Policy statement on the acceptance of gifts from donors to Corpus Christi College

Corpus Christi College, which has benefited from donations since its foundation in the fourteenth century, is very grateful to all those who generously support its aims and purposes. The College endeavours to carry out due diligence on all substantial donations to ensure that the receipt of a donation aligns with the core values of the College and does not undermine or harm its reputation and educational purpose.

The College is committed to high ethical standards and champions an inclusive, diverse, tolerant, and open-minded community. The College is registered with the Fundraising Regulator, the independent regulator of charitable fundraising in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland, and adheres to its a Code of Fundraising Practice (“Code”). Among other things, the Code:

- sets standards on fundraising,
- requires charitable organisations to ensure that they are not misleading people; and
- requires charitable organisations to ensure that are sensitive to people who may be in vulnerable circumstances.

The College will do all that it practically can to check the background of potential donors who are not already known to it, and to establish the source of proposed financial benefactions and/or the provenance of other gifts, including valid and legal title of non-monetary gifts.

The College also applies the University’s guidelines – Procedures for Handling Donations. Where necessary, the College will consult the Cambridge University Development and Alumni Relations (CUDAR) Office for guidance and may seek further advice from the Committee for Benefaction and External Affairs (CBELA).

If it is found that a gift has been accepted by the College from a source judged at a later stage to be inappropriate and/or incompatible with the College’s standards on accepting donations, where practical the College will immediately return the gift and sever the relationship with the donor. Where appropriate and practical, it will publicise this action and the reasons for it.

October 2022