



Eden Girls

27<sup>th</sup> May 2021

**RE: Charity Appeal – Gaza**

Respected Parents / Guardians, Assalaamu Alaikum (Peace be with you),

Every year, parents and pupils in Star schools raise impressive sums of money to alleviate poverty and suffering in the UK and beyond. This year has been particularly challenging due to the ravages of Covid-19, which have compounded the problems faced by our own families and communities as well as those many miles away. During the blessed month of Ramadhaan, Star pupils and parents raised over £100,000 for children and impoverished families in our local communities and across the world.

It is with a heavy heart that I turn to you again.

The recent conflict in Gaza has caused considerable distress to so many in our school communities – including parents, members of staff and young people. Over the last few days, we have held special assemblies to raise awareness of the conflict in Gaza and have explored with pupils the importance of demonstrating respect – one of our STAR values – for all. Our pupils have been particularly upset to learn about children who have lost their life or been injured or bereaved at this time. We pray for all those who have lost their lives, for those who have been hurt and for those who are devastated by the loss of a loved one.

Many of our pupils have asked if they can raise funds to help improve the lives of children and their families in Gaza.

As a result, our Shine Charity is liaising with UNWRA (United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East) to support their work in Gaza. UNWRA has launched an emergency appeal for humanitarian support for those whose lives have been torn apart. UNWRA runs a number of schools which are being used as Designated Emergency Shelters (DESSs). Tens of thousands of displaced Palestinian families have sought safety in these schools. Their needs are urgent and immediate: food, hygiene products, domestic items, health care and psychological support.

**During half-term, we are asking our pupils to raise awareness of this appeal and to ask for donations from family and friends.** Once donations are collected by the pupil, parents are asked to transfer the donations to the appeal via Parent Pay. Lillah, Sadaqah and Zakat donations are all acceptable. Please give as generously as you can – each pound is worth so much more during this difficult time. The deadline for donations on Parent Pay is **Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> June**.

I pray that you are rewarded abundantly for your kindness (Aameen) and request your prayers again for peace, comfort and harmony for all vulnerable people across our world.

Yours sincerely,

Sajid Khaliq  
Principal

