN 10 UK CONSTITUENCIES

15th May

- High rents and benefit cuts blamed amid warnings that entire areas risk being abandoned to rising poverty

- About 500,000 more children were in relative poverty compared with 2010, and poverty levels were growing fastest in already poor areas.



BRITISH CHILDREN IN POVERTY DENIED BASIC BENEFITS BY HOME OFFICE

13th June

- Policy of no recourse to public funds for some immigrants makes their children second-class citizens

- British children are being denied access to crucial benefits, including social housing and free school meals.



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Sponsorstars' Recent News...

- THE NEW WEBSITE IS NOW LIVE

With the launch of the new site, we have also simplified the process for new sponsors to sign up, with a simple form to submit on the website itself.

Check out the new website by clicking [here](#).

- SPONSORSTARS IS NOW ON AMAZON SMILE

We are very pleased to let you know that Sponsorstars is now among those charities who can receive donations from AmazonSmile!

This means that every time you shop on their platform, the Amazon Smile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to us! It's really easy to set up and you use the same account on Amazon.co.uk and AmazonSmile. You can get started by clicking [here](#).

- NEW ADMINISTRATOR APPOINTED

We are delighted to announce that we have appointed an administrator to join the Sponsorstars team. Her name is Francesca Micheli and she can be reached via the following email address: admin@sponsorstars.org

Welcome Francesca!

- EXCITING CHANGES TO THE STUDENT BASE PARAMETERS - TO START AS OF SEPT 2019

➡ As a result of our growth, we are going to increase from **10 to 20** students from September for all schools.

➡ Another consequence of our continuing expansion is our decision to include students from **Year 8**. This is not only in order to see the students through a longer period of time, but also because the teachers believe that the most need is in Year 8 where the children are aged 13.

- WE'RE VERY SORRY TO ANNOUNCE...



It is with great sadness that we announce the death of former trustee Mona Adams. Mona had an incredible zest for life and her passion for the charity was hugely inspiring and will be missed by all.

We wish to send her friends and family all our condolences during this time of grief.





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Hear from the students themselves!

As part of Sponsorstars' ongoing relationships with the schools, we have now received some great positive feedback from some of the students who have benefited from your sponsorship! Read what they had to say below...

Tom*
Year 11
Chose to spend the money on:
Stationery and Revision Guides

"All of the equipment that I received has helped me organize my revision and motivate me to do more work while slowly using up the stationery. I would like to thank the sponsor as everything that I have been given has helped me a lot, especially as I've been revising for my GCSEs. I am extremely grateful, thank you."

Michael*
Year 11
Chose to spend the money on:
Revision Guides and Text Books

"I think that the books really have helped me in the past year by building up my knowledge to ensure I do good and even beyond my target grades and to get the qualifications I need to pursue subjects for A levels. I am very grateful and appreciative for the help and support that I have been provided with. Thank you!"

Jessica*
Year 11
Chose to spend the money on: Stationery, School Shoes & PE top

"Thank you so much for my stationery and compass set. They really helped in my exams! I love the shoes and the PE top and am really enjoying wearing them. Thank you!!"

Adam*
Year 13
Chose to spend the money on: University Deposit

"Thank you for providing financial ways for me to one step closer to my goal of going to university."

Shania*
Year 12
Chose to spend the money on: Revision App and Open Days

"Thank you for sponsoring me and I am looking forward to using this next year to expand my knowledge and to attend programmes which I might not have otherwise been able to do."

It's clear to see how much of a difference your sponsorship money has already made to these students' lives. It may be as simple as a pencil case or a pair of gym shoes – items we may often take for granted, but which for these students can help open up new doors. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support for the charity, and more importantly, the students whose futures you are helping to shape.

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Visit: <https://sponsorstars.org/>