



NORTHBOURNE PARK SCHOOL
Scholarship and Bursary Policy

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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.

Scholarships

The 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. These scholarships are normally awarded at 11+ when pupils move from Year 6 into Year 7.

a) Academic Scholarships

Academic Scholarships are awarded to pupils who demonstrate high ability in the pre admission assessments. Scholarships are offered as a discount to day fees.

b) Sport Scholarships

Pupils who can offer two sports (Cricket, Football, Hockey, Netball, Rugby) to a high standard are awarded a sport scholarship providing they participate fully within the school. Scholarships are offered as a discount to day fees.

c) Creative Scholarships

Creative Scholarships (Art, D.T., Drama) are open to pupils who have previous experience in any of these fields and show great enthusiasm. Scholarships are offered as a discount to day fees.

d) Music Scholarships

Music Scholarships are awarded to pupils who demonstrate high aptitude for two instruments (one may be voice). Scholarships are offered as a discount to day fees and free musical instrument/voice lessons.

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 needs.

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. Means-Tested Bursaries.

Means-tested bursaries are available for parents of prospective or present pupils who need support with the payment of school fees, the amount of bursary is not influenced by the academic ability of the child.

Bursarial assistance will be strictly assessed on the basis of a completed Statement of Financial Circumstances which is available from the Bursar.

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

Other Scholarships.

Scholarships are also available from a number of UK charities. One of these is the *IAPS School Access Scheme* worth £100,000 annually and raised from IAPS commercial income.

The Scholarship Process.

The Scholarship process takes place throughout the year when the candidates are assessed. The Headmaster in conjunction with the relevant Heads of Department will then make a decision on whether to award a scholarship and the size of the award.

When deciding whether or not to offer Scholarships, regard will be given 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.

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.

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).

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