By gifting shares or property to St Catherine’s College, individuals can take advantage of significant tax deductions, whilst benefiting the College at the same time.

As the College has charitable status, transfers of such assets are exempt from Capital Gains Tax – the disposal is treated as being at such a price that there is no chargeable gain. Individuals may also claim income tax relief when gifting any qualifying investments to St Catherine’s. The amount of income tax relief you can claim is calculated as:

- The value of the net benefit to the charity (the market value of your gift) plus
- Any incidental costs (e.g. broker’s fees, legal fees)

For example, an individual who owns 5,000 shares worth £10 each decides to gift the shares to the College. A broker’s fee of £100 is charged for the transaction. The deduction the individual can make from his/her taxable income is thus £50,100 (the value of the shares plus the broker’s fee).

The only requirements to making such a saving are that the donor must:

- Claim the tax relief themselves in their tax return
- Have a liability to pay the amount of tax deducted (i.e. the gift cannot give rise to a tax credit)
- Transfer the shares intact to St Catherine’s College (i.e. not sell them first)

Qualifying assets include:

- Shares and securities listed or dealt in on the UK Stock Exchange, or a recognised foreign stock exchange (see HM Revenue form IR178 for a list of recognised exchanges).
- Units in authorised unit trusts.
- Shares in UK open-ended investment companies.
- The whole of a beneficial interest in a qualifying interest in land and buildings.

This information is not intended to replace professional advice from your tax-adviser. For more information on gifting shares or property to St Catherine’s, and the potential tax advantages of doing so, please contact Laura Stoker in the Development Office, laura.stoker@stcatz.ox.ac.uk, 0044 1865 281 585.