

## DONATION FORM RECURRING GIFT

By making a regular donation to the Colfe's Charitable Trust, you will be joining the 1652 Society, a special group of people making a recurring gift to the Colfe's Charitable Trust. Your regular payments help ensure pupils of the future will enjoy the same excellent standard of education that is enjoyed by pupils today. If you would like to make a one-off gift, please complete the form overleaf.



### Your Details

Name:

Home address:

Postcode:

Telephone:  Email:

### Your Gift

Please tell us how you would like your gift to be used:

- Leatherseller Scholarship Programme
- Headmaster's Discretionary Fund
- I would like my gift to remain anonymous including in any written and online publications

### Legacy Plans

Please get in touch if you would consider a legacy gift:

- I have already left a gift to Colfe's Charitable Trust in my Will
- I intend to leave a gift to Colfe's Charitable Trust in my Will
- I am considering including Colfe's Charitable Trust in my Will and would like more information

I would like to make a recurring gift of £  Each:  Week  Month  Quarter  Year

### Instructions to your Bank/Building Society

To the Manager:

Bank name:

Bank address:

Postcode:

Please make payments and debit my account in accordance with the following details:

Account no:

Sort code:

Please pay **HSBC Bank PLC, 100 Old Broad Street, London, EC2N 1BG**

Sort code: **40-07-31**

Account no: **11543350**

Account name: **Colfe's Charitable Trust**

The sum of: £

State in words:  pounds

Starting on:  /  /  (please allow one month before start date)

Frequency:  Weekly  Monthly  Quarterly  Yearly

Duration: Please tick and complete one of the following options:

Until further notice **or**

Number of payments as  **or**

Date of final payment as  /  /

Your name:

Signature:

Date:  /  /

*giftaid it*

**GIFT AID DECLARATION**  
**Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate**

Gift Aid is reclaimed by the charity from the tax you pay for the current tax year. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations it is my responsibility to pay any difference. I want to Gift Aid this gift and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years to Colfe's Charitable Trust.

*Please notify Colfe's Charitable Trust if you:*  
Want to cancel this declaration. Change your name or home address. No longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains. If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.

Signature:

## ALUMNI NEWS



### A chance to gather: the inaugural Celebration of Philanthropy event for donors

Our inaugural Celebration of Philanthropy event was held at the Leathersellers' Hall in London in May 2024, inviting all donors to the Colfe's Charitable Trust across the last five years. Hosted by Chairman of Governors Matthew Pellereau and Headmaster Richard Russell, we welcomed nearly 90 donors, bequest intenders, school leadership, Governors and Leathersellers. Attendees also caught up with several former Leatherseller Scholars to learn about the impact of the programme first-hand. Future such events will be held biennially for all donors to the Trust.

### Old Colfeian Society sponsors free Sector Networking Events

Our Sector Networking Events have been a great success, with two held in the last few months. The event in November 2024 focused on the financial industry and was generously hosted by Bernard Fairman (OC 1967) at his offices in the Shard. Nearly 100 attendees joined. Our most recent event brought together those in the Media, Marketing and Creative Industries in February 2025. Hosted by current Colfe's parent Josh Heaton-Armstrong, Digital Director for Sony Pictures, we welcomed more than 70 attendees to The Hydrant Pub in central London.

parents to network and build connections. Our Sixth Form pupils are also invited. Thanks to the sponsorship of the Old Colfeian Society, these events are free, but attendees are asked to donate to the Colfe's Charitable Trust in lieu of a ticket price, with donations directed to the Leatherseller Scholarship Programme.



Sector Networking events are open to anyone in the Colfe's community working, studying or with a keen interest in the sector being spotlighted. It is a chance for all Colfe's alumni as well as current and former Colfe's

### Gregory Jones (OC 1986) elected Sheriff of the City of London

Alderman Gregory Jones KC (OC 1986) was elected as one of two Sheriffs of the City of London at a ceremony at Guildhall in November 2024. Greg was School Captain in his final year at Colfe's, a former Colfe's Governor and previously President of the Old Colfeian Society, stepping down in January 2025 after 10 years. "I am delighted to have been elected as Sheriff and look forward to supporting the Lord Mayor in his goals, in collaboration with my fellow Sheriff, David Chalk. It was fabulous for Colfe's School and the Old Colfeian Society to be chosen to present

me with a gift. As a former School Captain, I was touched that both School Captains were also attendance."



◀ Greg's election ceremony attended by Headmaster Richard Russell, Chair of Governors Matthew Pellereau, former Chairman of the Old Colfeian Society Martin Cartwright (OC 1962) and the current School Captains Fred and Mirja, who presented Greg with a handmade silver medallion bearing the Colfe's crest

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# PROGRESS

Newsletter from the Development & Alumni Relations Office

ISSUE 9 | SPRING 2025

## Meet a former Leatherseller Scholar

Juan Garcia Valencia (OC 2020) tells us about his PhD research in climate change – and how Colfe's helped him get there

**"The Leatherseller Scholarship Programme is incredibly significant for me because of its great transformative power. It opened doors for me that would have otherwise remained closed and provided access to opportunities that I didn't even know were out there for me."**

When Juan Garcia Valencia (OC 2020) immigrated to the UK from Colombia, he admits that he wasn't sure how to achieve his dreams. "I was quite a shy and introverted student who had big ideas, but no clear idea on how to reach them. I think that was because I had come to the UK five years before from a humble Latin American background," he said.

Toward the end of Juan's time in the Sixth Form at Colfe's, the pandemic hit. He was forced to be at home during lockdown, but because of the support from Colfe's, he continued his studies successfully. "I was very grateful for the amount of assistance that I got from my teachers, whether it was through Teams calls or chats. We managed to continue my learning, which made that time at home more enjoyable."

It was while studying at his state school Trinity Lewisham that Juan's teacher shared details with him about the Leatherseller Scholarship Programme. "I'm so glad she did as I ended up having a great two years in Colfe's Sixth Form," he said. "The scholarship programme really set me up for the future."

"As a first generation student in the UK, I didn't have many people to speak about university with," he said. "When I came to Colfe's, I had such a good support system from my teachers and mentors to talk about university options. One of the greatest pieces of advice that they gave me was to follow my passion and true interests and pursue a career that got me out of bed in the morning. For me, that was Geography, which was one of my favourite A-level subjects."

As the pandemic carried on, Juan's Colfe's experience culminated at A-level results day. "My friends and I all got to see one another again – in person but at a distance – and we all got to celebrate our collective achievements of getting into universities and receiving our A-level results. It was such a happy ending to a very happy chapter of my life."

Juan received an offer to read Geography at St. Hilda's College at the University of Oxford where he graduated in 2023. "When it came time to think about my post-university plans, I went back to the advice I received at Colfe's, which was following my interests and pursuing a career I really liked."



See Juan and other former Leatherseller Scholars talk about their time at Colfe's in our new film: [colfes.com/support-us](https://colfes.com/support-us)

Juan is now studying for a PhD in meteorology at the University of Reading. His research topic is about how sea surface temperatures can affect monsoons in the current and future climate. "It is a topic that's quite close to my heart as it's linked with climate change but also because my family in Colombia are constantly affected by a changing climate and live under the uncertainty of how their climate is going to change in the future," he said. "I'm glad to be able to work every day a little bit toward reducing that uncertainty."

The Colfe's Charitable Trust endowment fund, the interest from which supports the Leatherseller Scholarship Programme, has grown massively across the last three years thanks to the generous support of our donors. With your help, we can support even more pupils.

For 2025-26 the endowment fund:

**£2.7m**

The current value

**500**

Donations to the fund

**5**

Scholarships, combined with 10 scholarships from the Leathersellers' Foundation





## Introducing the 1652 Society: Thanking donors who make recurring gifts to the Colfe's Charitable Trust



**Income to the Trust from recurring gifts has increased by 99% since the start of 2022.**

In response to the rising popularity of donating regularly to the Trust through standing orders, the Development office has launched a new donor circle to thank these important friends.

The 1652 Society is our brand new regular giving society, named after the founding year of Colfe's School. It celebrates donors who give a regular donation to the Colfe's Charitable Trust – whether that is monthly, quarterly or annually – of any amount.

Members of the 1652 Society will receive invitations to biennial events so they can meet both one another and school leadership. They will also receive invitations to select school-wide events and unique communications. If you are considering a recurring gift to the Trust, you will automatically become part of this special group with your donation.

**When donors choose to direct their recurring gifts to support the Leatherseller Scholarship Programme, it helps the School determine the size of the scholarship cohort during our admissions cycle.**

### Meet some of our 1652 Society Members



**Ralph Cantellow (OC 1976):**

"My father had been to Colfe's and was still an active member of the Old Colfeians. His younger brother had been here, and my brother followed me. There was a sense that this was the neighbourhood school, and you were lucky to be here. Colfe's was somewhere that would really develop your ambition. You knew there were no heights that you couldn't reach for. The Leatherseller Scholarship Programme is important because it gives access to a type of education that may not be available elsewhere. To some extent, it is about the ability to have the range of resources that Colfe's can provide. It is not just the quality of teaching or the extra-curricular, but it's the ambition you can see. I give regularly because it gives the school certainty. The school needs to know that it can support a Leatherseller Scholar for the whole time that they are here at Colfe's. It could make the difference in saying 'we can take the risk of another scholarship', and I'd like to help them take the risk of that extra one."



**Richard (OC 1981) and Jayne Burton, Colfe's parents:**

Richard: "My main recent involvement with Colfe's has been as a parent, which was an interesting experience, to come back after so many years. I think although Colfe's is an independent school, it is a school that is reflective of its local community. It is well-grounded and down-to-earth – that was true in my time at Colfe's, and it is still true today. The Leatherseller Scholarship Programme contributes greatly to that, and it is something that I value personally." Jayne: "The benefits of a regular donation for us is that it is much easier to budget, and for the Trust they have a reliable source of predictable income. For others who may be considering making a donation, think back to your own education at Colfe's – or if you're a parent, the education of your children. There are huge numbers of people in this community who don't have these advantages. If you can help a few people reach their potential and achieve their dreams, that is a very good reason to donate. We're very happy to give back because we feel as though we've gained so much."

**Learn more about Ralph, Richard, Jayne and other 1652 Society donors and hear why they donate regularly to the Leatherseller Scholarship Programme in a series of new films: [colfes.com/support-us](https://colfes.com/support-us)**

### A Celebration of Legacy Giving: Wednesday 21 May

We are holding an afternoon tea for friends who may have an interest in learning about gifts-in-wills to the Trust and the impact they make on Colfe's scholars of tomorrow. Hosted by Headmaster Richard Russell and Chairman of Governors Matthew Pellereau, the event will include school leaders so you can learn more about Colfe's today. Our bequest intendees in attendance also look forward to sharing more with guests about their personal decisions. Places are limited, but if you are interested in attending, please email [development@colfes.com](mailto:development@colfes.com) for more details, including times and location.

## LATEST SCHOOL NEWS



### Winter Production: The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time

**Over two nights to a packed theatre, students from Years 10-13 presented a heartfelt and thrilling performance of *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*.**

Adapted by Simon Stephens from Mark Haddon's best-selling novel, the production was full of warmth and emotion, with a dose of mystery included. Year 10's Alice took the role of protagonist Christopher: an exceptional mathematician, detective enthusiast and (unacknowledged) neurodiverse 15-year old, to whom everyday life presents some barriers, which he overcomes to unravel what is behind the mysterious death of a neighbour's dog.

Director of Drama, Natalie Maher said: "I knew *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* would be perfect for our Winter Production for our Year 10 to 13 students. It has been an absolute joy to work with such an enthusiastic, energetic and hard-working ensemble cast and crew, both on and off the stage. Every one of them was phenomenal. They were brimming with energy and commitment to presenting this play with the heart and soul it deserves. We are so proud of them all."

An entertained and visibly moved audience wholeheartedly applauded the production.

### The Good Schools Guide Review gives Colfe's a glowing report

**The Good Schools Guide has published a new review of Colfe's, the first since 2021.**

Both Junior and Senior Schools received glowing reports. The publication visits the best schools and speaks to Heads, pupils and parents. The result is an impartial, thoroughly researched school review. The report included the following feedback:

**Senior School:** "Academic but not pushy, selective but very inclusive," we were told. A relatively new parent could not be happier: 'I am just very, very impressed. It started really well and it's getting better and better.' A young pupil said, 'I think it's a happy school and clubs, friends and activities all boost happiness.'"

"The academic bar is rising and results are improving with more personalised support and targeted interventions for pupils of all abilities to ensure they are supported or challenged as appropriate."

"An undoubted USP here, praised by every parent or pupil we spoke to, is the extracurricular offering."



**Junior School:** "A school where exciting stuff is going on inside and out. Parents and staff are confident and enthusiastic about the direction of travel, children feel valued and are happy."

"The curriculum here is considered, connected and clever."

"Learning support is carefully blended with the academic programme"

### Life After Colfe's: Charlotte Kirk (OC 2020)

**How did Colfe's prepare you for post-school life?**  
The skills I learned at Colfe's helped me when I took ownership of independent learning at Uni. I studied German and Economics at Durham University, with a year abroad at Albert-Ludwigs Universität in Freiburg, Germany.

**Why did you read languages at university?**  
I studied German and French at A-Level – speaking foreign languages and discovering other cultures was so exciting. Spending a year abroad in Germany really helped my linguistic skills, but I also developed valuable resilience and problem-solving skills. I also loved discovering a new country and made friends with people from all over the world.



**What have you been doing post-graduation?**  
I started the Local Government Graduate Scheme at Hounslow Council last September. I am halfway through the first of four placements, working in the in-house consultancy team on some new internal governance. My team is lovely too which helps!

**What is your favourite Colfe's memory?**  
I look back on my time at Colfe's so fondly – I enjoyed day-to-day school life and the breadth of extra-curriculars offered. If I had to choose something specific, probably taking part in House Music in Year 13. A friend directed our entry, and we had a lot of fun. It was a vast improvement on my disastrous attempt from the year before!

## DONATION FORM SINGLE GIFT

We are grateful for all contributions to the Colfe's Charitable Trust, regardless of size. If you are not able to give a regular gift, please consider a one-off donation of any size you are comfortable with.



### Your Details

Name:

Home address:

Postcode:

Telephone:  Email:

### Make a Single Gift

I would like to make a one-off gift of:

£50  £100  £250  £500  £1,000  £2,500  Other: £

I would like to pay by:

Cheque (made payable to Colfe's Charitable Trust)  Bank transfer

### By cheque

Please enclose with a printed copy of this form and return to the Development Office at the address below.

### Bank Transfer Details

To Colfe's Charitable Trust HSBC sort code 40-07-31  
Account no. 11543350 with your name as a reference.

### Your Gift

Please tell us how you would like your gift to be used:

Leatherseller Scholarship Programme  
 Headmaster's Discretionary Fund  
 I would like my gift to remain anonymous including in any written and online publications

### Legacy Plans

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 I am considering including Colfe's Charitable Trust in my Will and would like more information

### Please complete and return your form:

- By email to: [development@colfes.com](mailto:development@colfes.com)
- By post to: Development Office, Colfe's School, using the enclosed Freepost envelope.

If you would like to make a recurring gift please complete the details overleaf.

Colfe's School, on behalf of the Colfe's Charitable Trust, processes data in line with Data Protection Law. For more information about how and why we handle personal data, please read our Privacy Policy at [colfes.com/school-policies](https://colfes.com/school-policies)

Colfe's Charitable Trust  
Headmaster: Richard Russell MA (Cantab). Registered Charity No: 275447



### GIFT AID DECLARATION Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate

Gift Aid is reclaimed by the charity from the tax you pay for the current tax year. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations it is my responsibility to pay any difference. I want to Gift Aid this gift and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years to Colfe's Charitable Trust.

*Please notify Colfe's Charitable Trust if you:*  
Want to cancel this declaration. Change your name or home address. No longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains. If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.

Signature:

### OTHER WAYS TO DONATE

Donations of stock, gifts-in-kind, payroll giving and other unique ways to support us are also available. Please contact us at [development@colfes.com](mailto:development@colfes.com) for a confidential conversation.

Alternatively, make an online donation: scan the QR code or visit [colfes.com/support-us/](https://colfes.com/support-us/)

