

The Stamford Endowed Schools Award

The Stamford Endowed Schools award fully funded places to talented children whose parents fulfil clear criteria regarding their income and financial situation. This Award is undertaken in partnership between the Schools, the Stamford Endowed Schools Foundation and the Stamford Young People's Charity through the Florence Desforges Fund. It aims to provide for four children for Year 7 entry, two to Stamford High School and two to Stamford School, every year.

Candidates should:

- Come from a background where the family income is insufficient to contribute to any educational costs; applicants may well be in receipt of free school meals
- Have the academic potential and ambition to thrive at SES
- Live in Stamford and attend a state primary school
- Be prepared to follow the formal process, including assessment and any home visit that may be required to confirm the family's financial circumstances.

We do ask that Award holders be prepared, on leaving Stamford, to act as ambassadors for the School.

The 1548 Act of Parliament establishing the foundation of Stamford School and subsequently Stamford High School undertakes to "educate and bring up children" of Stamford, and this is at the core of our ethos. Stamfordians are rounded and grounded, are fully supported to achieve academically, and have access to an extensive and dynamic co-curricular programme.

These Awards provide a fully funded place and, in addition, the Florence Desforges Fund will provide funding of up to £1,000 per year to fund uniform and a defined range of additional expenses. The total award removes financial barriers and puts a Stamford education within reach of local children.

The Award:

Opportunity: a fully funded place at either Stamford School or Stamford High School with an allowance for uniform and other expenses (such as trips) for all their secondary education.

Eligibility: a boy or girl whose parents are resident in the town of Stamford, and who currently attends a Stamford state primary school.

It is anticipated that the total parental income of the pupil who gains this opportunity will be less than £30,000 pa. Parents under these circumstances means biological parents who have contact with their child and any step-parents or partners who live in the same residence as the child. Children who are fostered or adopted may also be eligible for this award.

Application process:

Any pupil who fulfils the criteria of the award is welcome to apply, but the Stamford Endowed Schools would be grateful for the assistance of primary school Head Teachers in making the existence of the award known to parents, and – where appropriate - encouraging applications from the parents of children who are particularly likely to benefit from the opportunity.

Parents are encouraged to contact us to arrange an initial meeting, at which we can talk through the process in more detail, give them more information about the Schools and answer their specific questions in an informal setting. The family will be encouraged to visit the School, to tour the facilities and meet pupils.

Parents will then be encouraged to apply formally, including submission of their financial circumstances; we will provide advice and guidance throughout this part of the process.

The child will be invited to attend the standard entrance examination in January, and we shall seek references from their current Head Teacher. The outcome of the application will be communicated to the family in late January or early February.

In some circumstances, where we are unable to grant a Stamford Award, we may be able to support a family through other awards available as part of the fee assistance programme.

We will handle the process confidentially and sensitively, communicate clearly with the parents and the child, and make sure that we are fair and consistent in our handling of every application. We will make sure that we manage expectations, and that the application process itself will be a positive and valuable experience for the child.

Post-selection

We will appoint a mentor who will be the primary point of contact for the parents and their child. The mentor will help with practical considerations, such as buying uniform, and will provide advice and practical support on being prepared for secondary school, induction day, new parents evening, choice of any optional subjects, and any other elements of the process.

The mentor will continue in this role throughout the child's time at the school.

WM Phelan 15.05.2019

Note: Other fee assistance and scholarship packages are available, and we invite applications from families who do not qualify for this specific award.