How we can help

Bursaries at St Helen and St Katharine

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We welcome applications for financial assistance from families with daughters entering St Helen and St Katharine from the age of 11 through to 18.

Opening up access for families who would not otherwise be able to afford the fees has always been central to our ethos. We offer support to families who can demonstrate through a means testing process that they could not otherwise send their daughter to St Helen's.

What is a bursary?

Bursaries can be awarded from 20-100% of fees, and may include assistance with school bus travel, uniform and curriculum activities. They are awarded to candidates whose performance in the entrance assessments suggests academic strength and where the application satisfies the financial criteria agreed by the Governors, and at the Headmistress' discretion. Subject to significant change in financial circumstances, bursaries will usually continue until the end of Year 11 and there is the possibility it can continue into Sixth Form, however the amount is reassessed annually.

Transformational bursaries for Sixth Form

Transformational Sixth Form bursaries are available for candidates currently in a state funded school applying to join St Helen's Sixth Form. These bursaries are worth up to 100% of school fees and will also cover additional costs such as school transport and curriculum activities.



How bursaries differ from scholarships

Our means tested bursary provision is completely separate from our scholarships programme. Scholarships are awarded to recognise excellence, ability and potential in one or more academic or extracurricular areas. The financial value is modest and they are not subject to means testing.

"Without doubt, I would not have built the platform that I have done for myself without my time at St Helen's and the generosity and warmth of those who contributed to the bursary fund."

Former bursary recipient



How to qualify for a bursary

Bursary support is based on an assessment of financial circumstances and considers both capital assets as well as income and makes allowances for household expenses. Where fees are being paid to other schools, the award will take these outgoings into account, although we would expect to see evidence that bursary applications have been made to those other schools, and an award made by St Helen's would be in line with that given to siblings by other independent schools.

The School considers that the following examples would not be consistent with the receipt of a bursary:

- frequent/expensive holidays
- new/luxury cars
- investment in significant/expensive home improvements
- a second property/land holdings
- excessive pension contributions
- capital overpayments on mortgages

How to apply for a bursary

Parents of candidates registered for entry to the School will be requested to complete an application form and to supply supporting documents. Forms may be downloaded from the school website at **shsk.org.uk/bursaries** or requested from the School Bursary Office. No applications will be reviewed after the offer of a place.

For more information, visit shsk.org.uk/bursaries

Other support for school fees

Sometimes the School is not able to assist to the extent required or in the necessary timeframe. For those parents who are experiencing financial difficulty, we suggest contacting the charitable organisations listed on the Educational Grants website at educational-grants.org.

Please get in touch

We would be delighted to hear from you if you are considering applying for a bursary. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact our Bursary team – we are here to help.

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Independent day school for girls aged 9–18

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