



NOTTING HILL & EALING  
HIGH SCHOOL

GDST

GIRLS' DAY SCHOOL TRUST



# *OGA Alumnae 150th Anniversary Bursary*

*Everyone makes a difference*

**Ensuring that talented and academically gifted girls from all backgrounds have access to education at Notting Hill & Ealing High School is integral to the school's vision and ethos.**

Our students, staff, current and former parents and alumnae represent all backgrounds and reflect the culture and community of our school. We know bursaries change lives and benefit the whole school community. At NHEHS, we have a long history of providing bursary awards and our bursary pupils have contributed hugely to the diversity and endeavour of the school. However, each year we turn away many talented applicants; currently we have around 7% of our students on bursary awards but our ambition is to do much more. In 2023/4 we will be celebrating our 150th anniversary, and such an important milestone feels like the right time to extend our bursary programme to anyone with the ability and potential, regardless of background.

So, as our landmark approaches, we launch our 150th Anniversary Bursary Campaign. With your help we hope to provide a minimum of three new bursaries, timed to start on the school's birthday in September 2023. Two of these will run for the seven senior school years and one for the two sixth form years. We wish to make them transformational i.e. 95+%, for those with a total family income of less than £42,500 a year. We will name each of these bursaries in recognition of the contributors: for our alumnae, former parents and former staff, 'The OGA Alumnae 150th Anniversary Bursary', for our current parents in both the junior and senior schools, 'The Parents' 150th Anniversary Bursary' and, for our Leavers, 'The Class of 2023 Bursary'. This would be our biggest investment in bursaries since the end of the Assisted Places scheme in 1997. As we look forward to our next 150 years, together we will reinforce the NHEHS founders' commitment to the accessibility of our school.



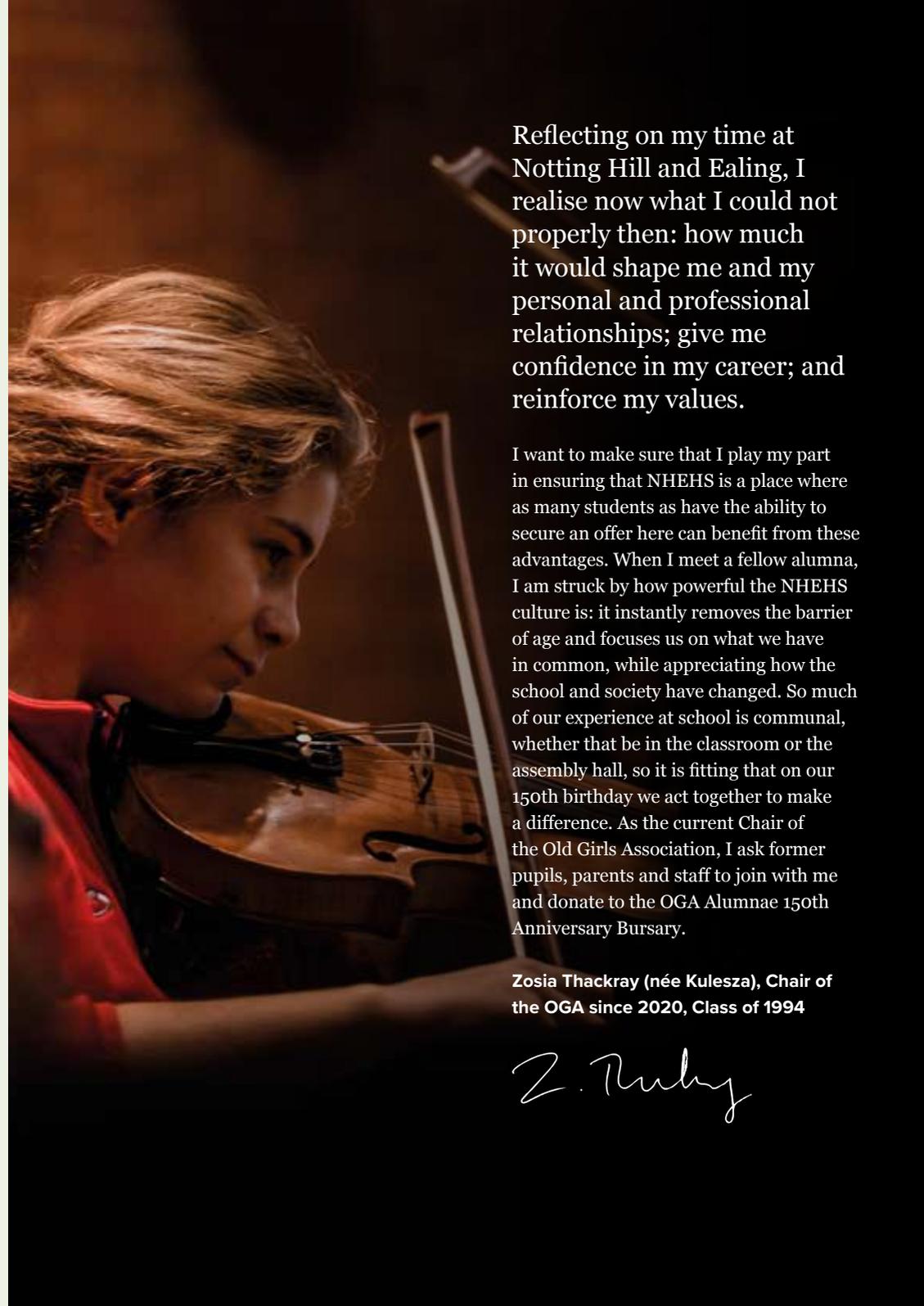
**Matthew Shoults,  
Headmaster**

*M. Shoults*



**Charlie Altman,  
Chair of Governors**

*Charlie Altman*



**Reflecting on my time at Notting Hill and Ealing, I realise now what I could not properly then: how much it would shape me and my personal and professional relationships; give me confidence in my career; and reinforce my values.**

I want to make sure that I play my part in ensuring that NHEHS is a place where as many students as have the ability to secure an offer here can benefit from these advantages. When I meet a fellow alumna, I am struck by how powerful the NHEHS culture is: it instantly removes the barrier of age and focuses us on what we have in common, while appreciating how the school and society have changed. So much of our experience at school is communal, whether that be in the classroom or the assembly hall, so it is fitting that on our 150th birthday we act together to make a difference. As the current Chair of the Old Girls Association, I ask former pupils, parents and staff to join with me and donate to the OGA Alumnae 150th Anniversary Bursary.

**Zosia Thackray (née Kulesza), Chair of the OGA since 2020, Class of 1994**

*Z. Thackray*

## Hear from our former bursary recipients.....



*Natasha Delcourt*  
*Class of 2002*

‘When I got to NHEHS everyone was given the same opportunities, the same chance; I want to support efforts to ensure that this equal access is offered right from the beginning, from the admissions stage. I am proud to support the NHEHS bursary fund.’



*Brenda Owen (née Lewis)*  
*Class of 1978*

‘My father was blind and there would have been no way my parents could have afforded a public school education. I threw myself into everything!

Please donate. Your gifts, however large or small, will give a girl the best education and opportunity to aspire.’



*Ayesha Sehgal*  
*Class of 2018*

‘My seven years at Notting Hill and Ealing High School helped mould me into the person I am today and helped me access opportunities I never would have thought possible. I am incredibly grateful to have received the bursary.’



*Madeleine Heggs*  
*(née Calderan)*  
*Class of 1948*

‘The school taught me certain standards, both academic and moral. The academic standards were incredibly high across all subjects, but we all accepted them as normal.

I think it is important for alumnae to donate towards bursaries if they can. For me, it’s about giving bright children an opportunity who would otherwise not have access to such a high standard of education.’



*Sophie Ralli*  
*Class of 2006*

‘I came by the phrase ‘safe space; brave space’ the other day – I don’t remember the context – but that is what NHEHS was for me. The NHEHS art teachers who taught me in the Art Studio were very supportive. There I found stability and safety as well as affirmation of my potential. They opened me up to the possibilities of what I could achieve.’



*Anna Lewy (née Piotrowski)*  
*Class of 2009*

‘The education I received at NHEHS has shaped my life, empowered my career and established my values. I am very grateful to the donors whose generosity meant that I was able to access a life-changing education at NHEHS.’



*Clare Johnson*  
*(née Walkden)*  
*Class of 1973*

‘For me, receiving a bursary meant stability, continuity and the opportunity of a broad academic education which has stood me in good stead all my life. The funding of bursaries opens windows to the fresh air and clear light of knowledge and doors to children’s lifetimes of adventure.’

### Share your story?

If you were at NHEHS on an Assisted Place or received financial assistance from the school and would be happy to share your story with us, we’d love to hear from you. Please email [development@nhehs.gdst.net](mailto:development@nhehs.gdst.net)

## FAQs

### **What is a bursary?**

A bursary is a reduction in school fees. Bursary awards are provided to families where a child meets a school's admissions criteria, but the family does not have the income or financial resources to accept a place or to remain at the school. A bursary is now distinct from a scholarship: it is means-tested, awarded on an independent assessment of a parent's ability to pay, not on the child's performance in a specific area.

### **How much is awarded?**

The size of the award depends on a family's financial situation. Most independent schools offer a range of financial support, and the GDST usually offers bursaries from 30% upwards. Awards above 95% are often referred to as transformational bursaries.

### **How many students at NHEHS currently receive bursaries?**

We currently offer up to seven bursaries for 11+ entrants in each year and two additional bursaries for Sixth Form. In the last academic year, we had a total of 44 bursary students: 32 were recipients of transformational awards, with the remainder given help from 30% to 75%. 44 students represent 7% of the school population.

### **What are the criteria for awarding a bursary?**

In common with other GDST schools in London, NHEHS awards higher-value bursaries to families with a total income of less than £42,500, who have no capital assets other than their home. It is unlikely that a bursary would be awarded to a family whose annual income is greater than £92,500, other than in very exceptional circumstances. Whilst it is anticipated that a bursary will last for the duration of the student's time at school, it is reassessed annually to take account of any significant changes in family circumstances and to ensure bursary support is directed where it is needed most.

### **What exactly is the bursary offer to students at NHEHS?**

At NHEHS, depending on the size of the award, students will also receive help to meet the cost of their uniform, school lunches, music lessons, travel, (if a child lives more than 3 miles from school), and essential school trips. In the Sixth Form, 100% bursary holders are provided with a laptop, and we fund three university visits as well as the cost of a ticket to the Year 13 Prom. Providing this additional support allows our bursary recipients to make the most of the opportunities offered by the school.



*Susan Whitfield*  
*Head NHEHS,*  
*1991-2008*

It would be a wonderful thing if there were no need for fees to be an issue for parents looking for the right school for their daughter in west London. Since that is not always the case, we can help as many able pupils as possible to come here despite what might seem too great an obstacle, by having more bursaries to offer.

For generations, with the Direct Grant Scheme and Assisted Places, girls from every background have come to this school and thrived in every way. One of my Victorian grandmothers and her daughters were GDST-educated, all three blazing trails in their lives which women could follow, contributing to society in

big ways and small. From NHEHS there must have been thousands, armed with the confidence, resilience, creativity, and academic understanding and qualifications they gained here to live the best lives they could, and have made life-long friends and been happy and cheerful along the way. If everyone I knew through my very enjoyable seventeen years here could join with me and those who came before and since who want to help, using gift aid where possible, then I am very sure we can enable many more bursary-holders to come to NHEHS and flourish, to the benefit not only of themselves but also to our society in the future.



*Angellica Bell  
Ambassador of  
the NHEHS 150th  
Anniversary  
Bursary Appeal  
Class of 1993*

‘Sometimes in the moment you don’t realise its value or importance. It may sound strange , but I’ve always said I was blessed to have been awarded a bursary to attend NHEHS - the drive the other students gave me, the belief some teachers had in me and since that time the opportunities which have opened doors for me. Now, after twenty years in television and radio, I want to ensure that future generations of students get the chance to be educated at the school as I did, irrespective of economic barriers. At the end of the day, being a pupil at NHEHS helped mould me and gave me the confidence to be the person I am today. It gave me insight into what could be achieved - everyone should have that chance. I am delighted to support the 150th Anniversary Bursary Appeal and look forward to meeting supporters over the coming year.’



## Ways to give

Thank you for deciding you would like to support our 150th Anniversary Bursaries Appeal.

You can make a gift in many ways. Your options include a regular donation, a single, one-off gift, or a legacy pledge. Please read the enclosed donation form for details.

Whichever way you choose your generosity is appreciated and will help fund a transformational bursary for a talented student.

If you would like to discuss a donation or have any questions about our Bursary Programme then please contact Molly Tollit, our Development Manager, at [development@nhehs.gdst.net](mailto:development@nhehs.gdst.net)

**GDST**  
GIRLS' DAY SCHOOL TRUST

Part of the GDST network of schools.

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