

EXTERNAL APPLICANTS FOR YEAR 7 ASSISTED PLACES AWARDS – 2020/21

Bradford Grammar School operates an Assisted Places Award Fund which aims to provide financial assistance to approximately 10 children who do exceptionally well (finishing in the top 10% of all candidates) in the Year 7 Senior School Assisted Places Award assessment and Entrance Examination but whose parents are unable to afford the fees.

Assisted Places Award applicants will take an initial assessment on Monday 2 December 2019 (please note there are no specimen questions available for this assessment). Those candidates who finish at the top of this assessment will be informed by letter and will automatically go forward to sit the Year 7 Entrance Examination in January 2020. Assisted Places Award Financial Assessments forms will be included with the letter to successful candidates. All families who receive an Assisted Places Award Financial Assessment form will be requested to provide accurate information and submit various personal financial documentation in support of the figures provided (for example, tax returns, P60's and salary slips; mortgage and bank statements, letters confirming tax credits etc.) by 6 January 2020. Any incomplete Financial Assessment forms or forms received after 7 January will not be considered.

Potential Assisted Places Awards candidates will not progress to the next step until the scores of the Assisted Places Additional Assessment and Year 7 Entrance Exam have been added together. The total of these two tests will determine which candidates will progress to the next step and our decision at that time will be final.

If the candidate meets the academic requirements from the test results of both the Assisted Places Additional Assessment and the Entrance Exam, the completed Assisted Places Financial Assessment form and supporting documentation will be reviewed. BGS will then contact families to inform them if they are eligible to progress to the next assessment step, which is a home visit. For eligible families, a member of the School's Finance team, on behalf of the Bursar, will arrange an appointment for a home visit when a more detailed discussion will take place. Following the home visit a report will be submitted to the School's Assisted Places Awards Panel who will make a decision on which families will be offered an Assisted Places Award and its percentage value.

Those children who do not qualify for an Assisted Places Award following the initial assessment in December will be informed and parents will then have the option of whether or not to enter their son/daughter for a full-fee place at the Year 7 Entrance Examinations. The Entrance Examinations are scheduled to take place during the week commencing 20 January 2020, further details of which will be forwarded at the start of January 2020.

Awards are given on a means-tested basis and will be reviewed annually. The Award depends on parental circumstances, demand at the time of the examination and the academic ability of the candidate. **Demand for Assisted Places Awards is always significantly in excess of monies available. It may be, therefore, that because of the performance of the candidate in the assessment and entrance examination we may be able to offer a place but with no financial assistance.**

To start the entry process you need to apply online (www.bradfordgrammar.com). Further details will then be posted out.

To apply for an Assisted Places Award you need to be confident that your child will be able to achieve excellent results in the Year 7 Assisted Places Award Assessment and Entrance Examination. Your Primary School Head Teacher or Year 6 teacher should also be approached for advice. Please note that we are only able to offer approximately 8-10 Assisted Places Awards and competition for these places is extremely fierce.

Details of the amount of any Assisted Places Award are sent out with the offer of a place in February 2020 if applicable. As a general rule an Assisted Places Award could be awarded to those families whose total income is up to £68,000 (earnings including salaries, benefits, profits, investment income, savings, second homes etc.) and whose children finish within the **top 10% of all candidates** sitting the Year 7 examination and initial Assisted Places Award assessment. Assisted Place Awards of 100% are not granted as we would expect the family to make a financial contribution towards the school fees. **Please read the terms and conditions of the Assisted Place Awards document for further details on who is eligible to apply and the criteria (www.bradfordgrammar.com).**

The closing date for Assisted Places Award applications to be received by us is Friday 15 November 2019. To enter a child for the Year 7 Assessment the following online form(s) needs to be completed and processed by 15 November:

- **Online application form**

The process commences in September 2019 and any Assisted Places Award applications received by us after the closing date of 15 November 2019 will not be considered.

Please note there are no Assisted Places Awards available for children entering the Junior School or Junior school pupils transferring from Year 6 into Year 7.



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If your child is successful in gaining an award the following criteria for the continuation of this award will apply:

- There will be an annual review of your finances every spring for the next academic year. If your financial circumstances change then we reserve the right to reconsider the size of the Assisted Places Award.
- There will be a review of academic performance at the end of Year 8 and any concerns that we have about sustaining the Assisted Places Award going forward will be communicated in writing at this time. We will monitor progress during the following year and make a final decision about the continuation of the Assisted Places Award funding at end of Year 9.
- There will be a further review of academic performance towards the end of Year 11 and any concerns that we have about sustaining the Assisted Places Award going forward will be communicated in writing by the end of the academic year. A final decision about whether or not the Assisted Places Award will be carried forward into the Sixth Form will be made on GCSE results day. A profile consisting predominantly of A*/A (9/8/7) grades will usually ensure that Assisted Places Award funding is continued into Sixth Form although the School reserves the right to set attainment targets for individual Assisted Places Award holders.

If you need further details or clarification on any of the points raised in this letter or the Assisted Places Award document, please contact Mrs Karen Hewitt, Admissions Registrar (01274 553702/admissions@bradfordgrammar.com).

Gail Monnickendam
Bursar