



MARLBOROUGH COLLEGE

Bursary Information

The Council of Marlborough College is committed to broadening access to the College by offering to eligible parents means-tested financial support with the payment of school fees. The bursary assessment process determines the appropriate level of parental contribution in relation to their net resources and thus the level of the award that will be offered. The level of support may be awarded in the form of a remission of up to 110% on fees subject to the financial, compassionate or other relevant circumstances of applicants.

Awards are subject to annual testing of parental means and may be varied upwards or downwards depending on the family's financial circumstances.

Eligibility for bursarial support

Bursaries are available to parents for application relating to children entering either 13+ Shell year or 16+ Sixth Form.

The process is coordinated by the Admissions Department on behalf of the Bursary Selection Group and decisions are communicated by the Director of Admissions. Applicants for a bursary should fulfil one of the following criteria:

- Increasing the diversity (including social, cultural, ethnic and international diversity) of the pupil community;
- Supporting young people who would particularly benefit from a life-changing bursary;
- Increasing the number of pupils from the immediate local area, and potentially the South-West; or
- Increasing the number of bursary pupils with particular academic and/or co-curricular strengths or potential (in line with the College strategy).

Application process for a bursary:

1. Parents seeking financial support are required to complete an application form called the *Confidential Statement of Financial Circumstances* which seeks to establish the financial resources of the household. The form is to be accompanied by copies of full documentary evidence to support details of income, expenses and capital.
2. Deadline dates for bursarial support application: 1st September of the academic year in which the applicant will be assessed for entry.
3. Completed forms are passed to a firm of independent assessors, Bursary Administration Ltd. (BAL), who make arrangements with the applying family to undertake a home visit in order to discuss the application and the family's finances. BAL then submits a report to the College on the basis of the application form and home visit. The report includes a recommended level of assistance, where this is considered necessary.
4. The Bursar reviews all BAL reports and affirms the recommendation or suggests amendments. The recommended level of assistance is passed to the Director of Admissions, who informs the family of

the likely level of bursarial assistance they can expect to receive subject to the applicant fulfilling all entry assessment requirements for a place at the College.

5. Following the College's entry assessments for the year the Director of Admissions will determine whether or not a bursary applicant has performed strongly enough in the assessments, compared to other applicants requiring bursarial assistance, to be offered a place at the College and a bursary. A recommended list is presented to the Bursary Selection Group.
6. The Bursary Selection Group meets to assess the proposed list of recipients of bursaries and agree the final list.
7. Parents are advised whether or not their child is to be offered a place in the College and a bursary, by the Director of Admissions.

In exceptional circumstances, bursarial support may be available to families who make a late application to the College or who are successful in gaining a place but subsequently face a change of financial circumstance before their child begins at the College. However, this is dependent on funds available and is at the discretion of the Director of Admissions and the Bursar.

Criteria for awarding a bursary

The College will consider a number of factors when making the decisions for support, and the extent of such support. Each case is assessed on its own merits and awards are made accordingly. It is recognised that judgements about what sacrifices a family should make to pay school fees will be personal. However, the College has a duty to ensure that all bursary grants are well focussed and so, as well as current earnings, other factors which will be considered in determining the necessary level of grant will include:

- the ability to improve the financial position or earning power of the family. For example, where there are two partners, both would be expected to be employed unless one is prevented from doing so through incapacity, the need to care for children under school age or other dependents, or the requirements of their partner's work;
- opportunities to release any capital: significant capital savings and investments would be expected to be used for the payment of school fees, as would equity values in houses;
- in cases of separation, the contribution made by the absent parent; contribution to household costs by other, wider, family members, any adults unrelated to the child or by outside sources.

It is recognised that, in addition to academic ability and financial constraints, there may be other circumstances which should be considered. These include:

- where the social needs of the child are relevant;
- where a parent is unable to secure permanent employment due to poor health.

Acknowledging that others might have a different view, the College considers that the following would not be consistent with the receipt of a bursary:

- frequent or expensive holidays;
- new or luxury cars;
- investment in significant home improvements;
- a second property/land holdings.

Once awarded bursarial support and a place at the College, the pupil will become what is known as a Foundationer.

Foundationers will be expected to fully embrace the opportunities offered throughout their time at Marlborough and to contribute fully and positively to the life of the College to the best of their ability. Behaviour and application should remain good throughout.

Bursary reviews

After the entry assessment process in Year 6, children with a 13+ confirmed list place with a bursary in place, will be subject to repeat testing of parental means in Year 8 before the child begins at the College and the level of bursary may be varied upwards or downwards depending on parental circumstances. Final confirmation of the bursary will also be contingent on a satisfactory Year 8 Autumn Term report demonstrating good academic effort and behaviour and involvement in cocurricular aspects of school life.

Once in the College, bursaries are subject to repeat testing of parental means annually and may be adjusted according to family circumstances. Foundationers are also subject to periodic formal review and are expected to remain worthy of their position by demonstrating good levels of academic effort, co-curricular contribution and good behaviour.

The College reserves the right to withdraw a bursary should significant pastoral or behavioural concerns arise at any time before the child joins the school such that our ability to keep the child safe in a full boarding environment is compromised.

Confidentiality

The College respects the confidentiality of bursary awards and recipients are expected to do likewise. Specifically, details of the award should not be posted publicly on social media or anywhere else.

Extras

Bursary awards apply to tuition and boarding fees only. Extras must be paid in accordance with the terms and conditions of Marlborough College. Some life changing 110% bursary awards are available which may include additional support for uniforms, books and extras.

Depending on the level of need determined by the means tested assessment, additional help with extras may be available. This will be communicated clearly at the time the bursary is awarded. Pro-rated assistance may be provided to holders of substantial bursaries for the expense of trips that are strictly for the furtherance of relevant academic enrichment.

In addition to the above bursarial support, there are two further funds available as shown below. The availability of these additional sources of funding varies from year to year:

Children of Clergy Fund

The College was originally founded to educate the sons of Anglican Clergy and a limited number of means tested assisted places are available. The son or daughter of a Clergyman or Clergywoman should apply for bursarial assistance in the normal way through the standard application route. Eligible candidates who gain a place in the College will automatically be considered for support from the Children of Clergy fund.

Elstob Scholarships

The College may hold two Elstob Scholarships at any one time. Each offers remission of up to 50% of school fees to candidates for Academic, Music or Sports Scholarships. In addition to financial need, the criteria for eligibility shall be as follows and candidates should fulfil as many of them as possible:

- the son or daughter of an Old Marlburian;
- the child of an Officer or other rank in the Royal Navy, Army or Royal Air Force;
- an orphan.

The Elstob Scholarship is next available in 2024. Eligible candidates should apply through the standard admissions and bursary route and those who are successful in gaining a place in the College will automatically be considered for the award.

External sources of bursarial assistance

College funds provide the majority of bursarial assistance to those who have applied for support. The Marlborough College Foundation is committed to increasing the funds it provides for bursaries at the College, in particular for 110% bursaries. In addition to the College's funds, there are a number of educational and charitable trusts which provide assistance with tuition fees. The College encourages parents to apply for support where it is felt a good case can be demonstrated.

Please note, this bursary information is subject to change. For up-to-date terms and conditions, please see www.marlboroughcollege.org. For any further information pertaining to the bursary application process, please contact the Admissions Department either by email at admissions@marlboroughcollege.org or by telephone on +44 (0)1672 892300.