

Impact Report 2023

Mater
Filius = son

Supporting Classics in UK
state schools since 2010

All students regardless of background or ability
should have the opportunity to study Classics

Who We Are

Classics for All was founded in 2010 to reverse the decline in the teaching of Classics in state schools. Our vision is that all pupils in state schools across the UK should have the opportunity to study classical subjects, regardless of their ability or background.

In 2010, researchers estimated that classical subjects were taught in only 25% of UK state schools compared with 75% of independent schools. Consequently, the majority of pupils studying Classics at GCSE or A level were privately educated.

We offer free training, resources and support for UK state schools to introduce or develop Classics. Restoring Classics to state schools remains a challenge. Issues include a shortage of qualified teachers, a crowded curriculum and the enduring myth that the study of Classics is only for a privileged few. But with our support schools are able to combat these difficulties and bring Classics to their pupils.



A sustainable revival of Classics in UK state schools



Training for non-specialists teachers

We work predominantly in schools that have no history of teaching Classics and no Classics specialists. Rather than paying a costly and intermittent 'fly-in' Classicist's salary, we focus on sustainably training our schools to teach Classics themselves, building the skills for their teachers to become in-house specialists. We ensure that there is support from senior school leaders for Classics and integrate one or more classical subjects gradually into curriculum planning.

750 teachers trained in 2023



Ongoing regional support

Our 14 Regional Networks, many working in partnership with leading universities across the country, act as on the ground support for our schools and teachers. They are the local touch which allow us to maintain contact and support throughout the UK, staying connected to the deprived, 'left-behind' and hard-to-reach areas who most need our support.

88% of schools from outside London



Early intervention

In 2014 the National Curriculum of England required that all pupils in Key Stage 2 must study an ancient or modern foreign language. This has become a target area for Classics for All for the last 10 years; by increasing the take-up of Latin in primary schools we not only give these pupils a foundational language for their English and Modern Foreign Languages, but we also stimulate pupils' interest and generate demand for classical subjects at secondary school.

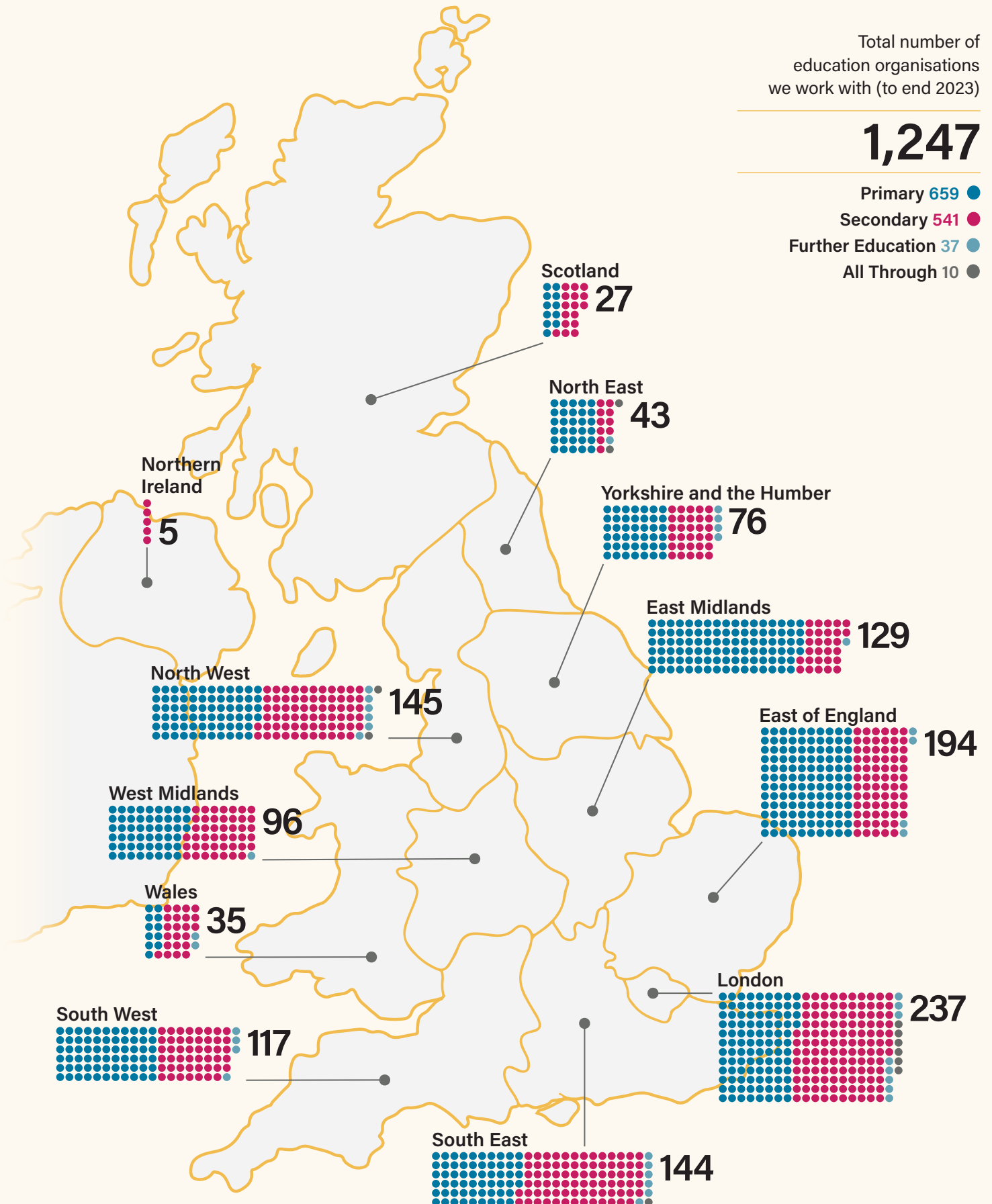
10,000 primary pupils studying Latin in 2023

Where We Work

Total number of education organisations we work with (to end 2023)

1,247

- Primary 659 ●
- Secondary 541 ●
- Further Education 37 ●
- All Through 10 ●



Our Approach

We offer teachers free flexible training and support to introduce or develop a classical subject sustainably on the curriculum.

While some schools come to us directly for support, we also target schools in areas of low social mobility via our Regional Classics Networks. This ensures that pupils in schools with no tradition of Classics benefit from our support.

Our Key Activities

Continuing Professional Development

- We support teachers, often non-specialists, to introduce or develop classical subjects in their schools.
- We have trained (both online and face-to-face) over 5,000 teachers to teach a classical subject.
- We have established teacher training initiatives in five colleges and schools in Scotland and England to address the shortage of Classics teachers.

Developing new approaches to Classics teaching

- We develop stimulating resources for teaching Classics and ancient languages in primary and secondary schools.
- We work with cultural institutions, authors and academics to increase pupils' interest in the ancient world.

Ongoing support and mentoring

- We offer free advice on how a school can best introduce or sustain Classics in their school.
- We have developed 14 Regional Networks across the UK where state sector teachers can seek free ongoing support.

Advocacy

- We make an evidence-based case for Classics with state schools, policymakers and donors.

Research and evaluation

- We review data from schools to improve our services and commission research into the impact of Classics on pupils' aspiration and attainment.



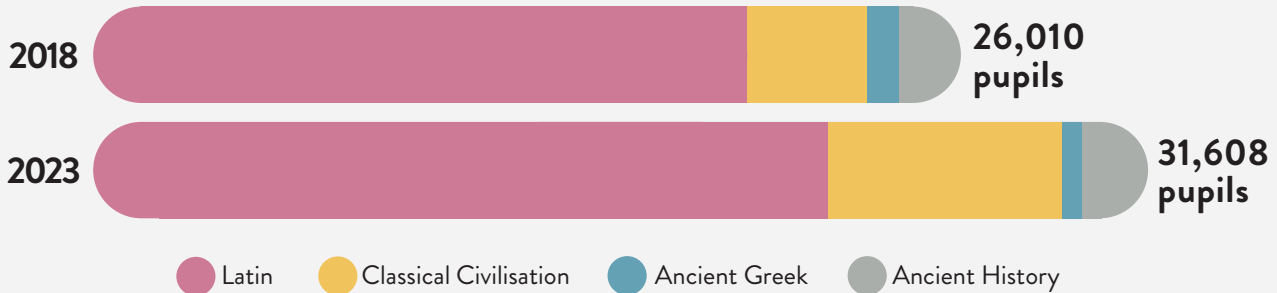
“ It truly has revolutionised how we teach languages at All Saints.

Hannah Golding, Teacher at All Saints Junior, Reading

Our Achievements

Since 2010, we've supported Classics in over 1,200 state schools, training over 5,000 teachers and reaching over 200,000 pupils aged 5-18.

The number of pupils learning Classics by subject area in Classics for All supported schools, in 2018 and 2023



Classics is one of the most varied and interdisciplinary of all subjects, with wide ranging benefits for those lucky enough to study it.



Raises pupils' aspirations and achievements

Widening access to classical subjects can improve social mobility giving pupils the confidence and skills to progress to higher education.

Enhances the learning of Modern Foreign Languages

Familiarising pupils with linguistic structures and patterns that make them more confident language users.



Improves grammatical understanding and communication skills

Enriching pupils' vocabulary by helping them to decode unfamiliar words.

Broadens cultural horizons

Learning about classical history, literature and ideas enhances young people's cultural understanding, giving them new perspectives and reference points.



Our Impact Children and Young People

To date we have offered a cumulative total of over 200,000 young people aged 5-18 opportunities to study the ancient world either as part of the school curriculum or as an enrichment activity.

Evidence from evaluation suggests that exposure to Classics has many positive benefits for pupils' literacy skills, communication and cultural awareness as well as raising their aspirations.

“ The introduction of Classics A level has lifted the aspirational tone of our sixth form. Students who might never have had access to the rich cultural capital of an A level in Classics, outperformed in Classics and other subjects as a result. From our first cohort of Classicists, half have gone on to study Classics at University.

Christian Bromley, Teacher,
The Bewdley School, Birmingham



“ I came to this school in Year 3 and couldn't speak English. My first language is Dari. I like learning Latin. It's fun and helps me to learn English.

Tajalla, Year 4 Student,
Hillcrest Primary, Bristol

“ When I say, 'I do Classical Civilisation' it's an immediate: 'What on earth's that?' And then I go on to explain that it's a bit of history, the Romans, the Greeks, a bit of literature. Then a lot of people are like: 'That sounds really interesting; I never got the chance to do that.'

Dylan, A Level Classical Civilisation Student, Greenhead Sixth Form College, Huddersfield



“ I like the way Latin is taught, it's fun and interesting. The teacher brings in useful items like a wax tablet... I have learnt loads.

Mjduleen, Year 5 Student,
Forest Fields Primary, Nottingham



Percentage of pupils reporting that learning Latin has a positive impact on literacy and attainment in other subjects.

According to school surveys, of pupils studying Latin:



80% exceeded targets in Modern Foreign Languages



71% reported a better understanding of grammar



78% reported having a larger vocabulary

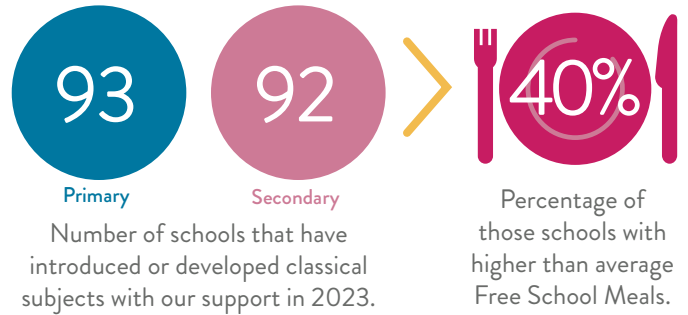
Our Impact Schools

We focus on accessible and sustainable approaches to teaching Classics in schools.

We encourage school leadership teams to make Classics a permanent part of the school timetable, building pupils' cultural awareness and enriching the curriculum.

Testimony from headteachers suggests that putting Classics on the curriculum improves pupils' attainment across their subjects as well as enhancing the reputation of schools.

This can be particularly true of the schools in areas of low social mobility and high deprivation.



Case Study Thurso High School

Thurso High School is the most northerly secondary school in mainland Britain, lying on the coast of Caithness. Thurso was trained by Classics for All to introduce Classical Studies at National 5 Level in 2022.

Thurso has over 750 pupils, from local and outer areas, many from farming communities, bringing a range of backgrounds, behavioural needs, and literacy and numeracy abilities to the school.

They introduced Classics for its inclusivity and the aspirational impact for their pupils of lower ability.

Classical Studies has been extremely popular, in just two years pupil numbers increased from a small cohort of 10 to 47 pupils taking the subject.

This year the school won our Impact Awards for a Scottish school (an award that recognises outstanding achievements of our schools).

We hope Thurso will keep going from strength to strength, imbuing their young people with the joys and aspirational benefits studying the ancient world can bring.

“Classics has made a huge positive contribution to the curriculum at Thurso High. Not only does it enable pupils to explore the fascinating world of the Ancients, it also allows them to continue their study of the past when traditional routes such as Higher History might not be achievable.

Andrew Rathie, Head of Social Subjects Faculty, Thurso High School

Our Impact Teachers

We believe the best way to create sustainable change in a school is to support the teachers. We offer free training, resources and mentoring so that teachers can affect their schools from within.

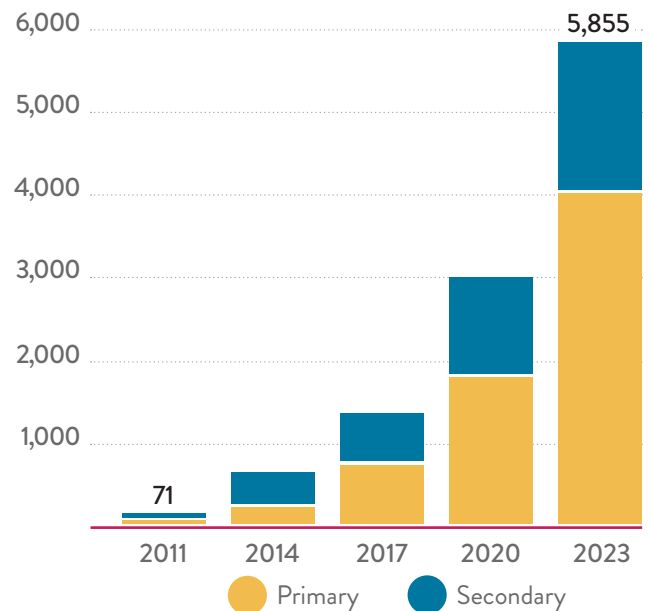
We give non-specialist teachers the skills, knowledge and support to teach Classics. They are encouraged to learn from one another and to test and evaluate new approaches to Classics teaching that enrich the curriculum.

Many teachers supported by Classics for All also talk about the ways in which teaching a classical subject has inspired them and supported their teaching of other subjects such as English and Modern History.

“Our training was the best CPD I’ve ever attended. Learning Latin is a great way to engage all children. They love that they are learning alongside the adults, this has really benefitted our SEND and lower ability learners as there is no barrier for them.

Catherine Murphy, Headteacher,
St Winifride’s Primary School, Shepshed

Total number of primary and secondary school teachers trained by Classics for All since 2010



Our Growth

We receive no government funding and raise funds each year from individuals, trusts and foundations and events. It is only thanks to their donations that we can offer free support to state primary and secondary schools.

The cost of starting up a classical subject in a school with textbooks and training is approximately £3,000 and demand is consistently high.

Sources of Income and Expenditure 2023

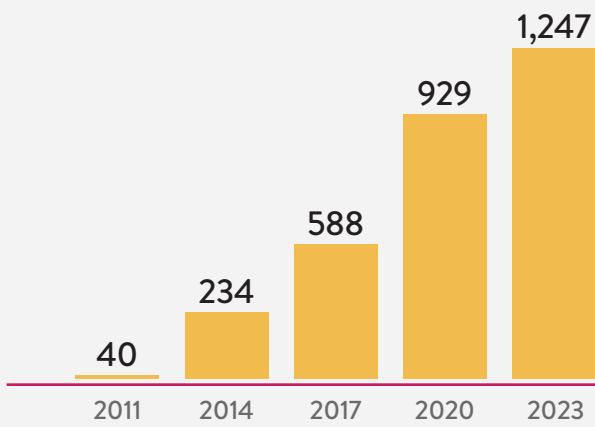
Source of Income (£764k in 2023, including £2.1k bank interest)



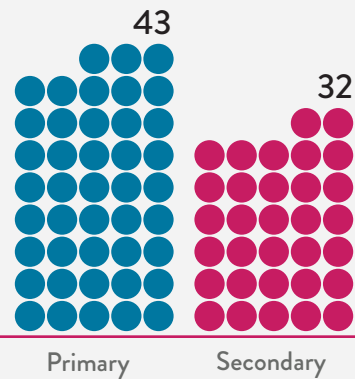
Sources of Expenditure (£724k in 2023)



Total cumulative number of schools supported by Classics for All to introduce or develop a classical subject



Number of schools supported by Classics for All to introduce a classical subject in 2023



Our Fundraising

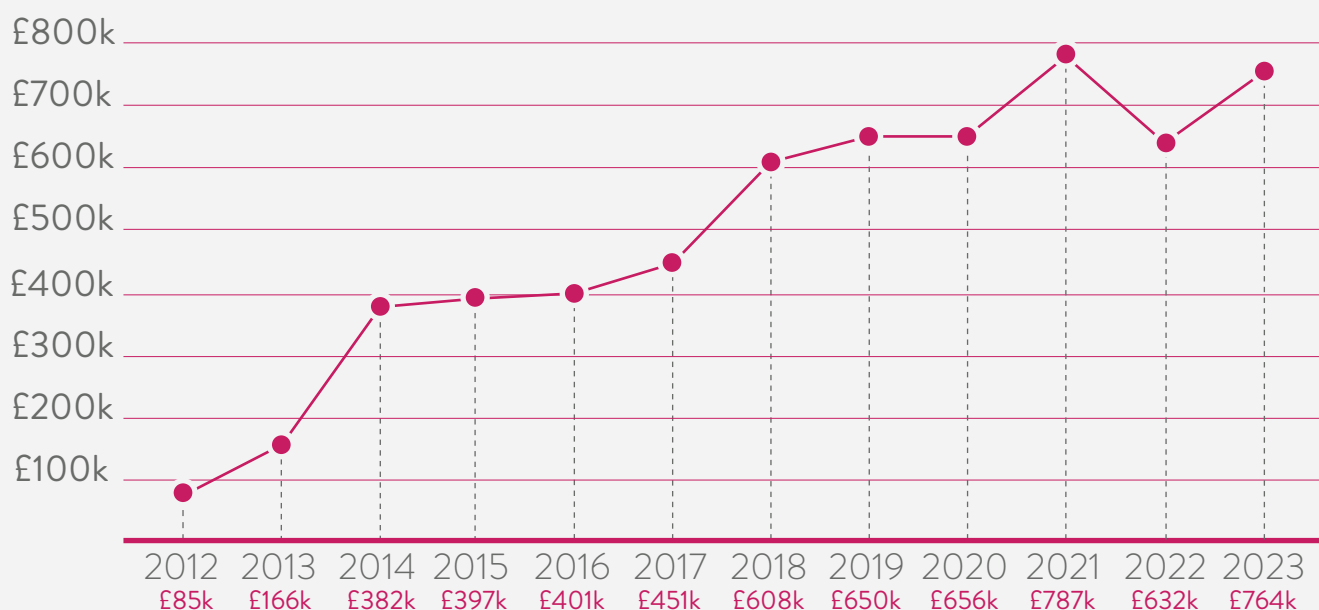
In 2022 we committed to a three-year strategy, focusing on targeted growth of Classics in schools, strengthening our regional structures, making Classics more accessible, evidencing the impact of Classics and influencing the policies that create barriers to Classics in the curriculum.

Key Priorities for 2024

- To introduce Classics in 100 new schools, 60% outside of the Southeast of England
- To ensure that our Regional Networks are fit for purpose and equipped to reach out to new schools and sustain Classics in existing schools
- To strengthen regional support for schools particularly in areas of high social deprivation in the North, Midlands and Southwest
- To continue to work with the Classical Association to inform examination reform
- To develop our youth group, The Chorus, as a powerful platform to support young classicists

To reach our target of supporting 1,500 schools and training 7,000 teachers by the end of 2025, we need to increase our annual income from £764k in 2023 to £950k per year in 2025.

Donation Income Since 2012



Acknowledgements

We would like to thank our donors warmly for their generous support and commitment. It is only through their generosity that we can fulfil our vision of making Classics available to all young people, regardless of their background or ability.

Each year, we publicly acknowledge the generosity of donors who have given £100 or more to Classics for All by listing them on our website.

We are particularly grateful to The A. G. Leventis Foundation for their continued support in 2023.

“After thirty years of teaching, I got my first ever brand new set of textbooks.

Susan Rowley, Teacher,
Buckie Community High School, Scotland

To see the full donor list,
scan this QR code or visit
[classicsforall.org.uk/
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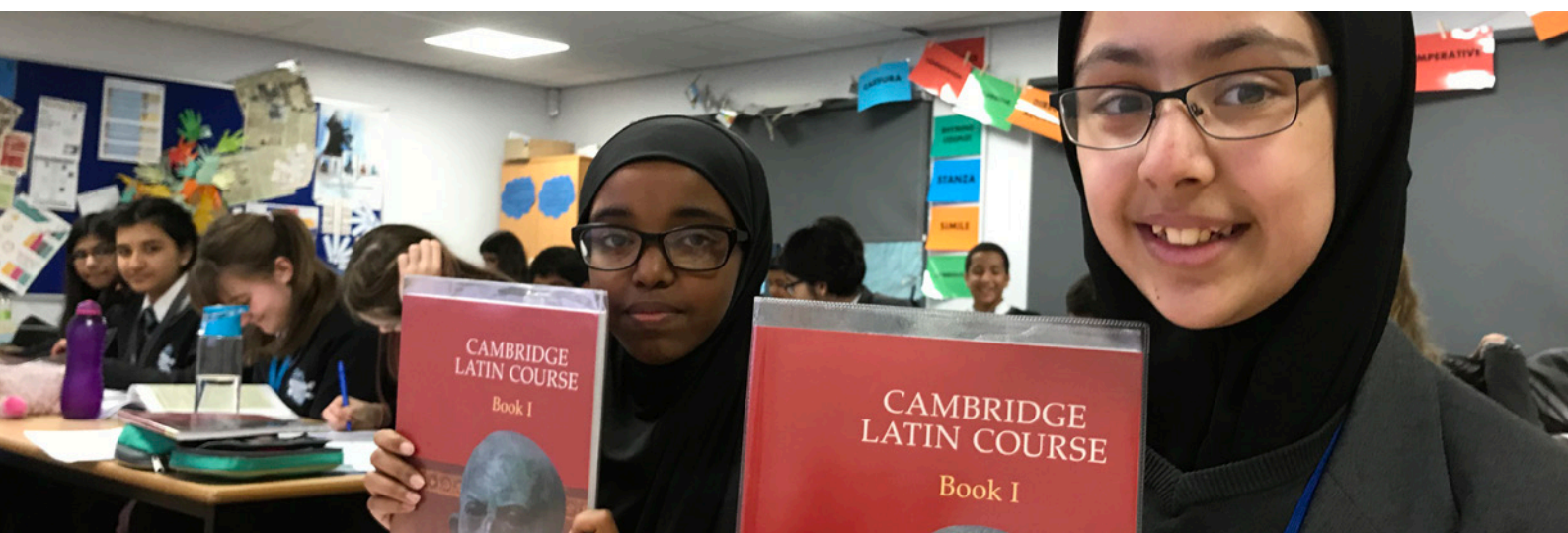
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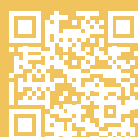


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