



**GREENWICH
HOSPITAL**

SUPPORTING THE ROYAL NAVY SINCE 1694

June 2026

ROYAL HOSPITAL SCHOOL - GREENWICH HOSPITAL BURSARY

ADVICE FOR POTENTIAL APPLICANTS

Please note that on account of a limited bursary budget, eligibility does not guarantee that a bursary will be awarded, while bursary places are limited in number and may be oversubscribed. The eligibility considerations are:

- demonstrable educational and pastoral need;
- seafaring priority, with the children of serving personnel taking priority over those of former serving personnel;
- entrance examination and interview performance;
- availability of places (day or boarding) within each year group.

Purpose

Greenwich Hospital believes that children from the Royal Naval community should be able to access a great education as the firmest foundation for a fulfilling future. The bursary scheme seeks to support children for whom an independent boarding or day school might provide the environment in which they would most benefit. The scheme prioritises those children facing significant barriers to their educational pathway and particularly those whose home circumstances might be improved by an independent school education at RHS.

How we work

Greenwich Hospital works closely with RHS in the allocation of bursary places. We work with children and their parents, guardians or carers to explore the young person's ambitions and individual needs, and to identify the most appropriate bursary support.

We also work in partnership with the Naval Children's Charity to support the young person's transition to the RHS, with practical and emotional support to prepare them for their new environment.

Process Guide - We start with the child

We believe that a RHS bursary place can transform the life chances of a Royal Navy child, regardless of their background. We support families in securing a bursary place at RHS based on the young person's academic profile and pastoral support needs, along with the family's circumstances.

The assessment process is twofold. As a first step, we meet each family at the start of the admission process to assess whether they meet the eligibility criteria.

We will ask, **"What is in the best interests of the young person?"** Adopting a whole child-centred approach means asking ourselves if we are doing all we can to ensure that Greenwich Hospital bursary children are healthy, safe, supported, engaged, and will thrive academically.

We will consider whether the child:

- Has a parent who is frequently absent on operational tour
- Comes from a single parent family
- Has a disability or a long-term health condition
- Has an identified special educational need
- Is a child of a non-UK family
- Is living in temporary or shared accommodation
- Has come from a care background
- Is caring for an adult or other children
- Comes from a family battling with injury, illness or mental ill-health
- Lives in an area with low participation by young people in higher education

Following this initial assessment to establish whether there is a demonstrable and genuine educational and pastoral need, the normal school admission procedures will be followed. When RHS make a formal offer for a place at the school, a comprehensive and rigorous financial assessment is then undertaken by RHS.

Following completion of this dual process, Greenwich Hospital will make a decision as to whether a bursary will be awarded. The bursary level will typically be between 15%-50% of tuition and boarding fees. Bursary awards are unlikely to exceed 50% for an individual applicant. Bursary awards of over 50% (up to a maximum of 95%) may exceptionally be offered on consideration of extenuating, financial or other pertinent circumstances.

Awarded bursaries are subject to annual review and may be adjusted in value, upwards or downwards, should family and/or financial circumstances change. Moreover, those who accept the bursary award are requested to inform Greenwich Hospital and RHS of any significant changes to financial or family circumstances that may occur, as soon as practically possible.

Bursaries are awarded at the discretion of Greenwich Hospital and decisions are final. There is no appeals process.

Who can apply?

We accept applications for children of seafaring families, whose parents are serving or who have served in the Royal Navy, Royal Marines or Royal Fleet Auxiliary.

We welcome applications for all forms of school attendance, including full boarding, weekly boarding, three-night boarding and day attendance.

Entry is normally at Year 7 (11+ years) but applications for other year groups and into the Sixth Form will also be considered.

Bursaries are means-tested based on gross family income, capital holdings and certain expenditure.

Bursaries are limited and only available on entry and are not available to students already in the school, unless in exceptional circumstances.

The offer of a bursary to one child in a family does not automatically guarantee an offer to a sibling.