



September 2023

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Dear Sir/Madam

Keswick School wishes to express its support of Keswick Rugby Club in its ambition to rebuild the clubhouse.

Keswick School enjoys a strong relationship with Keswick Rugby Club, with many students and staff also being members of the club. We have shared facilities in the past and the club has been very generous in supporting our PE department through providing a rugby coach as part of their youth programme. As a consequence, the popularity of rugby has grown enormously within the school community and as a result many former students have continued to play rugby beyond school, including at national level.

We also currently lease some of our grounds to the rugby club and they use them for training with a variety of teams. This partnership continues to grow as we see rugby as an important element of team sport participation that is helping young people to re-engage and support good mental health post-pandemic.

The club is now in urgent need of a new clubhouse and this will help to further strengthen the relationship between the school and the club. In particular, the use of 6 separate changing rooms (as well as pitches) will allow us to have girls' and boys' fixtures on the same day, which we can't currently accommodate. In addition, a large venue raised above the risk of flooding would be beneficial to both the school and local community. This would include the use of a gym to support the teaching of A level/GCSE PE, which is a facility that we don't currently have in the school.

We therefore fully support the rugby club in all applications to secure funding to invest in a new clubhouse that would serve the club, school and wider community.

Yours sincerely

Simon Jackson **Headteacher**