



## SALLY WALKER BURSARY POLICY

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It is the desire of the Patrons of the Sally Walker Bursary that this award be used to promote Public Benefit in providing the opportunities and advantages of independent education to any candidate, including a child with special needs, whose family is unable to meet the cost of independent schooling. The choice of recipient in any year, and the size of the award made are at the discretion of the Bursary Committee. All applications put to the committee by the Registrar will be given equal consideration. The committee's decision is final and there is no appeal procedure. From 1<sup>st</sup> September 2012 only children who are aged six or over on the 1<sup>st</sup> September of the year of entry will be eligible to apply for this award.

An award may cover up to 100% of tuition fees for the time the child is at the school. It may also cover the cost of after school clubs, outings and residential trips at the discretion of the committee. A full set of uniform is provided by our school outfitters, Perry Uniform. The award does not usually cover the cost of extra tuition including music lessons. Extra academic support or specialist tuition for a child with special needs or a learning difficulty may be covered at the discretion of the committee. One award only may be made to any one family. For bursary applications, the usual registration fee of £30.00 is waived.

The most important consideration in assessing candidates will be that of financial need. It is recognised that judgments about what sacrifices a family should make to pay school fees will be personal. However, the School has a duty to ensure that any financial support it offers is well focused and targeted towards those most in need. Therefore, in determining the appropriate level of assistance to be offered, in addition to current earnings, other factors will be considered:

- i. Family circumstances. Where there are two parents we will normally expect both partners to work, or to demonstrate that efforts have been made to maximize their financial position. Consideration will be given to couples where one partner is unable to work, e.g. through incapacity or the need to care for young children or other family members.
- ii. Equity that could be released to meet the cost of school fees, including any substantial savings, investments, property or land holdings.
- iii. Fees being paid to other schools or institutions e.g. school fees or costs related to caring for a family member.
- iv. Any financial contributions being made by other family members e.g. grandparents, or outside sources. In the case of separated couples, the level of contributions made by an absent partner.

Other considerations are also important in assessing candidates and these include:

- i. The level of interest and involvement of parents in the education of their child. Parents will ideally be willing to work with the school in arranging schooling beyond 11+ in a suitable senior school.
- ii. The willingness to contribute to the life of the school through attendance at school events and participation in fundraising activities.
- iii. The likelihood of the child integrating successfully into the school and making the most of the academic and extra-curricular opportunities and experiences on offer within the school's inclusive environment.
- iv. The ability of the school to provide effectively for any special educational needs the child has.



# SALLY WALKER BURSARY PROCEDURE

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This means tested award is available to any candidate, including a child with special needs, whose family is unable to meet the cost of independent schooling. The choice of recipient in any year, and the size of the award made are at the discretion of the Bursary Committee. All applications put to the committee by the Registrar will be given equal consideration. From 1<sup>st</sup> September 2012 only children who are aged six or over on the 1<sup>st</sup> September of the year of entry will be eligible to apply for this award.

An award may cover up to 100% of tuition fees (including extra academic support, or specialist tuition for a child with statemented special needs) for the time the child is at the school. It may also cover the cost of after school clubs, outings and residential trips at the discretion of the committee. A full set of uniform is provided by our school outfitters, Perry Uniform. The award does not cover the cost of extra-curricular tuition, e.g. music lessons, One award only may be made to any one family.

## **1. Enquiry**

A prospectus, magazine, inspection report and registration form will be sent out to you by post. In order to register for a bursary place you need to complete and return the registration form. The closing date for applications is 1<sup>st</sup> December of the year preceding entry.

## **2. Meeting the Headmaster**

In January you will be invited to come in for an interview with the Headmaster. Both parents are expected to attend this interview. Afterwards you will be offered a tour of the school with the Registrar. Following the interview we will contact you to arrange an Assessment Day for your child.

## **3. Financial Means Test**

At this time you will be sent some paperwork to complete for the financial means test. The paperwork must be submitted to the Bursar, Andrew Allan, by the start of February Half Term. He may arrange a home visit with you, and will be happy to help you with any aspect of completing the forms.

## **4. Assessment Day**

Applicants for the Upper School will be invited to spend a full day with us.

Lower School applicants will be invited for a half day.

Your child will spend the day in a class of the appropriate age group, and during the morning will undergo an informal assessment. S/he will also attend a short, informal interview with either the Deputy Head, or the Registrar..

## **5. Panel Interview with the Bursary Committee**

The final shortlist of candidates is submitted in March to the Board of Governors for their consideration. With the governors' agreement, those shortlisted will be invited to attend a Panel Interview with the Bursary Committee. The decision as to the final recipients of the award rests with the Bursary Committee. The committee reserves the right not to make an award every year if they do not feel the right candidate has come forward.

## **6. Candidates will be informed in writing of the committee's decision.**

You will be informed of the committee's decision regarding your application by the end of the Spring Term (March) of the year of entry.