



HELP WITH FEES - BURSARIES

Information for Parents

At Morrison's Academy it is our desire that as many children as possible are able to access and receive a Morrison's Academy education; its benefits and its opportunities. Consequently, a number of Bursaries are means-tested and awarded each year.

Bursaries are primarily available for pupils entering Primary Five and upwards although depending on the number of applicants and exceptional circumstances, younger years of entry can be considered.

Bursaries are also available for existing pupils, where a significant change in parents' circumstances may result in the withdrawal of a child.

Bursaries are awarded using a combination of academic merit (as tested in the Entrance Assessment) and financial need. Awards are in the form of discount on tuition fees and will be subject to repeat testing of parental means every other year, with changes to financial circumstances required to be notified in between. The scale of awards is reviewed annually to reflect any changes in fee costs and the availability of funds at the time.

All Bursaries are means-tested based on gross household income and, as a guideline, families with an annual total household income in excess of £70,000 are unlikely to receive support. We also take account of additional children in the family and any other fees being paid. As well as household income, the financial review will take consideration of savings, investments and realisable assets.

In exceptional cases, full fee awards may be available. It should also be noted that not all applications are successful as demand outstrips available funds. Morrison's Academy strives to ensure that Bursaries are used to widen access to the School and to assist the greatest number of parents who require support.

Application Process and Timeline

Stage 1 – Admissions

Register your child by completing the Application for Enrolment form and identify at this point if you are seeking to apply for a Bursary. The admissions process requires to have progressed to an offer of a place prior to submitting a bursary application form.
admissions@morrisonacademy.org

Stage 2 - Application Form

For new applicants the application form will be available from finance following a formal admissions offer and upon request. Completed forms should be submitted by 31 January 2023. If you need assistance completing the application form, please contact
finance@morrisonacademy.org.

Stage 3 – Review Process

The Finance Manager and the Head of Finance assess the application for the likely level of support required. This may involve follow up correspondence to ensure the information is correctly interpreted and the financial assessment has been fair. This is presented to the Rector and a joint recommendation reached. This recommendation is discussed with a sub-committee of the Governors for approval.

Stage 4 – Bursary Offer Process

The Bursary offer will be advised by 31 March 2023. A formal acceptance of the offer of a Bursary, acknowledging conditions relating to it, is required to be signed by the applicants after the notification of 2023/24 tuition fees by 15 May 2023.

Bursary Frequently Asked Questions

How many Bursaries are available?

There are a number of Bursary Awards available each year. Please be aware that the Bursary Programme is a competitive process, and that every year we receive more applications than there are awards available.

How do you decide who receives the financial help?

Bursary Awards are granted using a combination of academic merit (how well the child does in the Entrance Assessment) and financial need (the financial position of your household relative to all other applicants). These two factors form the basis of how we decide who the recipient of each Award is. Bursary applicants may be invited to attend an interview by the School.

Applications from non-UK citizens are welcomed if families are able to provide documentary evidence of the right to remain in the UK for the duration of Senior School years.

My child is not going to enter Primary Five or above, can the school support me?

Due to the demand for Bursary support the priority is given to the school years from Primary Five and upwards. Only in exceptional circumstances and depending on the overall applications will it be possible for Bursaries to be available for lower years.

If I am awarded a Bursary, do I have to pay any fees to the school, and how do I do this?

If you are awarded a 100% Bursary Award, no tuition fees will be due to the school however other fees and charges may apply. If you are awarded a partial Bursary Award, you will be required to pay the balance of the annual tuition fee plus any other fees and charges. The amount due will be invoiced to you and you will have the option of paying termly or by direct debit in 12 equal instalments commencing in July of the new academic year.

I am not sure if I can afford things like uniform, travel costs and trips. Can the school help?

A small number of Bursary Awards may include support for ancillary costs. However, Bursary Awards do vary and not every award includes this additional financial support. As such, families should still budget for the cost of uniform, travel costs, trips, equipment and other ancillary costs.

Do I need to re-pay the financial help at a later date?

No amount is repayable unless there are significant improvements to your financial circumstances which would affect the outcome of the financial assessment. If however, you wish to support the school for future Bursary support we have a Bursary fund that you can make future donations to. The award is dependent on adhering to terms & conditions of enrolment.

I am not sure if I can pay the fees if the school withdraws support. Is there a risk the support will be withdrawn?

Once awarded, the bursary would only change if your household financial position changed to the extent that

My earnings go up and down. Would this affect the support I can access?

Once awarded, the Bursary Award is reviewed by the school every other year on the condition that any significant change to finances be notified during the course of the award period. If there is no significant change to your finances, the Bursary Award will continue. If your household financial position has significantly changed, then the Bursary Award may be decreased or increased to reflect this.

Awards will be notified every other year and alternate years will require a signed Letter of Confirmation of any or no changes to financial circumstances.

Where does the school's Bursary funds come from?

The school has supported the education of children since 1860. It owns investments donated by generous benefactors, and uses income from this, along with other donations raised to support the Bursary through the development activities. The remainder of the funds are supported from annual tuition fee income.

Does the school offer Bursaries for especially gifted pupils?

Bursaries are means-tested and all applicants are considered for the awards on the same basis of both academic merit and financial need.

I have other children. Can I apply for help for them to attend the school?

Yes. The school is happy to support more than one child from the same family. Please note however that if help with fees is offered for one child, it does not guarantee further support will be given to siblings although the assessment process will take recognition of all other fees payable for other children. A sibling discount is also offered for families with three or more children attending school.

When will I know if my child will be offered a bursary?

The percentage offer of any Bursary Award will be communicated at the end of March and followed in May, after the Notice of Tuition Fees for the following academic year are published, with a formal letter of Bursary value.

Contact Information

To find out more about Admissions or Bursaries at Morrison's Academy, please contact:

Mrs Catriona Elliott - Admissions Registrar
Email: admissions@morrisonacademy.org

Morag Speak - Finance Manager
Email: finance@morrisonacademy.org