



NOTTING HILL & EALING  
HIGH SCHOOL

GDST

Girls' Day School Trust

# *The Class of 2024 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. This year we are 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 we write to ask you, our Class of 2024 families, to read this short booklet to learn more about the lives of some of our former students, like Noor, Erin and Anna, who were only able to come here due to significant financial assistance and get our fundraising for a new 150th Anniversary Leavers' Sixth Form Bursary off to a flying start by making a gift.

Thank you for your consideration.



**Matthew Shoults,**  
**Headmaster**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. Shoults".



**Charlie Altman,**  
**Chair of Governors**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "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.

When your daughter’s year leaves NHEHS, as my year did in 1994, they will be the ‘Class of 2024’. They will automatically become a life-long member of the NHEHS Alumnae or Old Girls Association (OGA). This connection will help them keep up with news from NHEHS and school friends, receive invitations to reunion events, and give them access to all the networking benefits of NHEHS and the GDST, who have over 100,000 members, living all over the globe, spanning a myriad of careers.

So much of our experience at school is communal, whether that be in the classroom, assembly hall, astro or stage, so it is fitting that on our 150th birthday we act together to make a difference. I therefore invite you to continue the tradition of former leaving families by giving to the bursary fund: every gift brings a philanthropic legacy for the Class of 2024 closer to fruition.’

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

*Z. Thackray*

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



*Noor Ahmed*  
*Class of 2022*

‘Before I came to NHEHS for sixth form, my teachers were great but focused on getting us to pass our exams, to reach a certain level. Here, the teachers give you so much support; they really care. You are encouraged to go as far as you want to. Being at NHEHS has made me realise that there isn’t a limit on what I can achieve.

The school has been brilliant throughout my two years here. As I have taken Sciences for A-levels, there haven’t been the extra cost of trips but whenever it has been tricky such as getting a Leavers’ hoodie, going to the Prom, travel to visit universities NHEHS has been generous in ensuring I don’t miss out for which I am so grateful.’



*Aysha Sehgal*  
*Class of 2018*

‘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.

Now that I have graduated from Oxford I’m thrilled with the continued support and communications from staff, and of course access to the Alumnae Network!

I am incredibly grateful to have received the bursary.’



*Erin Malinowski*  
*Class of 2020*

‘I had a wonderful time at NHEHS, better than I ever thought possible. I learnt all my subjects from incredible teachers, who taught with passion and dedication and supported me every step of the way. I was told to aim high and work hard to achieve my dreams. I was given amazing opportunities to explore my interests - play new sports, learn a musical instrument, and challenge my academic ability.

Without the bursary, I wouldn’t have been able to attend Notting Hill and Ealing High School and none of these experiences would have been available to me. I wouldn’t be the person I am today. For that, and so much more, I will forever be grateful.’

*A parent’s view -*  
*Mrs Malinowski*

‘Receiving a bursary has enabled our daughter to access an all-encompassing education, allowing her to thrive and achieve her maximum potential. Throughout her years at NHEHS she has been nurtured and inspired, becoming the accomplished young woman we are so very proud of. We will be forever grateful for the bursary award.’

## 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!’



*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.’

## Hear from our former parents...

### *Andrew and Emily Hall, parents of Anouska, Class of 2022*

‘Our daughter Anouska joined NHEHS for senior school. In her seven years there, she met some inspiring teachers who gave her a love of learning. She also learned a powerful work ethic and a brave attitude to challenges which will stand her so well in everything she does for the rest of her life. We have supported the Bursary fund because we want others, who otherwise wouldn’t, to enjoy those same opportunities.’

### *Ju Yen and Janita Tan, parents of Li An, Class of 2022*

‘Having seen the benefits of the well-rounded education and multitude of extra-curricular activities that our daughter so enjoyed and made the most of at NHEHS, we were more than happy to support the NHEHS Bursary Fund by donating our deposit. We hope this will support and expand the diversity of intake, and provide another girl with the opportunities that our daughter was given.’

### *Josie Day, mother of Imogen Day, Class of 2023*

‘I was delighted to give my deposit and donate to the NHEHS Leavers’ Bursary Fund when Imogen completed Sixth Form. As an Old Girl myself who benefitted from a Bursary, I know first-hand what a difference it made. So it was important to me to contribute to the Bursary, and play my part in helping to make attending the Senior School possible for those who might not otherwise have the opportunity to learn there and flourish, in the way Imogen did.’

# 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 current academic year, we have a total of 45 bursary students: 30 are recipients of transformational awards, with the remainder given help from 30% to 85%. 45 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 £49,500, who have no capital assets other than their home. Funds donated by the Class of 2024 families will be transformational i.e. exclusively given to a family that meets this threshold and is judged to need 95%+ support to attend the school. 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.





*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 years.’

# Ways to give

Thank you for considering supporting our 150th Anniversary Bursaries Appeal by donating towards 'The Class of 2024 Bursary'.

You can make a gift in many ways. Traditionally, our Year 13 parents choose to give by donating their deposit, and occasionally also making a separate, additional gift. Both are eligible for Gift Aid so will be worth 25% more to 'The Class of 2024 Bursary'.

Whichever way you choose to support the 150th Anniversary Bursaries Appeal, 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)



*'Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world: indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.'*

—Margaret Mead



# *Leavers' Deposits*

Unless you received financial assistance on entry, your deposit will normally be £750 if your daughter started in the Junior School, £1000 if they started in the Senior School, and £1500 if they started in the Sixth Form. If you would like to know the amount currently held for you, please email Molly Tollit at [development@nhehs.gdst.net](mailto:development@nhehs.gdst.net). If you do not choose to give your deposit towards 'The Class of 2024 Bursary', it will automatically be returned to you, less any disbursements, at the end of August 2024, you do not need to write to specifically request this.

If you wish to donate all of your deposit, or a portion of it, either as a fixed amount or a percentage of the final amount, thank you - simply complete the short Google form here: <http://bit.ly/nhehsleavers24>.



# *Additional gifts*

In order to make a separate, additional gift, or for other options, please visit <https://gdst.net/donate/NHEHS>.



*Without the bursary, I wouldn't have been able to attend Notting Hill and Ealing High School and none of these experiences would have been available to me. I wouldn't be the person I am today. For that, and so much more, I will forever be grateful.*

— Erin Malinowski, Class of 2020

**GDST**  
GIRLS' DAY SCHOOL TRUST

Part of the GDST network of schools.

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