



ASSISTED PLACES AT GUILDFORD HIGH SCHOOL

Guildford High School aims to offer places to deserving candidates irrespective of background and financial circumstance. Assisted places are available to pupils joining Year 7 and are usually tenable until the end of Year 11.

Awards are available to candidates who satisfy the entrance criteria but whose family income does not allow them to be able to afford to pay our school fees. A maximum of 3 x 100% funded places and several smaller awards will be awarded each year. Allowances may also be made for lunches, uniform, essential trips and travel.

All awards are made at the discretion of the school and the school may choose to vary the level or number of awards made in any given year. In allocating funds, the needs of those already in School will be balanced against those needing an assisted place in order to enter. The school is only able to distribute funds it has available and whilst applicants may qualify to be considered for funding, a lack of funds may mean that no award can be made.

The family of an assisted place recipient will have their income assessed annually. Changes in the level of family income may result in a change to the value of the award made by the school. As part of the assisted place terms and conditions, families in receipt of an assisted place are required to notify the school of any material change in circumstance.

To be considered for a high value award, it is expected that a total family income would be £40,000 or less and no capital assets would be owned other than the family home. Lower value awards will be also considered on a sliding scale dependent on family income and assets.

ELIGIBILITY

INDIVIDUAL SUITABILITY

As part of the entrance assessment all applicants (including those applying for assisted places) will be interviewed by a member of GHS staff and a report requested from the pupil's current school. We will consider whether the applicant is likely to thrive at Guildford High School and make the most of all of the opportunities (including extra-curricular activities) on offer. We consider academic potential to be as important as demonstrated academic ability.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

All applicants wishing to be considered for an assisted place are required to submit an application form and supporting documentation in confidence to the Director of Admissions. Applications are passed to Bursary Administration Limited (BAL), an external company, who will conduct assessments on behalf of the school. Applicants will also receive a home visit from BAL. The purpose of this visit is to talk through your application form to ensure that the submission is fully understood.

Following review of the application form and meeting each family, BAL will produce a report for GHS. It is at the discretion of the school to determine what, if any, level of award will be offered.

Applicants should meet the following criteria:

- Applying for entrance to Year 7
- Have attended a visitor morning or personal tour before the applicant attends the entrance examination
- Live within a 12-mile radius of GU1 1SJ at the point of application. Please ask the Director of Admissions to confirm eligibility if unsure.
- All those with parental responsibility for the applicant are expected to be employed unless an individual is prevented from working due to incapacity, caring for children under school age or other dependents or the requirements of their partner's work.

The application form will require information about income and expenditure, including:

- contributions made to the household income by other family members or from outside the family (including, in the case of separated parents, the contribution made by the absent parent).
- whether school fees are already being paid for siblings at other fee-paying schools. We would not expect applicants to apply for an assisted place at Guildford High School if full fees are being paid elsewhere (or if an assisted place application has not been submitted to the other school).
- family spending habits and details of assets such as holidays, cars, home ownership and investments. It should be noted that high levels of spend to enhance lifestyle including, but not limited to:
 - high value investments/pensions
 - significant equity in property or mortgage-free home ownership
 - frequent or expensive holidays
 - new or luxury cars
 - substantial home improvements
 - ownership of second homes or land
 - excessive personal/family expenditure

will be taken into account during the assessment process and are unlikely to be considered consistent with the receipt of an assisted place.

Any applications which do not meet the criteria are likely to be rejected and there will be no opportunity to resubmit an application.

Providing they meet the eligibility criteria, those living within a 5-mile radius of the school will be given priority over applicants who live further away.

HOW TO APPLY FOR AN ASSISTED PLACE

- Read the eligibility criteria and if you believe you may qualify for an assisted place, request an application form on or before the 1 November registration deadline. Your daughter must be registered for assessment and a payment of the £150 registration fee is required. Applicants should contact the admissions office if you may have difficulty in meeting the registration fee payment and the school may use its discretion to waive this payment. There is no further charge for bursary applications post registrations.
- Return the assisted place application form together with the supporting information on or before 4 November or the year prior to your child starting Year 7 (e.g. 4 November 2023 for joining Year 7 in September 2024)
- The school will determine whether the eligibility criteria has been met and, assuming it has been met, the application will be passed to BAL who will make an appointment to visit you and review the application form. BAL will then submit a confidential report to us.
- Parents are advised whether their child is to be offered a place at Guildford High School and, at the same time, whether their application for an assisted place has been successful. If it has been successful, the value of the award will be specified.
- Assisted place applicants are required to accept/decline their offer of a place at Guildford High School by the acceptance deadline stated in the offer letter. 100% assisted places are not required to pay the £1000 acceptance deposit, lesser awards will be required to pay a proportion of the deposit (e.g. a 50% assisted place will be required to pay 50% of the deposit).

For further information please contact the Director of Admissions (admissions@guildfordhigh.co.uk).

UNITED LEARNING CHURCH SCHOOLS' TRUST – CLERGY BURSARY

Fully incumbent members of the Clergy may apply for bursarial assistance for their daughter from Year 7. Children with parents who qualify for bursarial assistance must also satisfy our entrance criteria by sitting our 11+ entrance examination.

Clergy bursary applications may also be considered at other points of entry providing an occasional place is available. They will still be subject to our entrance assessment process.

The usual maximum allowance is 75%. Please note, only available funds can be distributed, and a lack of funds may mean that no award can be made.

For further information please contact the Director of Admissions (admissions@guildfordhigh.co.uk).

UNITED LEARNING – BURSARY

In exceptional circumstances Guildford High School may provide financial assistance to current pupils in the Senior School who experience unexpected, temporary, financial hardship. Funds are limited and preference will always be given to pupils who in Years 10-13. Bursaries will not generally be made available to Junior school pupils.

Any family who wishes to be considered for a temporary hardship bursary should first make an appointment with the Head to discuss their situation. The Head will provide a bursary application form and the completed application will be reviewed by Bursary Administration Limited (BAL) who will review the application and provide the school with a confidential report. The school and the applicant will be informed what level of award, if any, can be made available. The school is only able to distribute funds it has available and whilst applicants may qualify to be considered for funding, a lack of funds may mean that no award can be made.

For further information please contact the Director of Admissions (admissions@guildfordhigh.co.uk).