



## **FRIENDS OF POVEREST**

Poverest Primary School  
Tillingbourne Green  
Orpington, Kent, BR5 2JD

Chairs Gemma 01689 816 060  
Marshall and  
Amba  
Golding

Headteacher Paul Haylock 01689 816060

Registered Charity No: 1163062

# Annual Report 2025-2026

## **The Role of Friends of Poverest**

The Friends of Poverest exist to support Poverest Primary School by raising funds and running events for the pupils. Funds raised are used to pay for agreed items/services throughout the school year, including but not limited to: Y6 coaches, book gifts for children moving from Reception to Y1, new starters stay and play packs, Christmas decorations for the school and more.

We are a registered charity, dispensing 100% of funds raised for the benefit of the school. Funds are raised throughout the school year through events, donations, and employee fundraising matching schemes.

The charity is governed by a constitution registered with the Charities Commission and taken from Parentkind of which we are a member.

All parents and carers with children at the school are automatically members of the Friends of Poverest and we invite you to join us for our regular meetings.

## **Spending Funds Raised**

When a funding request is received it is discussed with the committee, either in a regular committee meeting or if more urgent the committee's WhatsApp thread. Decisions on what to fund are made by simple majority after which the treasurer will pay the agreed amount. Funding decisions are minuted in the meeting minutes or captured in the WhatsApp history. We operate with full transparency and invite anyone interested to inspect our financials.

## **Highlights of the Year**

The highlight of the past year was undoubtedly being able to have the Outdoor Classroom installed. We are so pleased that this fantastic addition to the school will make a huge difference to our outdoor learning and Forest School. We are also very pleased with how well our Summer Fair 2025 went, raising a fantastic £3549 (after all expenses), The Christmas Experience raised £1116.95 (after all expenses) and our Christmas Fair raised £1424 (after all expenses).

This year has also seen an increase in our volunteer numbers, with more joining to support our work and events. We have also gained regular attendees from the teaching staff, which helps drive better engagement with the school, their enthusiasm and willingness to help has been of great value and importance to the continued success of FoP.

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We have continued working to bring structure to how the FoP works and operates, which we started last year. While progress has been slower, we are still improving both our fundraising and our events management.

### **Areas for Improvement**

As ever, there are things that we can do better, and will work to improve on, they are:

- **Class representatives**

One of the targets for the year gone was to ensure that each class had a representative in FoP, to act as liaison and coordinator between us and the classes, and ensure that communications were promptly shared, and, where appropriate, followed up. That never really worked. We had some initial interest, but it never really worked. We want to carry this objective into the next year, recognising that it takes time to change how things work.

- **Fundraising**

This year we had a very successful external fundraising campaign, and we want to invite others to nominate us as their charity when undertaking sponsored events. It is a great opportunity to raise funds from beyond the school's families.

### **What Have We Done for the Pupils?**

In the last year we have:

- Had our Outdoor Classroom installed
- Arranged Mother's and Father's days' sales
- Hosted a school Disco
- Hosted the summer fair
- Held an Easter egg hunt
- Had Christmas Experience
- Held a Quiz Night
- Sports Day drink sale
- Cake Sale
- Grandparents Tea Party
- Raffles at Easter, Summer and Christmas

### **Thank You**

The Friends of Poverest would not function without the continued support of our wonderful committee, volunteers and supporters.

We would like to thank the teachers, staff, and leadership team at the school for supporting and recognising the work done by the Friends of Poverest.

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Finally, a thank you to you, our parents, carers, families, and pupils. Without your generous donations and support we would not be able to raise the funds to do what we do.

### Financial Report

Throughout the school year 2025-2026 we received a total of £18,787.48 and spent £26,111.59, leaving a closing balance of £11,238.71 at year end.

This year expenditure exceeded income due primarily to the completion of the outdoor classroom project and other pupil focused funding initiatives.

Funds Received	£18,787.48
Funds Spent	£26,111.59
Opening Balance	£18,562.82
Closing Balance	£11,238.71
<b>P&amp;L</b>	<b>£-7324.11</b>

The table below shows the larger expenditures of the year, excluding any funds spent in preparation for the hosting or running of events (e.g., purchasing gifts or food items).

Large Expenditures		
Month	Item	Cost
Nov 25	Outdoor classroom	£18,175
Nov 25	Year 6 PGL Coaches contribution	£960
Mar 26	Investment in DJ Equipment	£590
May 25	Reception Starter Packs	£210
Jan 26	Parentkind Membership	£171
Nov 25	Year 6 Fundraising	£200
Jan 26	Movie Licence	£122
Dec 25	Reception Farm Trip contribution	£100

The full financial report will be submitted to the Charity Commission within the required reporting timeframe.

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### **What Next?**

We will shortly start looking ahead to 2026-2027 and have a list of events that we want to host. Outside of that we want to focus on improving our volunteer engagement by becoming more visible and making it simpler and easier to help by creating structured, bounded tasks that volunteers can complete in support of the charity and the school.

We will continue sending out reminders for all regular meetings and expect class representatives for each class to join us. There is no requirement to attend every meeting or be a member of the committee, but each class must be represented to help make Friends of Poverest work, and we always need volunteers! We need all skills and experiences to make the Friends of Poverest work, but if you have project management, event management, risk assessment writing, or volunteering experience we would like to hear from you.

We welcome ideas for events or fundraising!

On behalf of Friends of Poverest,

Gemma and Amba  
Co-Chairs