

Bursary Process for entry to King's Seniors (Year 7) for September 2027 – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Important: *Bursaries are means-tested and typically available to families with a gross annual household income below £60,000; however, other factors such as assets, expenditure, and overall financial circumstances are also assessed. Meeting the criteria does not guarantee an award due to high demand and limited funds.*

1. What is the Bursary Pre-Entrance Assessment?

It is an academic test introduced for bursary applicants, taking place in October 2026 (exact date TBC). It identifies top-performing candidates whose academic ability aligns with previous bursary awardees.

2. Why has the Bursary Pre-Entrance Assessment been introduced?

Previously, families completed the Financial Review without knowing if their child would rank highly enough in the Entrance Exam to receive a bursary, sometimes leading to disappointment. This new assessment ensures that academically eligible applicants proceed to the next stage, managing expectations early.

3. Who is required to sit the Bursary Pre-Entrance Assessment?

All applicants who wish to be considered for a bursary must sit this assessment in October 2026.

4. What happens after the Bursary Pre-Entrance Assessment?

The top-performing applicants will be invited to proceed to the Financial Review stage. The number of candidates invited is based on the funding available for the year.

5. What happens if my child is not one of the applicants to be invited to the next stage following the Bursary Pre-Entrance Assessment?

If your child is not among the top-performing applicants selected to proceed to the Financial Review stage, they will not continue in the bursary process.

However, this is not a reflection of their potential to succeed in the Entrance Exam or be offered a place at The King's School. The Bursary Pre-Entrance Assessment is designed solely to identify applicants whose academic performance places them in the top range needed for limited bursary funding.

All applicants are warmly encouraged to continue in the admissions process and are welcome to sit the Entrance Exam on January 15, 2027, for consideration as a full fee-paying student.

6. What does the Financial Review involve?

The review examines the family's financial situation, including income, expenses, and assets, to determine eligibility for means-tested support.

7. Is there an interview as part of the bursary process?

Yes, shortlisted families will attend an informal interview with the Headmaster before the bursary award is confirmed.

8. When will families find out how much bursary support they will receive?

Families will be informed of their bursary award before the Entrance Exam on January 15, 2027, allowing time to plan accordingly.

9. Is the bursary amount based on academic performance?

No. The amount of bursary support is based solely on financial need, but academic performance determines eligibility to be considered for bursary funding.

10. How many bursaries are available each year?

Bursary funding is limited and fluctuates each year. On average, the school is able to fund or part-fund between 5-8 places annually.