

BRAES HIGH SCHOOL <u>Friends at Braes</u>
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What is Friends at Braes?

Friends at Braes is the school's parent-led fundraising group, and as a Parents' Association, the group plays a tremendous part in the life and work of the school. The main purpose of Friends at Braes is fundraising for the school, and the group have made significant contributions to a wide variety of developments over many years. However, Friends at Braes is also about supporting the wider school community. By supporting events in school, FAB contribute enormously to supporting our school's positive ethos, bringing a real parent-school partnership to many events such as concerts, exhibitions, information events and primary/secondary transition activities. Obviously in more recent times, the ability to hold 'normal' events has been restricted. However, even during the current circumstances, FAB has remained active, inventive and supportive of the school. Friends at Braes meetings are, as the name suggests, friendly, but also positive, constructive and most importantly, all about the young people of Braes High School. Pupils often appear at these meetings, bringing proposals and ideas to the group. At present, meetings are being held online, and it has been great to see such positive discussion continuing in this different way of getting together. Friends at Braes is also heavily involved in supporting fellow Braes families, through uniform recycling and also by promoting school events and information.

Hopefully, the information below adds a little more information about the great work of this positive group.

Fundraising by Friends at Braes

FAB have contributed to many projects in Braes High School. Please see a small selection below:

- ✓ purchase of additional learning materials
- ✓ additional furniture and resources for the school library
- ✓ rugby strips
- ✓ supporting the Eco Group
- ✓ gymnastics team outfits
- ✓ LED curtain for the school stage
- ✓ the school App
- ✓ stained glass window
- ✓ art projects
- ✓ dance and cheerleading equipment
- ✓ transport for primary/secondary transition events
- ✓ additional Science equipment
- ✓ the launch of a new Higher Media Studies course
- ✓ supporting the creation of a Family Learning Space within the school
- ✓ further development of dyslexia-friendly classrooms
- ✓ enhancement of our Nurture base
- ✓ the development of a Health and Wellbeing Hub for pupils and families

Supporting school events and other activities

- ✓ a successful **Welcome Disco** for new S1 pupils
- ✓ Worked with the **Pupil Council** to carry out a survey for the types of event pupils would be interested in
- ✓ Working in partnership with the school on the **Braes Family Fun Day**
- ✓ Helping to provide **personal care and dental products** for pupils
- ✓ Providing a **recycled school uniform** service
- ✓ Consulted with the school on the development of a **Community Café**
- ✓ Assisted the school's **Eco Group** in their Rag Bag collections
- ✓ Supported many **family events** such as :
 - Braes Youth Theatre Cabaret
 - Wee sleep In
 - Drama Senior Project
 - Sports Awards
 - S1-S3 curriculum info evening
 - Art Exhibition
 - Christmas Concert
 - Dance Showcase
 - School shows
 - P7 information events
 - Braes Media Oscars Evening
 - Drama events



Easyfundraising

There are many ways in which you can support Friends at Braes, apart from attending the meetings. One way is through using easyfundraising. If you can, please visit [easyfundraising](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsatbraes) and register with Friends at Braes if you shop online. Every time you shop you raise a donation for FAB at no extra cost to yourself. There are many retailers registered, including holiday retailers, mobile phone shops, and lots of favourites such as Amazon, Argos, Boots, Debenhams, EBay, John Lewis, Next and Sports Direct. It really is easy fund-raising for FAB. If you can, please support FAB by visiting www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsatbraes.

FAB Lotto

Friends at Braes run a monthly lotto, costing £2 per month by standing order, or £24 for the year. Each month a draw takes place and the winner is notified. The winner receives half the amount paid in and the other half goes to FAB.

Uniform Re-cycling

We operate an eco-friendly uniform recycling service and would like to say thank you to everyone who has donated. We accept all items of uniform such as blazers, ties, jumpers and P.E. t-shirts. If you would like to donate, please wash and iron your items and hand them in to reception for the attention of FAB. Uniform can be requested by leaving a message with reception or messaging us through Facebook. All we ask for is a small donation to FAB.

Contacting Friends at Braes

Leah Curry is our Chairperson of Friends at Braes, well supported by Josie Carnie (Secretary) and Mollie Folkman (Treasurer). All are parents/carers of Braes pupils and have given long standing service to Friends at Braes. New attendees at meetings are always welcome! The school is very grateful to Leah and all parents/carers involved for their ongoing support of Friends at Braes. The next meeting of Friends at Braes takes place on Monday 7th December at 6.30pm, online via Zoom. If you would like to be part of this meeting, please contact Leah by email at friendsatbraeshigh@gmail.com.

