



A GDST FUTURE

COULD BE CLOSER THAN YOU THINK

GDST BURSARY PROGRAMME

GDST

GIRLS' DAY SCHOOL TRUST

WHERE GIRLS LEARN WITHOUT LIMITS

Because the GDST wants a more equal world for everyone, we are on a mission to reach as many girls as possible – from all backgrounds and all walks of life - to open up access to our unique approach to girls' education.

This is our bursary programme. Our solution to giving promising girls a GDST start in life without the financial burden falling on you.

So, if you see a GDST future for your daughter, please talk to us.

From full bursaries, which include fees, uniform and other extras to allow your daughter to be part of everything that a GDST education offers, through to smaller, tailored financial assistance packages... We will do all we can to find a way.

Specifically, a GDST bursary can help with:

- School fees
- Uniform
- Travel
- Lunch costs
- Other miscellaneous costs

The level and type of support will vary by bursary award, depending on family circumstances.



There are just four simple steps to securing support for a GDST education for your daughter.

- 1** Complete a school application form
- 2** Declaration of income and assets
- 3** Assessment of eligibility
- 4** Confirmation of decision



It is easy to apply, and you can find all the information at www.gdst.net/bursaries

If you are considering applying for financial assistance, we encourage you to contact the admissions team at the GDST school you are interested in for an initial chat. These colleagues will be able to help you by outlining their timeline and key dates for bursary applications.

There may be strong competition for bursaries in some of our schools. Bursaries are therefore awarded on the basis of financial eligibility and academic potential – that is, high achievement in the entrance exam for Year 7 entry, or GCSE results for Sixth Form entry.



You can find contact details for each of our schools by visiting www.gdst.net/schools and clicking on the **FIND A SCHOOL** button.



You can also find details online about future open days, taster sessions and other opportunities.



You can see a map of all GDST schools that offer bursaries on page 9 of this leaflet.

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We are as determined today as our female founders were 150 years ago, that every girl deserves the best education she can get.

We have supported just over 6,600 girls in this endeavour since 1998* and at any one time, 10% of pupils across our 22 fee-paying senior schools are receiving a level of financial support.

The GDST is the UK's leading family of 25 independent girls' schools, including two academies. In all of our schools, academic excellence is a given: where we go the extra mile is in developing character beyond the curriculum. With 150 years' experience in girls' education, we are able to create environments where girls are free from stereotypes, where they can express their ideas and know they will be listened to. As a result, they are fearless, trust in their own abilities, and are alive to every opportunity.

A GDST education has the power to change lives. Not only for those girls who experience it, but through the impact they will go on to have in the world.

Read the stories of our inspirational alumnae who have received bursaries, at www.gdst.net/support/alumnae-stories

*Before 1998, thousands of girls attended our schools through the Direct Grant System and Assisted Places Scheme. Neither scheme now exists, with the latter abolished by the Government in 1997.

A history of making girls' futures.





Senior school bursaries are offered at 22 GDST schools across England and Wales - and the majority of our bursaries are awarded for Year 7 and Year 12 entry.

To find out more about our individual schools, visit www.gdst.net/schools and click the FIND A SCHOOL button.

1. Blackheath High School
2. Brighton Girls
3. Bromley High School
4. Croydon High School
5. Howell's School, Llandaff, Cardiff
6. Newcastle High School For Girls
7. Northampton High School
8. Northwood College For Girls
9. Norwich High School For Girls
10. Nottingham Girls' High School
11. Notting Hill & Ealing High School
12. Oxford High School
13. Portsmouth High School
14. Putney High School
15. Royal High School Bath
16. Sheffield High School For Girls
17. Shrewsbury High School
18. South Hampstead High School
19. Streatham & Clapham High School
20. Sutton High School
21. Sydenham High School
22. Wimbledon High School



Laksha, Class of 2020

"Having a bursary changed my life. I am the first person in my family to finish higher education and go to university, and I couldn't be prouder."

**Edna, Class of 2021**

"I feel so grateful to have had the opportunity. I feel as though I have been presented with so many options and have been supported throughout the whole journey by both members of staff and alumnae. It has been an experience I wouldn't have been able to get anywhere else. Most importantly, I feel empowered as a woman going into the world."

**Phoebe, Year 9 Bursary Recipient**

"When I found out I was going to a GDST school, I was overwhelmed. I was really surprised to be accepted and am so grateful to my family who helped me get where I am today. I've had an amazing time since joining Year 7 in September 2020 – I've loved the variety of lessons. One of the best things is there's so many extra-curricular activities to choose from. I've signed up for Enterprise Technology and Coding."

**Phoebe's Mother**

"When Phoebe received her acceptance letter, she was so excited, but we couldn't afford the fees. The fact that she's able to go thanks to the financial support of donors is amazing. We thought it was totally out of reach."

"She's absolutely thriving. Her enjoyment of school is wonderful to see – I firmly believe she would sleep there if she could. Thank you so much from the bottom of our hearts for giving her this opportunity. You have made our girl's dreams come true."

**Ella, Class of 2022**

"Part of breaking down class and economic barriers is supporting initiatives that promote interconnectivity between people from different backgrounds that bring different experiences. A bursary gives opportunities to people who have worked hard but don't have the money to be able to thrive in the right environment for them."

Isoken (Soké) Alli-Usman, Class of 2003

"A GDST bursary allowed me to attend a school where I was given the belief I could achieve my goals. I was taught to develop resilience and to be proactive. My school gave me the tools to achieve – it shaped my life and it has a special place in my heart."



When Soké first applied to her GDST school, no one in her neighbourhood had even heard of the school, let alone entered for the entrance exam. She did not let this stop her. Impressed by her exam and interview, the school awarded her a place, and Soké joined with a bursary in Year 7, in 1996. She quickly fitted in and made friends, excelled in her studies and developed a particular love of poetry and music, as well as competing in tennis and athletics. Her natural leadership qualities made her a clear choice for Head Girl – a role she performed superbly in her final year.

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A HISTORY OF MAKING
GIRLS' FUTURES

bursaryadmin@wes.gdst.net

020 7393 6666

www.gdst.net/bursaries