

Investing in our Community



How a bursary
donation helps the
whole school



MHSC
150
1874 - 2024

Empowering lives one girl at a time



Manchester High bursaries are one of the secret ingredients to the success of our school.

The aspirational atmosphere at MHSG relies on a continued investment in talented girls from across the region. Bursaries, provided on academic merit and a means-tested basis, play a central role in making Manchester High the vibrant place it is today.

The positive impact of a bursary ripples throughout the whole school,

driving academic achievement and ensuring our community remains socially and culturally inclusive.

Our school thrives on this diversity. Yet today, we are missing out on many talented individuals joining our community.

Currently, we can only take on 5% of the bursary applications we receive.

“
Being surrounded by incredibly talented girls on a daily basis, inspired me to give my all to everything I do.

Noor Al-Saffar
Medical Student
Class of 2020

”

*All they need is a chance.
By backing the bursary fund, you'll provide it.*

A legacy of impact

In 1874, the first academic school for girls in the North of England was formed, giving some of the region's brightest minds the chance for a better future.

150 years on, Manchester High has a proud legacy of alumnae who have gone on to change society for the better.

Founded by the people of Manchester – men and women who were leading figures in the academic, cultural and business life of the city – at a time when many regarded the education of girls as unnecessary or undesirable.

Yet our founders knew that society as a whole would be better for this investment.

“

Our founders were pioneering, forward thinking, and revolutionary in wanting a school that would provide for girls the education which had been given to boys in the area.

Helen Jeys, Head Mistress

”

Our founders' aims were to 'impart to the girls the very best education which can be given, and to fit them for any future which may be before them.'

This remains our guiding spirit today.

Manchester High School for Girls began to introduce bursaries less than twenty years after we were founded, and today, when the education of many of the most disadvantaged children is suffering, we are proud that so many of our parents and supporters still believe

in giving our region's brightest girls a better opportunity, regardless of their financial circumstances.

Until 1997, many girls whose families were not in a position to pay fees, were eligible to receive government help, either through a Direct Grant, or through the Assisted Places Scheme.

Yet, since then, the role of protecting bursary places has fallen on the School, and the level of support we are currently able to provide has inevitably dropped from the era of assisted places.

We have only been able to fund 5% of applications for funding from Year Seven over the last three years.

Only around 9% of our Senior school student population have been in receipt of means-tested bursaries during the same period.

Our talented bursary students come from a wide range of backgrounds – areas of deprivation across the north west, from conflict zones around the world and from single-parent and multi-generational families.

“

Investing in a bursary is investing in future leaders. It's transformative.

Helen Jeys, Head Mistress

”

Can you help us invest in the social diversity of our school community?



A virtuous circle of investment

By investing in the girls of today, you are also helping to create the donors of the future, continuing the legacy of impact at Manchester High School for Girls.

Our alumnae remain a close part of our school family, and often lead the way in giving back through our bursary scheme.

We believe that all of Manchester's bright girls deserve this opportunity, regardless of their circumstances.

If you agree, please consider investing in a student bursary today.

You can support a Manchester High student for two years (from Sixth Form), or for seven years (from Year Seven).

Covering the costs of uniforms and school trips, transport and lunches alongside fees, these bursaries transform lives – giving a Manchester High student the prospect of embracing every opportunity here.

Don't just take our word for it – hear from some of the lives that have already been transformed...

“

One of my motivations to work hard is that one day I want to be able to give back, and support future girls in the way that someone once supported me.

Lucie Hinton
Bursary Recipient, Class of 2010, Head of Aviation Business Development, Manchester Airports Group

”





Laura Earnshaw

MHSG Chair of Governors, Class of 1998

Manchester High fosters individuals who strive to contribute to their community; women with a strong moral compass. The ripple effect of your gift will undoubtedly be felt far and wide."

As a First Class graduate of King's College, former Head of Global Talent at AstraZeneca, founder of myHappymind and current MHSG Chair of Governors, Laura Earnshaw knows better than most about the opportunities bursary funding can lead to.

Her father was a vicar and her mother a social worker, and Laura remembers that the family didn't have 'anywhere near enough' income to consider fee paying schools. Yet Manchester High spotted her talent, and she was offered a bursary place.

A student from the Class of 1998, Laura found that, alongside the academic rigour the School provided, its atmosphere instilled a real tenacity and taught her to always ask 'why' when someone told her something could not be done.

"Anyone considering making a donation to the Bursary Appeal should know that, while the financial contribution they make will go towards a girl's tuition fees, it is in fact a gift that will last a whole lifetime."



Seher Ahmad

Class of 2001

"My mum was beaming and I knew immediately that I'd got in. It really changed the trajectory of my life."

Seher still vividly remembers the day she learned she had been given the bursary funding she needed to attend Manchester High. Determined to make the most of her education, she developed a great love of Latin and played a pivotal role in setting up the School's first football club (which she captained!).

Seher went on to study Medicine at Cambridge University, before becoming an NHS GP, part of the NHS Medical Leadership Programme, and Chair of the Royal College of GP's training committee, overseeing the training of over 11,000 medics.

Currently working in Abu Dhabi, Seher continues to demonstrate her leadership skills as Chair of Cleveland Clinic's Primary Care Department, and still credits the strong foundations formed at Manchester High for her success.

She often thinks about the donors who were responsible for the bursary that started her journey, and feels indebted to them for the opportunity they provided.

"To me, they are the champions of girls' education. A group of individuals who had the foresight to recognise that how we build skilled, successful and thriving societies is through the education of girls. It's a catalyst for change."



Natalie Andrusyschyn

Head Girl 2023-24

"It's constantly at the back of my mind thinking about how lucky I am to have this opportunity. So going forward I will continue working hard and pursuing whatever I want to be in the future."

Natalie's family were originally from Ukraine, and on moving to Manchester they strove to provide her with the best opportunities they could. She describes the Bursary Fund as having a huge impact on her life, giving her confidence and courage, and says that every experience she has had since then has 'empowered' her to achieve.

From starting out as a very shy person, unable to speak in front of people, Natalie has become Manchester High's Head Girl, embracing all of the public speaking roles that involves.

Looking to a positive future, one of Natalie's long-term aspirations is to help in rebuilding Ukraine after the war, and she wants to start by achieving a Masters' Degree in International Relations.

"It's the gift of being empowered, the gift of having the courage and confidence to pursue anything that you want. This is the gift of a Manchester High education, which has already done so much, and opened so many doors for me."



Tiffany Agbobu

Medical Student, Class of 2020

"I wish I could go back and tell eleven-year-old Tiffany, going to high school on a full bursary, that she'd be going to medical school seven years later. She'd be so proud."

Describing herself as a very proud daughter of a single mother, Tiffany notes that there was a lot of hardship in her early years, and she was very aware that there was not much money around when she was growing up.

She describes being given the opportunity to go to Manchester High on a full bursary as 'transformative', and directly leading to her current success as a medical student at university. The School has led to a path of even further opportunity, with Tiffany having recently been flown to a Greek university campus to share her learning with their students.

From her experience of being a bursary recipient, she also became driven by a desire to help others, and tutors alongside her university work.

"With everything that I do in my life, there's always a sense of wanting to help others that aren't as fortunate – and that's something that, as a bursary student, I've had bestowed on me."



How you can help

A gift from you, no matter the size, would help us extend the opportunity of a Manchester High education to as many bright and deserving girls as possible, and continue to invest in the talented, ambitious atmosphere of which we are so proud.

“

We feel passionately about our vision of being needs blind. We would love to offer more girls the opportunity to come to Manchester High, who are bright enough, but who don't have the financial means to do so.

Helen Jeys, Head Mistress

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Provide a life changing MHSG education to a Year 7 student

Donations of £14,662 each year (with Gift Aid added on) will provide one year of full bursary funding for one student.

Sixth Form Student Bursary

Support a Manchester High student for two years to study at our outstanding Sixth Form Centre and take advantage of expert teaching in small groups, dedicated careers and higher education advice.

In our 150th year, we are aiming to raise £750,000 to provide five future Manchester High School students with transformative bursaries. This investment would support each student for seven years of study, covering the costs of tuition, transport, lunches, extra-curricular activities and uniform.

We are only able to support 5% of all applications for funding, with an average fee remission of 82%. We know our bursaries really make a difference to those who need them most, but we need to do more, with your help.

You can donate online with a single or regular donation to our Bursary Fund. Whether you choose to make a regular donation or a one-off gift, your contribution will make a huge difference. If you are considering making a major gift or corporate donation, please contact the Development Team.

Bursaries are funded by a partnership between the School, our donors and the MHSG General Charitable Trust – The Bursary Fund (registered charity number 506823).



To make a difference today, visit our donation hub at www.manchesterhigh.co.uk/support-us

Alternatively, if you would like to make a direct bank transfer, donate from overseas or discuss other ways of supporting us, please contact the Development Team on **0161 224 0447** or email development@mhsg.manchester.sch.uk.

Higher and additional rate UK tax payers

Higher or additional rate UK tax payers can claim the difference between the highest rate of tax paid, and the basic-rate of tax (20%, which MHSG will reclaim through Gift Aid). Higher-rate taxpayers could reclaim an extra 20%, and additional rate taxpayers an extra 25%.



Gift Aid

As a registered charity, MHSG can claim back the tax paid on an individual's gift. We can reclaim 25p for every £1 gifted without any additional cost to you.

Payroll Giving

Payroll giving allows you to give money to MHSG without paying tax on it. Please speak to your Payroll Department or pension provider, as it must be paid through Give As You Earn (GAYE) from wages or your pension.

Corporate Giving

Companies can claim corporation tax on all donations to the MHSG Bursary Fund. The value of any charitable gifts is deducted from a company's bottom line before the relevant level of corporation tax is calculated, thus reducing the net profit and thereby the amount of tax paid. Company gifts can be made regularly or as a one-off gift.

Regular giving

Regular donations help us to plan for the future and secure funding for students throughout their time at the school.

Our Bursary Fund honours the intentions of MHSG's founders', to enrol the brightest students, regardless of their financial circumstances, and moves us closer to realising the vision of the School to become needs blind.

It is easy to set up a regular donation online with your monthly donations building up over time. Any contribution is welcome and makes a huge difference.



Help us empower more Manchester High students. Regular donations (with Gift Aid) can make a huge difference and can quickly build, with contributions from other regular donors, and transform lives.

100 people donating £12 each month will fund one bursary each year.

100 people donating £24 each month will fund two bursaries each year.

100 people donating £49 each month will fund four bursaries each year.

The 1874 Society

On our 150th birthday we are setting up a new 1874 Society to invite members of our community to commit to regular monthly donations to help support bursary students at MHSG.

Those committing to an annual sum of **£1,874** (£1,500 + gift aid) or more, will be recognised through our 1874 Society, named after the year we were founded. Members will be invited back to school for special events and receive an annual update about the impact of your support.

As a member you will also receive a special ivy badge to commemorate your membership of the Society. You will also be invited to add your name (if you wish) to a special new donor wall next to the Main Hall, reflecting your kind, ongoing commitment to MHSG.

Make a donation

To join the 1874 Society, please set up a monthly donation of **£125** online, or an annual donation of **£1,500**, completing your gift aid declaration. As a higher or additional rate tax payer, you can also claim back tax on your donation, so the actual cost of your donation could be less than **£1,125** every year.

Recognising your support

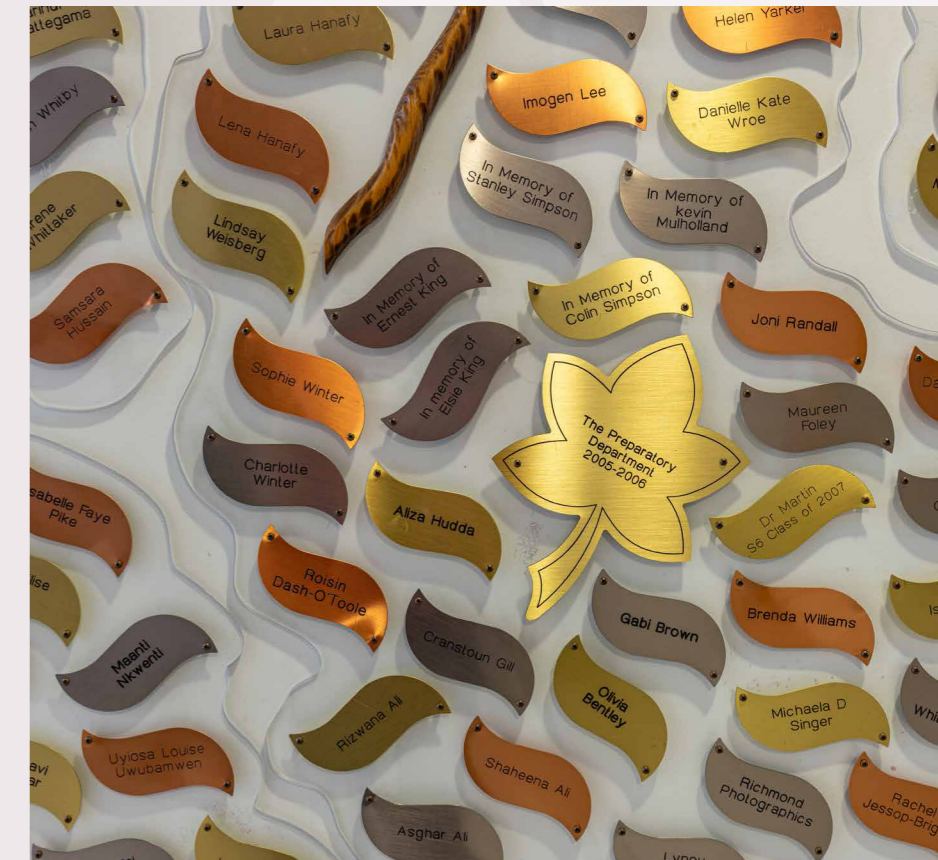
Major donors contributing over £20,000 during our 150th birthday year, can choose to be recognised on our new major donor wall in the Main Hall.

This provides the opportunity for high profile recognition of your individual or corporate commitment to MHSG.

Members of our 1874 Regular Giving Society can also choose to be recognised on a new donor wall next to the Main Hall.

Donors to the Outdoor Wellbeing Hub or Reflection Space can choose to be recognised on the donor wall in the student space they are supporting.

All donors contributing more than £200 during our 150th birthday year can choose to be recognised on our 150th birthday supporters wall.



Legacy gifts

Throughout Manchester High School's 150-year journey, we have focused on creating a place where talented girls of any background can flourish.

Now, we need your help to secure this future for our region's brightest girls.

A gift in your will could help change a girl's life.

Legacy donations are a meaningful and enduring gift. All bequests, of any size, directly benefit future generations of Manchester High students.

We understand that not everyone can afford to give right now, and that when the time comes, loved ones must be your first priority. Once you have provided for them, even a small amount left in a will can make a profound difference to a future Manchester High student.

If you would like to change your will to include the Manchester High Bursary Fund, or wish to make a will to include the School, please speak with your solicitor, and provide them with the Registered Charity Number for the MHSG Bursary Fund: 506823.

As a registered charity, any gift left in a will to the MHSG Bursary Fund would be exempt from inheritance tax.

“
It is our duty to make the world a better place for women.
Christabel Pankhurst,
Class of 1897
”

Join our Ivy Leaf Society

Our Ivy Leaf Society includes those who have decided to leave a gift to the school in their will. It is a special community, bonded by the passion we share for investing in the talented girls of our region.

All society members receive special invitations to school events, like our spring lunch with the Head Mistress. Members also receive our gold-coloured ivy leaf pin and have their name (should they wish), displayed on a plaque in the main reception of the School.

To join the Ivy Leaf Society, all you need to do is let us know you are leaving a gift in your will to the school – joining members of the Ivy Leaf Society who have done the same.

Establish your legacy today, and leave your positive stamp on the future.



“
The breadth of the education I experienced proved a lasting resource, opening career opportunities and underpinning the confidence needed to interact with colleagues. This is why I have decided to leave a gift in my will to MHSG, so girls in the future can enjoy the breadth of education provided at MHSG, just like I did.
”

Adrienne Jones,
Class of 1963



150 years on from the School's founding, we need your support to help shape the region's talented girls.

***What can you help them to achieve?
What can you back them to become?***

Head to our website to play your part
www.manchesterhigh.co.uk



*Thank you for your support
over the last 150 years!*

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