

# Merchant Taylors' School

## BURSARIES POLICY

### General

The Governors of MTS are committed to broadening access to the School by offering to eligible parents/guardians means-tested financial support with the payment of Schools fees. Such support is known as a 'Bursary' and this may be awarded in the form of a discount of up to 100% on tuition fees, depending on the financial circumstances of applicants.

The School welcomes applications for boys whose parents cannot afford the fees in full or in part. All Bursaries are means-tested. A boy may hold both a Bursary and a Scholarship. Scholarships are awarded on merit irrespective of means.

### Application Procedure

Applications for Bursaries usually fall into two categories:

- **New Admissions** to the School, where a place has been offered but parents/guardians are unable to fund the tuition fees.
- **Existing pupils** where a significant change in parents/guardians' circumstances has resulted in difficulty in meeting tuition fees and may result in the boy being withdrawn part way through a stage of education.

### New Admissions to the School

An application for a Bursary should be made in a letter or email to the Admissions Office. A confidential means-testing application form will need to be completed.

For September 2016 entries and beyond the following deadlines apply:

- For 11+ entry, the School must be informed of the requirement for a Bursary before the 30<sup>th</sup> September prior to the January Entrance Examination.
- For 13+ entry, the School must be informed of the requirement for a Bursary before the 30<sup>th</sup> September prior to the January Entrance Examination.
- For 16+ entry, the School must be informed of the requirement for a Bursary before the 31<sup>st</sup> December prior to the March Entrance Examination.

### Criteria

The award of a Bursary is subject to satisfactory performance in the Entrance Examination. If demand for Bursaries exceeds the number available, Bursaries will be awarded with reference to the extent of need as well as to performance in the entrance assessment; potential will be considered, as well as academic achievement. Each pupil to whom support is offered must, in the opinion of the Head Master, be likely to make sound academic progress following admission and possess the potential to develop the quality of his work, and benefit from participation in the wider, extra-curricular activities on offer at the School.

The continued tenure of a Bursary is subject to satisfactory performance and good conduct and adherence to the School's Terms and Conditions.

### **Value of Bursaries**

The amount of the Bursary is assessed before an offer of a place is made. The value of a Bursary is related to an applicant's circumstances and may be up to 100% of tuition fees. The School also offers a small number of Free Places, in consultation with the Bursar, remitting 100% of fees together with reasonable School-related expenditure.

### **Review**

All Bursary awards are subject to regular testing of parental means and may be varied upwards or downwards depending on parental circumstances. For those previously in receipt of Bursaries, the School reserves the right to reduce or withdraw an award not only where a pupil's progress, attitude or behaviour has been unsatisfactory but also in the event of the late payment of any contribution parents/guardians are making to the fees.

### **Confidentiality**

The School respects the confidentiality of Bursary awards made to families and recipients are expected to do likewise.

### **Note**

Home visits will normally be conducted by Bursaries Administration Limited. The cost of this visit must be paid in advance on application.