

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I donate to the TTS Foundation?

You can make a donation to the TTS Foundation electronically [here](#).

What is the TTS Foundation?

The TTS Foundation is a company limited by guarantee and registered as a charity. It was established in 2012 to support Tanglin Trust School. It does this by funding exceptional opportunities and providing members of the Tanglin community with life-changing experiences over and above the curriculum, enhancing the lives of our students and our community.

The TTS Foundation helps to drive sustainability initiatives, encourages student leadership and service activities, gives access to inspirational visitors and significantly enhances our sports and arts programmes

How is the TTS Foundation funded?

From 2012 until 2015 the TTS Foundation was funded by an annual donation from the school from money raised through the school's Placement Right Programme. This enabled project types to develop and grow. As the number and scale of projects have developed the amount funded each year has also increased so in academic year 2015/16 the first fundraising campaign was launched to supplement the donation from the school. This gave members of the Tanglin community the opportunity to give philanthropically to TTS Foundation and so secure funding for future projects.

How much has been raised from the community to date?

In 2015 the TTS Foundation fundraising raised \$77,000. In 2016 it raised \$102,000. In 2017 it raised \$154,000 with donations coming from parents, staff, alumni, and governors. This now represents approximately 25% of the annual funding for the TTS Foundation.

How long does the fundraising last?

In 2018 there will be three weeks of active fundraising in school from 24 September 2018 - 12 October 2018. Donations are however accepted throughout the year.

This concentrated period of fundraising ensures that funds raised in a year can then be spent in the same academic year.

What will the money raised be spent on?

There is a specific wish list that the TTS Foundation would like to fund this year. This wish list has been developed in collaboration with the infant, junior and senior school leadership teams and so is in alignment with the key school priorities. The detailed wish list can be found [here](#).



Frequently Asked Questions

Many of our programmes are scalable so we will be able to adjust the funding according to the amount received. For example, the TTS Foundation has committed to funding representative awards, however we could adjust up or down the amount funded or the number of events funded in line with how much was raised.

Fundraising will be supported by a group of volunteers called TTS Foundation Parent Advocates. A TTS Foundation advocate is a volunteer who is available to discuss the TTS Foundation and answer queries about projects and fund raising from a peer to peer perspective.

TTS Foundation has been funding projects at Tanglin for a number of years, who decides which projects receive funding?

Teachers and students can apply for funding to support projects over and above the curriculum. These individuals or groups can bring a proposal to a panel, which, depending upon the size of the proposal is composed of the CEO, Director of Learning, Director of Development and senior faculty staff members. Projects are assessed under eight learning outcomes and assuming one of these is met with a compelling rationale the projects are eligible for funding. The eight learning outcomes are:

- Increased awareness of their own strengths and areas for growth
- Undertaken new challenges
- Planned and initiated activities
- Worked collaboratively with others
- Shown perseverance and commitment in their activities
- Engaged with issues of global importance
- Considered the ethical implications of their actions
- Developed new skills

Details of some of the projects funded by TTS Foundation are also shared in the Report of Giving ([2015-16](#), [2016-17](#) and [2017-18](#)) Further illustrations are available on our [website](#).

What are the main project areas funded by TTS Foundation?

There are currently four main categories of project funded by TTS Foundation:

- Engagement with Global issues and with the wider community

To enable all members of the Tanglin community to make a positive difference to the world and see out opportunities to give back.

- Development of life skills

Going beyond our school's curriculum, Tanglin actively seeks to equip students, parents and Alumni with the knowledge and skills they need to thrive in today and tomorrow's world.

- Participation in Creative Arts and Sport

Our vision is for Tanglin to be a leading centre for the Arts and for students to be able to participate in sporting achievements that our whole community can be proud of.



Frequently Asked Questions

Opportunities to develop skills at all levels and to represent the school are plentiful and open to all students.

- Visits from Inspirational Individuals and Groups

Inspirational authors, artists, explorers and experts from diverse fields share their ideas, insights and enthusiasm with the next generation at Tanglin.

Who is impacted by TTS Foundation projects?

The whole community is impacted by TTS Foundation projects – students, staff, parents and Alumni as well as communities that the TTS Foundation works with.

The TTS Foundation funds projects that impact large groups of students as well as individual students. For instance, in 2016 a bagpiper visited the school as a Travelling Musician, he connected with a large number of children across the year groups. Annually the TTS Foundation also awarded a number of individual awards; Representative Awards, Deirdre Lew Service Awards, Alumni Grants, Music Awards to name a few.

What procedures are in place to ensure that there is no bias in the decision making over who receives individual grants?

There are stringent procedures in place to ensure that awards are made fairly. There are a series of authorisation levels in particular to approve projects as well as payments. *Details of the authorisation required for individual grants and awards can be found [here](#).*

How big is the TTS Foundation team?

There are three staff members who work, amongst other projects, on the TTS Foundation, the Director of Development, Alumni Manager and the Development Executive. These staff members are supported in particular by the CEO, Director of Learning and the Marketing and Communications Director.

Given the small size of this team the fundraising activities are supported by a large group of volunteer parents called TTS Foundation Parent Advocates. Further, there are a group of staff volunteers; TTS Foundation Staff Advocates.

What is a TTS Foundation Advocate?

The Advocate team is made up of parent and staff volunteers who each year help to share the impact of the opportunities afforded to the Tanglin community through the work of the TTS Foundation. They strongly believe in the value of these opportunities for their children and they are a resource for the community to ask questions and find out more about the TTS Foundation on a peer to peer basis. This group have been instrumental in gathering useful feedback on TTS Foundation projects and activities are helping to shape the future direction of the TTS Foundation.

If you would like to find out the advocate for your children's class or year group please see the list on the [portal](#). You can direct any questions or comments to these individuals however please feel free to speak to any of our advocates particularly if you know them personally.



Frequently Asked Questions

If you are interested to find out more about becoming a TTS Foundation parent advocate please do contact the [Director of Development](#).

What is the governance structure of the TTS Foundation?

The TTS Foundation has a Board of Trustees. The Chair of the TTS Foundation is Mr Dominic Nixon, former Chair of the Tanglin Trust School Board. Other Trustees are Mr Ling Guan Heng, the TTS COO, Mr Neil Tottman, long standing TTS Board Member and Chair of the TTS Development Sub Committee and Mrs Geraldine Chandran, former Head of Infants. The Trustee Board meet regularly and provide advice and support to the Development Team

Is it compulsory that I donate to the 2018 TTS Foundation Fundraising Campaign?

No and we wish to stress that donations are voluntary and each family's decision is duly respected. Donations should be freely given with no expectations of personal gain other than due thanks and recognition.

Is there a minimum amount I must give if I wish to participate?

The minimum suggested donation is SGD 10. You choose what you feel is appropriate for your family to give. Some members of the community have asked for guidance on what is appropriate. As a point of reference, in the 2017/18 fundraising campaign our smallest donation was \$2 and our largest \$25,000. The average donation was \$479 however the most common donation was \$100.

Are my donations tax deductible?

The TTS Foundation is not registered as an Institute of Public Character (IPC), so donations are not tax deductible in Singapore. At this point in time IPC registration is not an opportunity for Foundations associated with international schools. The TTS Foundation is not registered in any other countries, hence tax efficient giving is not available. *If this is an area that you think you may be able to offer some expertise, please do contact the [Director of Development](#).*

Will my gift make a difference?

Absolutely! Every gift has a positive impact on students, families, teachers, Alumni and our wider community. You will also help the school build a culture of philanthropy for the benefit of present and future generations. We say that individual donations have a collective benefit and we genuinely mean this, many of our projects do not have a high price tag so a few families donating \$50 or \$100 can be very impactful.

Who will know that I have donated?

We like to thank every donor by including their name in a [Report of Giving](#) which will be published to the school community. It will not include the value of donations. Families have the opportunity to ask for their name not to be included in the Report of Giving. They just need to indicate that they would like to remain anonymous when making their donation. This is clear on the donation page.

The community will be updated via the school's regular communications channels. There will also be a 2018/19 Report of Giving that celebrates projects funded and gives details of



Frequently Asked Questions

amounts raised.

What if I want to make a donation after the fundraising campaign has been completed?

You are welcome to make a donation to the TTS Foundation at any time. The active fundraising period will run for just a three week period from 21 September 2018 – 12 October 2018.

Can I direct my donation to a certain project or just to the part of the school my child attends?

All donations are 'unrestricted gifts' which means that the TTS Foundation management can determine which projects receive funding. The project groups are identified and agreed with the school's leadership teams so they represent the school's priorities. At this stage in the development of TTS Foundation unrestricted gifts give more flexibility it is possible in the future that we may give an opportunity for restricted gifts. *Should you wish to financially support an area where you believe students would benefit from enhancements not listed in the TTS Foundation Project list, please contact the [Director of Development](#).*

How do the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) and the TTS Foundation relate to each other?

Both the PTA and the TTS Foundation are dedicated to creating opportunities for our children and community. The PTA focus on community building providing events for families to come together in support of the school. Whilst in the past there has been a fundraising focus at events this is not an expectation for 2018/19.

The TTS Foundation does not currently fundraise through school events but through an annual fundraising campaign which is a donation drive for specific projects that have been identified for that school year. The TTS Foundation typically funds experiences rather than capital items.

The children at Tanglin are privileged why should I give them more?

Each family can make their own decision about whom to contribute philanthropically and there is no obligation to support the TTS Foundation. The Fundraising campaign is about raising money from the Tanglin Community, for the benefit of the Tanglin Community and the communities it works with. The criteria used in identifying projects that qualify for TTS Foundation support ensure that they all have a significant impact on the personal development of our recipients. The specific projects targeted for TTS Foundation support have been chosen to directly benefit as many students as possible across the school. We believe that giving our children these opportunities in their youth will inspire them to give forward as they become leaders in their adult lives.

We already pay significant school fees why are you asking us for more money?

TTS Foundation funds things that are over and above the school curriculum and items that would not normally come out of a school's operating budget.



Frequently Asked Questions

We are mindful of the significant fees that families already pay for their children to attend Tanglin Trust School and want to reassure parents that a donation is not obligatory. Whilst we encourage families to consider participating in the fundraising we recognise that the amount donated will vary depending upon a family's circumstances. Collectively small contributions make a big impact. The most common donation in 2016 was \$100.

In 2017 approximately 20% of the community participated in the fundraising. We are hopeful that as community understanding about TTS Foundation grows that a more significant proportion of our community will feel compelled to give. We do note however that currently a majority do not donate. We are however confident that all of our students are impacted by the TTS Foundation projects.

How do I find out more about the projects supported by the TTS Foundation?

During the three-week fundraising period there is a series called Music in the Morning. Students and staff perform before school from 7.30 – 7.50 am. There are TTS Foundation Parent Advocates supporting this event, identifiable by the badges they wear which state "Ask me about the TTS Foundation". You are welcome to approach them. Alternatively, please do feel free to contact the TTS Foundation team via email Foundation@tts.edu.sg.

