



Admissions Bursary Summary Sheet

Introduction. St Mary's School Ascot has a long history of providing financial assistance to pupils and their families. Admissions bursaries are designed to assist prospective parents on low incomes who for financial reasons might otherwise be unable to send their daughter to the School. Admissions bursaries are available at any point of entry into the school and are means-tested. The value of the bursary can be up to 110% of the boarding fee and the school is able to resource five 110% bursaries in the school at any one time.

Bursary Committee. Decisions on the award of bursaries are made by a Bursary Committee consisting of two governors supported by the Headmistress and Bursar. The Committee meets in November to consider admission bursary applications for the following September entry. Due to the limited financial resources of the school, not every eligible application for a bursary will be successful.

Process. All applicants for bursaries are required to complete a means-test form. This document is designed to provide a full picture of the income, outgoings and capital assets of applicants so that the school can determine those to whom an offer of a bursary would be most beneficial. The Bursary Committee will consider both financial factors and wider issues when determining whether an award will be made. Families that may be classified as "low income" but have substantial assets may be ineligible for a bursary. The Bursar, or his representative, is likely to conduct a home visit to ensure the information provided in the form has been correctly interpreted and the basis of the financial assessment has been accurate. An application for a bursary will not prevent parents of pupils from applying for a scholarship.

Application. The deadline for submission of the completed means-test form is 1st October in the year prior to anticipated entry. The application will be considered by the Bursary Committee at their meeting in November. If the application for the Bursary is successful then the parents will be notified by letter. All offers of Bursaries are subject to the pupil successfully gaining a place through the normal admissions process.

Other Schemes. In addition to the St Mary's School Ascot Bursary Scheme, there are a number of educational and charitable trusts which provide assistance with tuition fees. St Mary's encourages parents to apply for support where it is felt a good case can be made for assistance. Further information on how to pursue such assistance may be obtained from the Educational Trusts' Forum <http://educational-grants.org/>.

Parents who have registered their daughter with the Registrar's Office and believe they may have a case for the award of a Bursary should contact the Bursar for more information (bursar@st-marys-ascot.co.uk or 01344 296621).