

FINANCIAL SUPPORT & SCHOLARSHIPS

Information Guide



Merchant Taylors'
School

Ambition | Character | Excellence



Bursaries

Merchant Taylors' School is able to provide financial assistance with fees for pupils whose parents/guardians could not otherwise afford a place at the Senior School. The provision of means-tested bursaries is a central part of the purpose of the School's aim to assist academically able boys and girls, whatever their financial circumstances and to broaden access to our School.

We do not receive any Government funding for our bursary programme; instead it is funded through the generosity of donors and through the School's investments. Our donors come from many walks of life and from all over the world, yet they all have a Merchant Taylors' connection in common.

The number of bursary places available each year depends entirely on the generosity of our donors, and any amount given, large or small, contributes to creating opportunities for our pupils.

Bursaries are awarded up to 100% of fees, depending on the family's financial circumstances. There are bursaries available for entry into our Senior School at Year 7 and into the Sixth Form at Year 12.

All bursaries are means-tested and are underpinned by a rigorous review process. The School utilises an external company to conduct independent financial reviews of successful applications. This will involve each family having a compulsory personal meeting to review financial circumstances and will result in a confidential report to the School with a recommendation on the level of award.



A bursary application will only be successful if both of these criteria are met:

- The child has strong academic ability/potential, as demonstrated by their performance in the Year 7 Entrance Assessment and interview process for entry into our Senior School or for Sixth Form entry (Year 12) based on their GCSE grades and interview process.
- The School is satisfied that the family meets the Schools' criteria for financial assistance.

Given the value of bursary awards, all awards are subject to annual review to ensure continued eligibility. However, the School does have a number of awards which are offered for the duration of the child's education whether that be at Year 7 or Year 12 entry. This will be explicit within the offer made.





Applying for a Bursary

Make an application for a place at Merchant Taylors' School.

The Closing date for applications for a Year 7 place for September 2022 is Monday 25th October 2021 and Sixth Form applications can be submitted throughout the year. On receipt of your application, if you have indicated interest in Financial Assistance, a Bursary Application will be sent to you.

Complete the confidential means-tested Bursary application form we send you. To be considered for assistance, gross income from all sources must be £60,000 or less per year and family income/ expenditure is taken into account. Full details can be found in our Financial Assistance Policy which is available through the website.

Following the Year 7 Entrance Assessment and interview process, or Sixth Form interview, you will be notified if your son/daughter has reached a sufficient academic standard to progress your bursary application. If so the next stage of the process is a personal independent financial review which will then result in a recommendation to the School on whether you meet the financial criteria for award and the level of Bursary which should be offered.

The final stage of the process involves the review of each recommendation/report by a sub-Committee of the School's Board called the 'Fees and Agreements Group'.

The Bursary Application Form asks for information about the following:

- Income (Salary, Pension, Benefits etc.)
- Outgoings (Tax, NI, Pension contributions, Mortgage repayments etc.)
- Capital Assets (Savings, ISAs etc.)
- Capital Liabilities (Mortgage etc.)
- Net Assets

You will also be asked to provide:

- 3 months' payslips
- Mortgage statement
- Most recent P60
- Latest audited accounts (if appropriate)



Scholarships

Scholarships are the highest awards offered by Merchant Taylors' School and are granted at the discretion of the Headmaster/mistress.

The tenure of a scholarship is intended to be for the duration of the holder's education at Merchant Taylor's School, provided that the holder's academic progress and general conduct remain satisfactory and that the holder continues enthusiastically to fulfil the obligations associated with the scholarship, evidenced in an annual review of progress and contributions. All external scholarship candidates need to have applied for a place at Merchant Taylors' School.

For entry to Year 7 scholarships are available for academic excellence, music and sport. The amount of scholarship awarded is decided by the Head and is typically up to the value of 10% of tuition fees. There is no annual means testing of scholarship awards.

Application forms for Scholarships are available from the Admissions Team.

The closing date for return of Year 7 Scholarship applications is Monday 25th October 2021 with auditions and sports assessments taking place during the week commencing 1st November 2021.



Academic Scholarships

Candidates achieving commendable entrance assessment results in the Year 7 entrance assessment will be invited to attend an interview with the Head, and school reports will play an important part in the award process. Most of these scholarships will be awarded at 11+, but awards may also be made to outstanding candidates at 16+ and, very occasionally, to pupils who join in other Year groups. These scholarships are awarded purely on academic merit and potential.

Harrison Scholarships

In recognition of the Schools' Founder John Harrison, there are also scholarships which are awarded for excellent performance at GCSE level. Every year, students who achieve seven Grade 8 or above in their GCSE examinations in each school will be awarded a modest scholarship of £500 in the Spring Term for both years of Sixth Form.

Music Scholarships

Merchant Taylors' School is keen to support and develop their excellence in music, therefore, there are funds available for one or two music scholarships each year in each school for entry to Year 7. These scholarships are awarded on the basis of both attainment in academic exams and an audition. Candidates must be able to play more than one instrument at Grade 3 level or above. An application form for a Music Scholarship can be submitted when registering for the 11+ exam. The award will be up to 10% fee remission for the pupil.

Sports Scholarships

On entry to Year 7, these awards are to be made to candidates who demonstrate significant skill and a very high level of proficiency and prowess in at least one of our major sports. These scholarships are awarded on the basis of attainment in academic examinations and an assessment of sporting ability. Preference will be given to those who can contribute to the School's major games – rugby, hockey and cricket for boys; hockey and netball for girls. Each application is reviewed individually on its merits and due consideration given to the contribution the candidate would make to the wider life of Merchant Taylors' School, as well as their ability or potential to perform at regional and/or national level in sport. Candidates should provide two references from professionals

who have coached the candidate through clubs and/or school programmes along with clear evidence of sporting achievements. There are funds available for up to two sports scholarships each year in each school. An application form for a Sports Scholarship can be submitted when registering for the Entrance Assessment. The award will be up to 10% fee remission for the pupil.

Sibling Discounts

The Schools offers a sibling discount for children with a brother and/or sister already in the Schools. The discount applies to the tuition fee only and may be varied by the Schools at any time. The current sibling discount is 10% on a second and third child with the same Parents and a 20% discount on a fourth child and subsequent children with the same Parents. Sibling discount does not apply to overseas students. If any pupil(s) within the family is in receipt of any other form of financial assistance (excluding Harrison Scholarships) then that pupil(s) will not be included within the scope of the Sibling Discount. For pupils in receipt of Academic or Sports Scholarships, who also qualify for a Sibling Discount; such discount will be awarded at the Head's absolute discretion.



General Information

The Year 7 Entrance Assessment for 2022 is planned to take place on Monday 8th November 2021. Following receipt of your completed application form, the Admissions Team will contact you with details of the arrangements for the day.

The Entrance Assessment comprises three areas:

- Mathematics
- English
- Verbal Reasoning
- Interview

On receipt of your registration form, the Admissions Team will provide you with some sample papers for the Mathematics and English Assessments. Verbal Reasoning practice papers are available through most reputable book sellers/online.

During the assessment process, each child will be interviewed by the Head or a member of the Senior Management Team. Appointments will be sent to families following the Entrance Assessment, in advance of the interview.

Families will be notified of the Entrance Assessment results during the week commencing 14th December.

If offered a place at the School, acceptances should be received by the Admissions Team on or before 1st March 2022 together with a deposit of £300 which can be paid either by bank transfer or bank card over the telephone. The acceptance deposit will be held on account by the School and returned by way of a credit against fees for the final term of the relevant year, provided that fees have been cleared in full and any outstanding School property has been returned to the School. Until credited the acceptance deposit will form part of the general funds of the School.

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www.merchanttaylors.com



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