

# Financial Assistance with Fees



You are being sent this information pack because you indicated on your Application Form that you consider you will require means-tested assistance in order to place your child with us, or you have contacted us directly to enquire about Bursary assistance.

We hope you find the following information and guidance of use. If you have any further queries or concerns, please contact the Bursar or Finance Manager who should be able to help you further.

Please recognise that the number of families applying for fee assistance is increasing each year and that the School is unlikely to have the funds to meet all the requests for assistance it receives. Competition is therefore fierce and there will, inevitably be those we cannot help.

In completing your Application, we would particularly recommend that you follow the deadlines given and complete your Application thoroughly and to the highest standard. We do require parents to adequately answer question 13, which asks how much money they consider they have available per annum for School fees following their own financial review. This should be a monetary value, and in the case of boarding pupils should reflect the saving to household bills that not having a child at home will produce. We do require original supporting documentation and so electronic copy is not sufficient - we will copy all supporting documentation and return it to you.

We do expect any parent(s) who are applying for charitable fee assistance to be doing all they can to improve their financial situation, or to explain why it is not possible for them to do so. Charitable fee assistance cannot be awarded if it is assessed as being required to fund a lifestyle that is incompatible with such an award or it is assessed that the parent(s) could do more to improve their financial situation.

## Financial Assistance with Fees

The Board of Governors is committed to supporting deserving pupils through a mean-tested Fee-Assistance Scheme. Such awards are referred to as 'Bursaries'. Bursary awards are made in terms of a % remission (money off) of the full fee and they are assessed according to the parents' ability to pay full fees and the availability of Bursary funds in the School. Parental assets and income are assessed and Bursaries may be awarded up to 100% of the full fee but the vast majority will be at a lower level.

## The School undertakes its main Bursary award process in March and April.

The Bursary awards process has two functions: firstly to decide the priority of who should receive an award and secondly the scale of the award. The Headmaster and Registrar will review the academic and overall strength of the Bursary candidate, taking due cognisance of any social or educational circumstance and put the candidates in priority order. The Bursar and Finance Manager review the financial need of each candidate and allocate Bursary funds appropriately and in accordance with any priority order given to them until such Bursary funds available are exhausted.

Following the Bursary Awards review, the Bursar will write to individual parents informing them of any Bursary remission awarded. The parent is then required to write confirming acceptance of the award. Should parents feel that the award is insufficient to allow the pupil to attend the School, they should contact the Bursar immediately.

The Registration Fee will be refunded to any unsuccessful applicants who are eligible for an award, but who did not receive one through lack of Bursary funds.

**Where possible, Bursary Applicants must be registered for entry and have been offered a place at the School or have achieved the standard required for entry.**

A parent submitting a Bursary Application should be able to demonstrate that they are committed to sending their child to Strathallan.

Parents of a pupil awarded a scholarship who remain unable to afford the fees, are also entitled to apply for a Bursary. Scholars who merit an additional Bursary award will, in most cases, take precedence over non-Scholars. If a pupil, having previously been awarded a Bursary, is then awarded a Scholarship, the Scholarship will have no monetary benefit (ie honorary) or where not honorary in nature, the bursary award will be reduced by a commensurate amount on the basis that the Bursary award will have been made at a level that makes the fees affordable.

Bursaries are reviewed on a regular basis whereby parents are required to resubmit details of their financial situation to ensure that they still merit an award. While not linked to specific levels of achievement such as with a scholarship, any Bursary award is based on the understanding that the pupil will by his/her application, behaviour and involvement in the School community merit such an award on an ongoing basis. Should the pupil's application, behaviour or involvement fall below the standards expected, the School reserves the right to remove the award.

Bursary applications for current pupils can be made at any time as the result of an unforeseen change in the family financial situation which leads to a genuine difficulty which would otherwise necessitate the removal of the pupil. Parents experiencing such financial difficulty should contact the School Finance Manager or the Bursar without delay as Bursary awards cannot be applied retrospectively in order to remove a fee debt.

Entry in Academic Year 2019/20: All Bursary awards for entry in academic year 2019/20 have now been made.

## **Entry in September 2020**

**New Bursary applications for Entry in September 2020 should be with the School by the 14th February 2020 at the very latest.**

Bursaries are **NOT** awarded on a 'first come first served' basis but parents are asked to submit a completed Application Form as soon as possible having received this guidance information, to allow for timely processing.

For general queries, please contact the Bursar on 01738 812504 or the Finance Manager on 01738 815085 for assistance in completing the form. Completed forms should be addressed to The Bursar, Strathallan School, Forgandenny, Perth, PH2 9EG.

**Please note that if an Application is received after the deadline, the Application can still be processed should Bursary funds remain after the initial Awards process has been completed.**