



**SLINDON
COLLEGE**

BURSARY & SCHOLARSHIP POLICY

Last review:	May 2023
Next review:	May 2024
Prepared by:	Natasha Malby, Bursar

Approved by:	F&GP Committee
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Bursaries

The Board of Governors of Slindon College are committed to broadening access to the College by offering eligible parents/guardians means-tested financial support with the payment of fees. Such support is known as a Bursary and these may be awarded in the form of a discount of up to 75% on day and boarding fees payable, depending on the financial, compassionate or other pertinent circumstances of applicants. Bursaries may either be awarded for the duration of the pupil's education (Fixed Bursary), subject to annual review, or may be for a defined period only. Requests for financial support usually fall into two categories:

Admissions Bursaries

When a place has been offered to a new pupil but parents/guardians are unable to fund the fees.

Hardship Bursaries

Where a change in parent/guardian circumstances have resulted in difficulty in meeting fees and may result in the pupil being withdrawn part way through a stage of education. Bursaries will not be awarded for the purpose of cancelling an existing fees debt.

The number and the overall value of bursaries awarded each year will depend on the College's budgetary constraints and it is important therefore to emphasise that not all applicants will be successful.

Application Process

The Bursar is responsible for the management and co-ordination of the application process. Parents/guardians seeking a bursary are required to complete a Confidential Statement of Financial Circumstances form. The form is confidential and requires full information about the family's financial circumstances, with supporting documentation. The College uses an independent company, Bursary Administration Ltd (BAL), to review and assess bursary applications.

Shortly after receipt of the application form, BAL will arrange an interview to talk through the financial circumstances form and discuss the application. These interviews are undertaken in a sensitive manner and all information is treated in the strictest confidence. The application and the BAL feedback will be issued to the Bursar for submission to the Headteacher and a Governor from the Finance & General Purposes Committee who will decide the value of the bursary that may be awarded.

Parents/guardians are then advised of the outcome and those who are successful are required to sign an offer letter agreeing to the conditions applying to the bursary award.

Other Sources of Bursary Assistance

In addition to the College's bursary scheme, there are a number of educational and charitable trusts which provide assistance with tuition fees. In the majority of cases, these are to assist pupils who are already attending a fee-paying school and due to a change of circumstances may be unable to remain. The College encourages parents/guardians to apply for support where it is felt a good case can be made for

assistance. Further information on how to pursue such assistance may be obtained from:

The Educational Trusts' Forum
www.educational-grants.org

Scholarships

Scholarships are financial awards for talented pupils. They may be awarded to those who excel academically or who are gifted in other areas such as; drama, music or sport. Family income isn't taken into account when awarding scholarships. Slindon College offers scholarship awards to the value of up to 10% of the day and boarding fees.

Academic Scholarship

The academic scholarship is awarded to a pupil who excels academically. Pupils applying for the academic scholarship will be subject to an academic test.

Open Scholarship

The open scholarship is awarded to a pupil who is likely to contribute exceptionally well to the overall life of the College.

Special Talent Scholarship

The special talent scholarship is awarded to a pupil who excels in one area (drama, music or sport) to a high level i.e. competing or performing at county, national or international level. The pupil will be required to provide ongoing evidence of their special talent and will be expected to represent the College in their area of expertise.

Application Process

Applications should initially be made in writing to the Bursar outlining the pupils talent. Applicants will then be required to either provide evidence of their ability, take an additional test to prove their academic talent or demonstrate their ability in their area of expertise. Parents/guardians are then advised of the outcome and those who are successful are required to sign a form agreeing to the conditions applying to the scholarship award.

General

Annual Review

Bursary and scholarship awards are reviewed in the Summer Term each year. Current bursary holders will be asked to complete a reassessment with BAL. Awards may be varied upwards or downwards subject to such matters as changes in financial means, pupil progress, unsatisfactory attitude or behaviour and also where parents/guardians have failed to support the College, for example by the late payment of fees. Parents/guardians can assume that a bursary award will not change from year to year unless there has been a significant change in their finances. The Headteacher has the discretion to reduce or withdraw an award where parent/guardian circumstances have changed or where they have failed to support the College. Failure to respond to the request for information in relation to the annual review of a bursary or scholarship will result in the award being withdrawn.

Awareness

Information alerting parents/guardians of new and existing pupils to the possibility of gaining bursaries or scholarships is contained in:

- a. The College prospectus
- b. The College website
- c. The local press by means of advertisement

Confidentiality

The College respects the confidentiality of bursary and scholarship awards made to families; recipients are expected to do likewise.

The College is aware of its obligations under the Charities Act 2022 and seeks to adhere to the public benefit principles identified by Charity Commission. This policy is reviewed annually.