

Scholarship Policy

This policy covers the Nursery, the Prep School & the Senior School

Governors' Committee normally reviewing policy	Governing Body
Date policy formally approved by Governors	June 2021
Period of review	1 Year
Last review date	August 2026
Next review date	August 2027

Person responsible for monitoring implementation and effectiveness of the policy	Head & Finance Director
Other relevant policies	General Policies

Kingsley School Bideford is owned and operated by KSI Schools Group Limited, which is the School's Proprietary Body ("the Proprietor").

Any reference in this policy to the Governors or Governing Body means the School's local body of governors, which operates as a local advisory board on behalf of the Proprietor. The local governing body does not constitute the Proprietary Body of the School.

The Proprietor has ultimate responsibility for ensuring that the School meets its statutory and regulatory obligations and for ensuring that this policy is appropriate, effective and implemented in accordance with those requirements.

The Governors provide local oversight and scrutiny on behalf of the Proprietor and undertake appropriate review and monitoring to satisfy themselves that this policy is being implemented effectively. They advise and make recommendations to the Proprietor and the School's leadership as appropriate.

The core principle that guides everything we do is **Putting Students First**.

1. Purpose and Philosophy

Scholarships at Kingsley School are awarded to recognise, nurture and extend exceptional talent. A scholarship is first and foremost an educational opportunity: it provides access to a structured Stretch & Challenge programme designed to challenge, stretch and develop each student's abilities.

Scholars are expected to engage fully with their specialist pathway and to contribute actively to the life of the School, representing Kingsley internally and, where appropriate, at regional, national and international level.

A scholarship is therefore not simply a financial award. It is a commitment to a programme of development, and to the expectations, standards and opportunities that come with it.

The central principle of a Kingsley scholarship is simple: **The scholarship is the programme.**

Any fee discount or other financial support attached to a scholarship exists to support access to and participation in that programme and does not define the scholarship itself.

2. Nature of Scholarships

Kingsley School offers a range of scholarships across key disciplines and specialist pathways. These may include:

- Academic scholarships, by subject or pathway;
- General and specialist Sports scholarships, including football, gymnastics, judo, netball, rugby, surfing and other designated sports;
- Music and Drama scholarships;
- Earth Centre scholarships; and
- Sixth Form specialist pathways, including the Top Universities Programme and elite sports scholarships.

The range of scholarships offered may vary from year to year according to the programmes available, the needs of the School and the scholarship budget. Each scholarship provides a clearly defined progression pathway which may include specialist coaching, mentoring, performance opportunities and enrichment.

3. Eligibility and Annual Application Cycle

Scholarship applications may be made for students in Years 3 to 13. Applications are considered for scholarship provision commencing in the following academic year, from September.

There are two scholarship application deadlines in each academic year:

- 31 October; and
- 31 May.

Applications received by either deadline will be considered through the School's scholarship selection process after that deadline. Successful awards will take effect from the following September. Scholarships are not normally awarded retrospectively or introduced part-way through an academic year.

Applications may be made by both current Kingsley students and prospective students applying to join the School.

Applicants will normally be required to:

- Submit a completed scholarship application form;
- Provide a reference where requested;
- Include a personal statement or equivalent information outlining relevant experience, aptitude and achievements; and

- Provide supporting evidence appropriate to the scholarship discipline.

4. Assessment, Interview and Award Decisions

Following each application deadline, applicants will take part in an appropriate assessment and interview process. The precise form of assessment will depend upon the scholarship applied for and may include auditions, trials, practical assessments, academic tasks, portfolio review, references and interviews.

Scholarships are competitive. Meeting the published criteria or being invited to assessment does not guarantee an award.

Recommendations for scholarship awards will be made following the assessment and interview process. All scholarship decisions, including the level of any associated fee discount, must be ratified by the School's Nominated Proprietor before an award is formally confirmed.

No scholarship should be regarded as awarded until written confirmation has been issued by the School following that ratification.

5. Financial Awards and Fee Discounts

A scholarship may include a fee discount. The maximum scholarship fee discount available depends upon the Key Stage in which the student will be studying when the award takes effect:

- Key Stage 2 (Years 3–6): up to 15% of the applicable school fee;
- Key Stage 3 (Years 7–9): up to 20% of the applicable school fee;
- Key Stage 4 (Years 10–11): up to 25% of the applicable school fee; and
- Key Stage 5 (Years 12–13): up to 25% of the applicable school fee.

A limited number of enhanced Sixth Form scholarships offering fee discounts of up to 85% are available each year. These awards are highly competitive and are subject to the specific criteria and arrangements published on the School website.

The percentage awarded is a maximum, not an entitlement. Individual awards may be made at a lower percentage depending upon the strength of the application, the outcome of assessment, the scholarship programme and the funding available.

Where appropriate, scholarship support may also include funded access to specialist provision, for example music tuition, LAMDA tuition, coaching or academy programmes. Any such provision will be specified in the individual scholarship offer.

6. Finite Funding and Annual Allocation

Scholarship funding is limited and the School sets a finite scholarship budget each year as part of its financial planning process.

Accordingly:

- The number and value of scholarship awards available in any year is restricted;
- The School is not obliged to make an award in every scholarship category or at the maximum permitted percentage;
- Awards are made competitively and within the constraints of the available scholarship budget; and
- The availability and value of awards may vary from year to year.

7. Expectations of Scholars

All scholars are expected to:

- Demonstrate commitment, effort and enthusiasm within their scholarship discipline;
- Participate fully in the relevant scholarship programme, training, rehearsals, performances, competitions, enrichment and mentoring as required;
- Maintain strong attendance, academic progress and conduct;
- Contribute positively to the School community;
- Represent the School when reasonably requested; and
- Act as ambassadors for Kingsley School.

Scholarship status reflects both ability and attitude. Scholars are expected to model the standards and values of the School.

8. Review and Continuation of Awards

Scholarships and any associated financial awards are subject to ongoing review and are not automatically guaranteed for the remainder of a student's time at the School.

In line with the Parent Contract:

- An award may be reduced or withdrawn if, in the opinion of the Head, a student's attendance, progress, conduct, commitment or participation no longer merits its continuation;
- The conduct of parents, including in relation to the scholarship application process and their obligations under the Parent Contract, may also be taken into account;
- Where an award includes a fee discount or other financial assistance, parents remain responsible for payment of all fees and charges due after the award has been applied; and
- Where withdrawal or reduction of a financial award is being considered, reasonable notice will normally be given.

Continuation of a scholarship may also be subject to satisfactory annual review and continued participation in the relevant scholarship programme.

9. Scholarship Boards and Recognition

The School's scholarship boards recognise students who have completed their senior school career at Kingsley as scholars.

A student's name will only be eligible to appear on the School's scholarship boards where that student has completed Year 13 at Kingsley School as a scholar.

Holding a scholarship at an earlier stage of the School, without subsequently completing Year 13 as a scholar, does not confer eligibility for inclusion on the scholarship boards.

10. Governance and Oversight

The Governing Body retains oversight of this policy and its implementation. The Head and Finance Director are responsible for monitoring the effective operation of the scholarship programme and the application of the scholarship budget.

All individual scholarship awards and associated fee discounts are subject to ratification by the Nominated Proprietor.

The School reserves the right to amend scholarship categories, assessment arrangements, programme content and the number of awards available, provided that any changes are applied fairly and communicated appropriately.

RJ Pavis
Headteacher