



## SCHOLARSHIP AND BURSARY POLICY

### **A Rationale.**

Northbourne Park School recognises that all children have gifts and talents in many areas of school life. The school sees its role as developing all of these to enable children to achieve their potential in whatever field in the pursuit of high standards of excellence.

The School also wishes to attract children of special talents into the community of the School and recognises the beneficial effect of the talented on the achievement and learning of their peers. The School therefore seeks to provide individual support for, and development of, any such special talents, as well as providing an all-round education of excellent quality for those children, a special provision which may not be available elsewhere for them.

This might include a Scholarship / Bursary equivalent to 100% of the full day fees.

### **SCHOLARSHIPS**

These following scholarships and bursaries can be allocated singly or in combination with each other:

#### **1. Northbourne Park School Scholarships**

These are awards made by the school to encourage pupils with a particular aptitude in Academic, Sport, Music, Drama or a combination of these to enter the school and to boost the attainment of their peers and are awarded to a maximum of 10% of the full fees.

#### **2. Tormore Scholarships**

Tormore Scholarships are endowed by the Tormore Trust, an educational charity whose endowment derives from the disposal of the assets of the former Tormore School at the time of the amalgamation with Betteshanger School to form Northbourne Park in 1980.

These scholarships are made available to particularly able pupils planning to enter the School in Years 3 and above and are tenable throughout a child's Northbourne Park career, subject to satisfactory progress.

The financial benefits available to holders of Tormore Scholarships are laid down by the Tormore Trustees. Parents can apply for these scholarships, which are open to external candidates, and the School will assess the children in February / March during the annual Scholarship Day.

Children who satisfy the scholarship criteria will be recommended by the Headmaster to the Tormore Trustees after their scholarship Day. The Tormore Trustees will apportion the scholarship amounts according to perceived parental need.

There is no longer any need for the pupil to remain in the school until 13, so as to allow them to take the Kent Test to local grammar schools.

### **3. Betteshanger Scholarships**

Betteshanger Scholarships are endowed by the Betteshanger Trust, awarded by the Trustees of the Betteshanger Charitable Trust.

These are only awarded to pupils intending to come to the School and who have some disadvantage or vulnerability which makes it especially advantageous for them to have the stable and homely atmosphere of the School in which to receive their education. The financial benefits of these scholarships are determined by the Betteshanger Trustees.

### **4. Means-tested Bursaries.**

Means-tested Bursaries are also available for parents of prospective or present pupils who have fallen on hard times.

The amount of all Bursaries in course of payment at any time shall not exceed 5% of the aggregate of fees receivable (i.e. about £100,000 at 2009-10 fee forecasts), except that the Governors may add to this any other income available to the School by way of deposit interest, rents and endowments, the intention being that Bursaries should not, except to this limited extent, be funded by fees paid by parents.

Bursarial assistance will be strictly means-tested. In general where a household has not more than two salary earners each earning an amount equal to the average wage and having no available capital, the household may be entitled to apply for a Bursary.

Save in exceptional circumstances, all parents, even those receiving the highest level of Bursarial assistance, must pay at least 10% of the fees and 100% of all extras, apart from any extras the cost of which is stipulated by a Scholarship.

### **THE SCHOLARSHIP PROCESS.**

In the early part of each calendar year, the Head will determine whether any Scholarships should be awarded for the forthcoming academic year, and if so for what specific subjects, year groups or aptitudes. Scholarships may be for all-round excellence or potential, or for any of the arts, academic potential or sport of any sort in which the School provides education.

When deciding whether or not to offer Scholarships, the Head shall have regard to the capacity of the School to accommodate and provide sufficient care for the pupil, the desirability of attracting sufficient pupils in any year group, the need to maintain the all-round excellence of the School's provision, the need to promote excellence in all activities among the pupil population; and the need to fulfil the School's charitable objectives.

### **FINANCIAL BENEFITS OF SCHOLARSHIPS.**

Northbourne Park School, Tormore and Betteshanger Scholarships are titular and do not of themselves entitle the holders to a remission of fees. However, the holders' parents will be invited to apply for a means-tested Bursary, to assist with some or, in exceptional cases, 100% of the fees. In the case of Tormore and Betteshanger Scholarships, these will be at the rate determined by the relevant Trustees, and will be means-tested.

### **ADDITIONAL BENEFITS.**

Where any scholarship is awarded for exceptional promise in a particular activity, the award may carry with it additional benefits, provided at the expense of the School, by way of extra tuition in the field of activity in question, as determined by the Head.

For example, any scholar whose award is for music may receive free tuition in at least one musical instrument. In all cases, all benefits will continue to be available, subject to satisfactory progress, for the remainder of the pupil's career in the School.

### **SCHOLARSHIPS AND MEANS-TESTED BURSARIES TO SENIOR SCHOOLS.**

The school has for many years been successful in preparing pupils for competitive recognition through Scholarships and where applicable, Mean-Tested Bursaries at Senior Schools during Year 8 (12 / 13yrs).

The *NPS Scholarship Preparation Policy* is published on the intranet and provides further information on this process.

**Revised EWB 2011**