

COLLEGE

# FINANCIAL SUPPORT

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Bursaries and scholarships

# INTRODUCTION

### We do not have any preconception of what a Winchester College pupil looks like, and nor should you.

Our Founder, William of Wykeham, believed profoundly in the importance of education and service. He wanted to educate pupils in this ethos regardless of their background. And that is what we still look for today – together with the intellectual spark and curiosity to take advantage of everything the school has to offer, plus the drive and determination to give something back. The original aim, dating to 1382 was to provide a fully funded education for 70 Scholars. Today, Winchester has one of the most comprehensive bursary programmes in the country with over 140 pupil's receiving some form of support and 29 paying no fees at all.

We look for boys and girls who will thrive in an academically challenging and close-knit social community. At the same time, we are committed to ensuring access, and each year welcome pupils from a range of cultural, and socio-economic backgrounds, who will strengthen that community and contribute to society long after they have left the school. Financial support to talented pupils otherwise unable to attend Winchester is central to the school's original purpose and our vision of Winchester in the 21st Century.

I very much hope you will come and visit the school and will want to discover more about a Winchester education. It is a school that, I hope, will inspire you and your sons and daughters in the way that it has generations of Wykehamists.

Richma Star

**Sir Richard Stagg** Warden of Winchester College



### ABOUT THE BURSARY PROGRAMME

Bursaries are reductions in fees granted by the school to support families for whom the full cost of the attending Winchester might be unaffordable.

The school's funding for bursaries comes from the original Foundation, now further supported by generous donors. We will be providing nearly £5m of financial support for 2023/24, a figure we plan to grow in the coming years.

Bursaries range from 5-100% of the full fee covering tuition, food and board. It can include support for additional items – including school trips, a laptop and music lessons. At Winchester we annually meanstest all bursary awards, and take into consideration a wide range of financial and other circumstances in assessing support. Each application is closely reviewed by a member of the Bursary team, and for families who are curious about the process we are more than happy to provide an indicative assessment to answer whether they might qualify for support if they were to apply.



Pupils receive support of 50% or

more in 2024



pupils receive 100% support in 2024

# WHAT'S IT LIKE?

### Winchester College is a full boarding school for boys aged 13-18. Our Sixth Form also welcomes girls and boys as day pupils, with girls' boarding to follow.

Boarding at Winchester gives pupils an unmatched experience of learning and friendship. Our day offer for Sixth Form pupils has been carefully designed to emulate this: a Winchester week is busy and stimulating, with house life at the centre of every pupil's experience.

Located in and around the school are eleven houses. Many are listed buildings; all offer a comfortable home for around sixty pupils, drawn from each year group. We encourage a sense of community and an appreciation for individual perspectives. There is time set aside each day for pupil's to pursue personal interests through a range of extensive offering of clubs and societies.

The school is justly proud of its reputation for academic success, but a Winchester education provides more than academic results alone. In subjects such as Div, we encourage pupils to investigate themes, explore ideas and see connections beyond the examined syllabus.

Pupils go on to study at worldclass institutions, including US and international universities, as well as the most competitive UK destinations, including Oxford, Cambridge and the Russell Group.

You can find out more about life at Winchester in our online Prospectus <u>here</u>.





#### OUTER GATE

The arms of our Founder, William of Wykeham, are displayed in the roof arches under the gate, along with the 'blue-eyed boy', whose eyes are made of pebbles, who smiles as visitors enter the gate and wears a look of regret as they leave.

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Financial support is available for pupils applying for entry at 13+ or at 16+ (day or boarding). Processes and timescales differ depending on your stage of entry and whether you are applying through the scholarship route at 13+.

Science School on New Field

## 13+ ENTRY

#### Apply: December of Year 6 Offer: May of Year 6

Families applying for entry at 13+ should indicate on their registration form that they would like to apply for bursary support.

Once an entrant has passed Stage I of the Admissions process (in autumn of Year 6), we will invite families to complete an online bursary assessment form, which should be submitted to us by the end of January of Year 6.

At this stage, we also welcome applications from families who had not previously indicated a need for support on their registration. The school cannot guarantee that it will consider applications from families who might apply after this date, except for scholarshiponly applicants.

The assessment review process, including a home visit or telephone meeting, is carried out in the Spring of Year 6. Families are notified of the outcome in conjunction with the offer of a place at the school, usually in May of Year 6.

For those seeking to join the school through the Scholarship route (Election, Music or Sports) who do not already have an offer of a place, the application process is carried out at the same time as the scholarship assessment, which is typically during Year 8.

### 16+ ENTRY

Apply: October of Year 11 Offer: December of Year 11

Families applying for entry at 16+ (Sixth Book entry) will have the opportunity to indicate on their registration form that they will need bursary support.

Candidates shortlisted by the Registrar (in Autumn of Year II) will be asked to complete an online bursary assessment form, for submission by the end of November of Year II.

The assessment review process, which may include a home visit or telephone meeting, is carried out in the following weeks, and notification of the outcome is given in conjunction with the offer of a place at the school in early December.

Candidates who are joining the sixth form from a state school are invited to apply for the Wykeham Award.





### THE WYKEHAM AWARD

The Wykeham Award is a pathway to a first class education.

The Wykeham Award is a means-tested bursary for pupils who join us in the Sixth Form and are currently studying at a UK state secondary school.

It is available to boys and girls, and for those who would like to join us as a day pupil or boarder. It can cover up to 100% of the school fees, as well as other associated expenses.

Candidates should be confident of excellent GCSE results and those with a talent in sport, music, the arts, or have a broad range of extra-curricular interests, are particularly encouraged to apply.



#### SOUTH AFRICA GATE

This gate commemorates the 31 Old Wykehamists (former pupils) killed in the South African wars. Buried beneath the foundation stone is a glass jar containing coins, a copy of The Times, and the name of those who are commemorated.





### SCHOLARSHIPS AND EXHIBITIONS

Scholarships and exhibitions are honorific titles rewarding outstanding achievement and potential in academic, musical or sporting endeavours. Each award holds its own benefits but carry no automatic fee concessions. Those applying for scholarship places are also encouraged to apply for means-tested bursary support if needed.



### **Election (Academic Scholarship)**

### Apply: January of Year 8 Offer: May of Year 8

'College' is located in the ancient heart of the school and is the boys Boarding House accommodating 70 academic scholars. Collegemen are selected at 13+ from pupils who take the Winchester scholarship exam, Election.

Successful Sixth Form Day or Boarding candidates may receive an Academic Scholarship or Exhibition subject to outstanding academic potential and performance. Typically they will join one of the Commoner Boarding Houses and carry the title of Exhibitioner or Scholar.

For further information and an entry form, please contact the Election Secretary at RSR@wincoll.ac.uk

#### **Sports Scholarships**

### Apply: October of Year 8 Offer: November of Year 8

Sports Scholarships offer successful candidates specialist coaching sessions, a regularly assessed strength and conditioning programme, and a dedicated tutor from the Sports Department to help them achieve their sporting goals while maintaining a sensible and sustainable routine in the school.

For further information and an entry form, please contact the Sports Administrator at <u>SLD@wincoll.ac.uk</u>

### **Music Scholarships**

### Apply: November of Year 8 Offer: January of Year 8

Music Scholarships are available to any candidate who shows exceptional musical talent. Former pupils now play in the leading London orchestras and teach at London conservatoires. At Winchester they benefit from exceptional teaching, first-class facilities and the opportunity to play in concerts at least weekly.

For further information and an entry form, please contact the Music School Administrator at JMA@wincoll.ac.uk

We are extremely grateful for the offer and happy to know that our son... can continue his education and personal development in what we strongly believe to be the best school in the country.



My son is turning out so beautifully because of this beyond generous bursary and experience that he would never

otherwise have known in his lifetime. He is very blessed, and is absolutely relishing his time at Winchester.

Flint Court classrooms



It would be an understatement to say that this bursary has been transformational; the

Winchester education our son has received and will continue to experience for his final year at the College will form a firm foundation for whatever he goes on to achieve for the rest of his life. It has been a privilege to watch him flourish during his time at the school, building on strengths that were already there whilst facing and overcoming challenges in areas that came less naturally to him. He has been extremely happy during his time at Winchester so far and made some excellent friendships, many of which will remain with him for years to come.. Our son and our entire family are grateful for all of this.

# FAQS

### Who can apply for a bursary?

Anyone! We accept applications from all new entrants. We undertake a means-tested assessment to determine the level of support which a family needs, and aim to support as many pupils as we are able with the funding we have.

### What level of award can I get?

Bursaries are typically between 5% and 100% of the school fee, depending on need. We review each family's application in detail, and consider both financial and other circumstances. We are able to provide informal indicative assessments based on some limited financial information, which may help you answer whether or not you might qualify for support. If you think this might be helpful to you, please contact us.

# What happens when families are notified of bursary decisions? What are the possible outcomes of the bursary process?

Once offered a place by admissions, you will be notified of your bursary decision. This can either be successful, waitlisted due to limited funding, or declined due to your financial situation being outside of our criteria for support.

### Will making a bursary application affect my child's chances of being offered a place?

The bursary application is wholly separate from the Admissions entrance process. The Academic staff carrying out the entrance review are not aware of which potential pupils have applied for bursary support. At Winchester we

are proud of our bursary programme, and the support that we have been able to give to families to enable their children to attend our school.

### Who knows that my child is on a bursary?

We recognise and respect that many families wish to keep their bursary awards confidential. The identity of bursary award holders is not common knowledge; indeed we leave it down to the parents as to whether or not they tell the child themselves. Within the school the details of award holders is restricted to the Bursar, Headmaster, Registrar, the pupil's Housemaster, and the Bursary administration staff who manage the programme. Any financial information you submit is held securely and not shared beyond the staff within the Bursary administration team.

### What costs does the bursary cover?

Our school fee covers all aspects of day-to-day College life – boarding, tuition and meals. The bursary award rate is applied to the fee as a whole, so each of these areas is supported. In addition, the school has some capability to provide additional support for trips and extracurricular activities to ensure that bursary award holders are able to enjoy the full Winchester experience.

### What happens if my financial circumstances change and I can no longer afford to pay the fees?

We understand that life can change, sometimes unexpectedly. The school does have some limited funds available to help provide continuation support for families where there has been a significant impact on their ability to pay fees. These awards are generally temporary, and we would encourage prospective parents who have concerns over the level of fees to apply though the bursary process in the first instance.

### What is the difference between a Scholarship and a Bursary?

At Winchester our Scholarships are awarded to recognise excellence in the fields of Music, Sports and Academia, and do not carry with them any automatic remission to the school fee. Families of pupils seeking a Scholarship at the school who are also seeking financial support are welcome to apply as an entrant, or as set out on page 9.

### What if my circumstances change before my child starts?

We are aware that a family's circumstances can change, and if this happens we would encourage you to reach out to the bursary team at the earliest opportunity so that we are aware of your situation. Funding is allocated in the original round of applications, and so we cannot guarantee that support will be available, but we endeavour to consider each families situation.



# GUIDANCE ON BURSARIES

Prospective parents, who are unable to fund school fees (in full or in part), are assessed for support at the same time as the application for a place. The school's practice is to allocate its entire available bursary funding at that time. The school's expectation is that parents who do not apply for a bursary at that time will not require financial support throughout the time that their child attends the school, and subsequent bursary applications from parents are only accepted in the most exceptional and wholly unforeseeable circumstances.



#### HALIFAX GATE

Designed by Charles Normandale (a blacksmith from Warnborough, Hampshire) with the theme of an abacus to represent their proximity to the mathematical learning in the classrooms..

#### **The Application Process**

All prospective parents who wish to apply for a bursary for their child must complete an online assessment form. This is designed to understand the level of support required and why that support is needed. The form requests details of:

- family circumstances;
- family finances, including income and expenditure, and assets and liabilities;
- the level of support required, the reasons why a bursary is needed and the measures the family has taken to find alternative sources of funding, including from other family members.

The form should be completed by all those with parental responsibility for the pupil. Where parents are separated, each may complete a separate form.

All parents applying should expect to take part in a remote meeting or home visit by a representative of the school, who may be a current or former member of staff or an outside organisation retained by the school for this purpose.

At present the school uses an external organisation called Bursary Administration Limited to assist with processing bursary applications and to make home visits. Information provided by applicants, including the form and supporting documents, which may possibly include sensitive personal data, will be made available, in confidence, to that organisation for those purposes. The school remains the data controller of the data and has entered a data processing agreement with that external organisation.

The Bursar, advised by the school's Bursary Advisory Group, currently comprising two Fellows (i.e. governors of the school), Headmaster and Registrar, decides awards. The Bursary Advisory Group may consult such others, including Housemasters, as it sees fit.

Bursaries are awarded on the basis of a sliding scale, which sets out award levels in relation to a family's financial circumstances. Though awards are generally tied to this scale, they may be varied upwards or downwards depending on individual parents' circumstances (e.g. their savings, investments and realisable assets as well as their income, the size of their family and any other persons dependent upon them), and compassionate or other pertinent considerations. Although the school is able to offer a large number of bursaries, at present it receives more requests for bursarial support than it can meet. The funding available is insufficient to allow the school to satisfy all applications received. Although we are working hard to increase the school's capacity to award bursaries, the level of bursaries that can be offered each year is fixed and finite.

Inevitably, this involves difficult decisions and some applicants may be disappointed. Each year the school has to refuse a proportion of the applications received, even though the applicant would qualify for support in other circumstances..

#### Funded awards

Bursary funds come from the school's own endowments. Some of this funding comes from donations. Some donors like to hear about the progress of pupils whom their gifts are supporting and so the school provides them with reports. Where this occurs, it is the school's policy to make parents aware both of the name of the award and that reports are made. To be clear, no donor has any involvement or influence in deciding bursary awards.

#### Further information about bursaries

Information about bursaries is included in the school's Admissions information and on the school's website. Further information and application forms may be obtained from:

Bursary administration team: bursaries@wincoll.ac.uk or 01962 621200

Winchester College, College Street, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 9NA.





### Please feel free to contact us at Bursaries@wincoll.ac.uk

01962 621200

Ridding Gate



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@winchestercollege



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