



GREENFIELD SCHOOL

Greenfield School's approach to new Transformative Free Places (Bursary) Applications **September 2024**

Greenfield School was founded on Christian values by cousins Ruth Hicks and Joyce Pearce, the latter a notable humanitarian, who dedicated their lives to the education and welfare of young people from all backgrounds. For many years, the School offered free education to children supported by Joyce Pearce's humanitarian work and the availability of bursary and hardship support continues to the present day.

As an academically non-selective school, with a fully accessible site, Greenfield promotes inclusion through various means. We are passionate about creating and maintaining a diverse student population; one which reflects our society and enables all children to learn in a setting where they feel safe, secure and supported.

Greenfield's combination of excellent teaching and robust pastoral care ensures that every child is given the tools to succeed, regardless of their relative starting points.

Greenfield recognises the significant role it can play in advancing social mobility. With the opportunity of a prep school education at a School like Greenfield, young people facing disadvantage and vulnerability can develop into confident, independent and resourceful young people with the opportunities and aspirations needed to thrive at secondary school, university, in apprenticeships, in the workplace and beyond.

Through its new Transformative Free Places programme, Greenfield is looking to work with local organisations such as partnership schools and community organisations to identify children and families that could best benefit from the opportunity of everything that a free Greenfield education has to offer from Year 3 upwards.

A child who is offered a Transformative Free Place will, not only, be supported through not paying school fees but they will also receive an allocation of free uniform during their time at the School and free wrap around care (including breakfast and tea). As the child progresses through the School, we will engage in conversations with them and their family about how else they can best be supported – this could be through the loaning of a musical instrument and payment of fees for music lessons or the assistance with transport to school.

If you represent an organisation local to Greenfield School and are interested in building a partnership, please contact admissions@greenfield.surrey.sch.uk.



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FAQs

1. What does the application process look like for the Transformative Free Places (Bursary) Application?

Transformative Free Place awards are entirely subject to the Governors' discretion and Governors will be guided/advised by the Head and Bursar on potential applications. The School will work with local organisations to build partnerships to identify children who would most benefit from a Transformative Free Place at Greenfield. The two organisations will work with the family to ensure that a move to Greenfield is right for the child and that Greenfield is able to adequately support the needs of the Child and the needs of the family. When this has been established, the School will support the family, with the help of the local organisation, in completing a formal application form. This will allow the final means testing check and Governor approval to take place before the child takes up their place at Greenfield.

For each child, the length of time this process takes will differ. Some children and families will need greater support in the transition process and others will be able to move forward with a swifter transition.

2. What about the bursaries that are already offered by the School?

Currently, almost all Bursaries are assisted places providing partial assistance with fees and are means tested on a family's income and assets. The amount of assistance offered provides a fee reduction on a sliding scale according to the results of the means test and assessment by Governors.

Pupils that are already at School with a Bursary will continue in the current way that has been communicated to them, with bursary levels being reviewed every two years.

3. Will the School Continue to offer a Hardship Programme?

The School will continue to offer a Hardship programme. This will offer temporary support to existing pupils where an immediate change in their family circumstances has resulted in difficulty in meeting fees and may result in the child being withdrawn part way through an academic year. Hardship awards would, therefore, typically be awarded to see the pupil through to the end of the academic year, from year 3 upwards, to provide parents the time to select another school. Hardship awards will be means tested and an application can be made by emailing bursar@greenfield.surrey.sch.uk. On receiving the relevant information, Governors will assess the level of award and the length that the award will be applied. This will be communicated to the family in a timely manner.

4. How will the School fund the Transformative Free Places?

The School does not have a large endowment fund which will fund these places and, as such, Governors are mindful when Transformative Free Places are provided, that there remains an overall fair balance between those benefitting from them and full fee-paying families, many of who are making significant personal sacrifices to fund their children's education.



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5. Will Greenfield School disclose the name of those receiving Transformative Free Places?

We note that the names of recipients of Transformative Free Places is highly confidential and this information will not be disclosed beyond those who need to know to adequately support the child and their family. There maybe scenarios where families would like to disclose this information after the child has left and we would be happy to discuss this at the relevant point.

6. I am interested in giving a donation to the Transformative Free places programme. How can I do that?

Thank you for your interest in supporting this programme. If you would like to make a donation, please contact bursar@greenfield.surrey.sch.uk. We welcome single gifts by bank transfer. If your employer offers matched giving, this can be arranged too. We are also registered to reclaim Gift Aid.