



Gift Acceptance Policy

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1. Introduction

Linacre College, as a registered charity (Charity No. 1142130), is committed to ensuring that gifts are accepted in a manner consistent with the ethical, legal, and regulatory standards set by the Charity Commission and the Fundraising Regulator.

2. Principles for Accepting Gifts

- a. Gifts must align with the College's charitable objectives, values, and strategic priorities. The decision on whether to accept a gift with a value of <£250k will be made by the Head of Alumni Relations and Development in consultation with the Bursar and Principal. The Trustee Board is required to approve gifts of greater value than this.
- b. Any restrictions or conditions attached to gifts must be clearly documented, lawful, and agreed upon by both the College and the donor.
- c. Restricted donations will be used solely for their agreed purpose. The College reserves the right to refuse any gift that comes with unmanageable restrictions.
- d. The College will not accept donations that:
 - i. Could impair its independence or reputation.
 - ii. Involve illegal activities or unethical sources.
 - iii. Come with conditions or restrictions that conflict with its mission, charitable purposes, or operational capacity.
 - iv. Disproportionately damage the College's relationship with its beneficiaries, benefactors or the University of Oxford.
- e. The College will only accept gifts from a current student (or a close family member of a current student) if there is no personal or academic advantage to that student and the value of the donation does not exceed £500.

3. Due Diligence and Risk Assessment

- a. All gifts are subject to appropriate due diligence, in compliance with [Charity Commission guidelines](#) on risk management and the [Know Your Donor](#) principles. It is the responsibility of the Head of Alumni Relations and Development to ensure that prospective donors are aware of this requirement.
- b. High-risk, high value or unusual gifts, including those from politically exposed persons or non-transparent entities, will require additional scrutiny and may be escalated to the College's specialist advisors and Trustee Board for a final decision on acceptance.
- c. The College may seek advice from the University of Oxford Committee for Review of Donations and Research Funding on new donors proposing to donate gifts in excess of £1 million.

4. Ethical Fundraising

- a. Fundraising activities will comply with the Fundraising Regulator's [Code of Fundraising Practice](#), maintaining the highest ethical standards.
- b. The College ensures that donors are treated with respect, their data is protected under GDPR, and all communications about a donation are treated as confidential unless a donor agrees otherwise.

5. Compliance and Monitoring

- a. The College will ensure ongoing compliance with Charity Commission guidance, including reporting on significant donations where required.
- b. This policy will be reviewed annually by the College's Trustee Board or more frequently if required by changes in law or regulatory guidance.

6. Refusal of Gifts

- a. The College reserves the right to refuse any gift that does not comply with this policy or which poses undue risk to the College's financial, ethical, or reputational standing.
- b. Any decision to refuse a gift with a value in excess of £1,000 will be made by the Trustee Board.