

FAQ on Match Funding

1. What do we mean by match funding or matched-giving?

Match funding (or matched-giving) is a simple way to maximise funds raised. It is a corporate arrangement where companies pledge to donate an amount that relates to what their employee donates to, or raises for, an organisation.

For example, a parent who works for a company that offers match funding volunteers to help on the refreshment stall at the Christmas or Summer Fair organised by the Friends Association. If the stall makes a profit of £200, the parent's employer will match this amount with a further £200 (assuming they offer a £ for £ match).

2. How do I know if my employer offers this?

There is no central list of employers who participate in match funding, so the only way to find out is to ask, usually through your HR department. We are aware that some banks (including Lloyds Banking Group), some major supermarkets, BP and the London Stock Exchange participate in similar schemes.

3. Do I need to join The Friends to be a match funder?

No. We have not seen any employer require an employee to join The Friends to be eligible for match funding.

4. What do I need to do?

This will vary from employer to employer, so you must check what rules apply to you. Some employers match in a 'like for like' manner based on your involvement (such as matching the amount raised by a stall you helped on). Others give a fixed amount provided you contributed in some way. Not all employers require you to help on the day; assisting with the administration of an event is often enough to qualify.

5. Who should I contact at my employer?

This will differ depending on the organisation, but the best place to start is your Human Resources or People Department. Alternatively, contact the team responsible for Social Responsibility (often known as CSR).

6. What might the employer want to know?

They are likely to need our charity number. The Abbey School Friends Association is a registered charity (Charities Commission No. 802214). They might also request our contact details: friends@abbey.herts.sch.uk.

7. Why should I get involved as a match funder?

Simply, it is free money. If the bar at a popular event made £500 profit, match funding could double this to £1,000 with very little additional effort and no further donations needed at the event itself.

If even a quarter of our fundraising activities were supported by match-funding employers, we could raise a further £5,000 each year for school funds.

8. How much has match funding raised for other schools?

In some schools match funding has contributed over £10,000 per year and can form a significant part of their fundraising activities.