



Brentwood School
FOUNDATION



Brentwood Bursaries

Leaving your Legacy



“The said Schoolmaster shall receive any scholar...and him shall teach and instruct in virtue, learning and manners...freely without anything taking therefore by any way or means other than is aforesaid.”

School Statues 1622



“The children of judges and those of mechanics and tradesmen should mix on equal terms.”

**Dr Edwin Bean
Headmaster 1891 - 1914**

Our Mission

“Changing young lives through education”

Changing young lives by providing access to a Brentwood School education – irrespective of socioeconomic background – based solely on individual merit.

Brentwood School has a long history of offering education to the most deserving students, and doing so based on merit. As a significant school in the Direct Grant Scheme, there was a period of many decades when students who excelled at their local Essex schools were awarded a place at Brentwood. This government funding in exchange for places means many of our Old Brentwoods are in fact from modest backgrounds and it was a Brentwood education that created great social mobility and opportunity. Direct grants were phased out in the late 1970s and replaced by assisted places which continued to offer academically able children the ability to attend through means-tested support.

Today, there is no such government support and it is solely the School and our Foundation that fund bursaries. It is core to our values to provide an outstanding education, excellent pastoral care, and life-changing opportunities, and we believe these must be made available for talented children whose family circumstances would otherwise make Brentwood out of reach. We commit significant funds to bursary places, but as costs rise and challenges grow for independent schools, we must do even more to ensure we deliver on this vital mission of changing young lives through education.



“By leaving a legacy in your Will, you can contribute to a story that stretches back to the 16th century and help ensure it continues for many generations to come.”

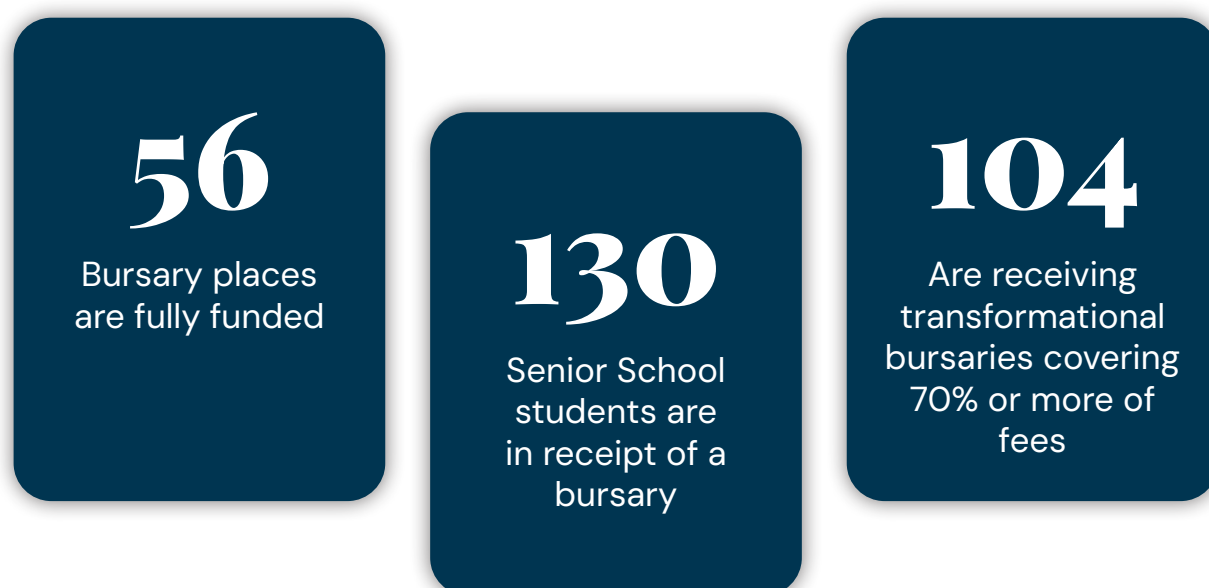
Michael Bond

Headmaster

Impact of Bursaries

A bursary at Brentwood is more than financial support, it's an opportunity to flourish.

At Brentwood School, our bursary programme opens doors for bright, motivated young people who would otherwise never be able to join our community. These awards give students access to an outstanding education and a wealth of opportunities to develop their talents and confidence. The figures for the academic year 2025/26 are as follows:



The transformative impact of a student having a bursary place at Brentwood is evident when looking at the results of our bursary students. Comparing average UCAS points in the last 3 years, the bursary students obtain an average which is notably higher than their non-bursary student peers. This really showcases their ability to fully seize the opportunity and achieve as much, and more, than those who often had a head start.

Furthermore, bursary students exhibit strong success in securing their preferred higher education pathways and again match their non-bursary peers with >85% gaining acceptance to their first-choice university/pathway.

Bursary recipients don't just thrive during their years at Brentwood, they go on to make their mark in the world – at top universities and in professional life. A legacy gift to the Brentwood School Foundation helps ensure that financial barriers will never prevent exceptional young people from joining our School.

Your legacy can transform a child's future and ensure Brentwood remains a place where talent and ambition, not financial means, define success.

Every bursary student's journey is unique, but they are all marked by the same spirit of gratitude, growth and ambition. The stories opposite are a small snapshot and insight of what your legacy could make possible.



Ziggy Wamae (OB 2016-2021)

"I cannot thank Brentwood School enough for the education I received during my five years there. **Brentwood enabled me to thrive as a student**, taking four A Levels, chairing the Sir Antony Browne Society and winning the Essex Public Speaking Competition. The small class sizes enabled me to learn more effectively than at alternate schools, which culminated in me going on to study Aeronautical Engineering at Imperial College London. **The bursary scheme at Brentwood School is responsible for all of this**, and I hope the school can continue to provide opportunities like mine to many other students in the future to help them realise their further potential."

Sila Ugurlu (2020-2022)

"**At Brentwood, I developed my confidence and became a part of a community like no other.** I never imagined that in my lessons I would be able to learn about such a diverse range of eras in my History lessons, or analyse events from an international perspective in Global Politics as part of the IB programme. Thanks to the support I received from my teachers, I am currently reading History and International Relations at King's College London, and when I graduate I hope to embark on a career in law. **I will cherish my memories with my friends and teachers at Brentwood for life.**"

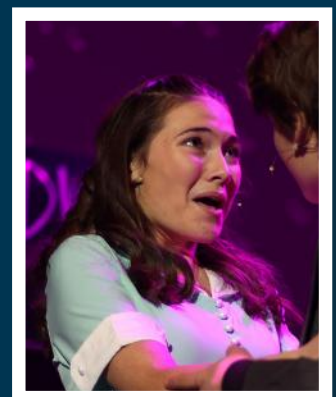


Benji O'Riordan (OB 2016-2023)

"I knew from the very first science lesson, where Mr Davies plopped a sheep's eyeball on the table to dissect, that the bursary scheme had put me in a very special place unlike any other. **With the bursary programme, I found myself experiencing and achieving things that were otherwise untenable** – flying a plane in the RAF or playing big swing numbers in front of an audience of a thousand. For that, I will be eternally grateful. It sounds like hyperbole but I promise you it's not, **it really did change my life and change me as a person.** I would like to give a very sincere thank you to everybody who supported me through my Brentwood journey – I simply can't thank you enough."

Martha Treston (OB 2021-2023)

"I wouldn't be the same without my time at Brentwood, and I left as a person who is confident, kind, academic, determined and proud to consider themselves as an 'Old Brentwood'. **The bursary scheme has allowed me to fuel my passions, and enrich me.** It has also allowed me to experience memories I will cherish forever, like trips abroad to New York with the Drama Department and the Music Tour. **I am forever grateful for this opportunity**, and I would encourage anybody else to embrace all that Brentwood has to offer if the opportunity were given to them."



“I spent nine fantastic and happy years at Brentwood and am very appreciative of all that the School did for me and what it helped me go on to achieve. Now, I am delighted to be supporting the work of the Foundation and have left a bequest in my will to help enable future students to enjoy the experience and benefits that I did.”

Jos Hollington (OB 1972-81)



Your Legacy

Creating Their Future

A gift in your will can be a simple and tax-efficient way of making a significant donation to the Foundation that will cost nothing in your lifetime. Any such gift to a registered charity, such as Brentwood School, made in your will is exempt from Inheritance Tax and allows you to make a meaningful contribution to future generations of Brentwood pupils. Making a bequest is simple: it can be included in a new will or added as a Codicil to an existing will.

The most common types of legacy are:

Pecuniary: This is a gift of a specific sum of money.

Residuary: This is a gift of all or part of the residue of your estate, after other bequests, taxes and debts have been paid.



"Brentwood was the foundation of a deeply satisfying career for me, and I feel a strong sense of duty to give back. With the growing financial challenges faced by independent schools, not least the imposition of VAT, it is imperative that we support bursaries to keep Brentwood accessible to deserving pupils. A legacy gift is my lasting way to ensure the School remains a place where young lives are transformed, just as it always has been."

Godfrey Thomas

Foundation Legator (Former staff 1962-1997)

Legacies are usually unrestricted gifts; however, we will always try to meet a donor's wishes if they have a specific area of interest in the School.

We always recommend that you seek legal advice when making or amending a will, to ensure your interests are protected and your wishes recorded accurately.

You will see we have partnered with **adeus** to help you with this process and we are delighted to cover the cost of their service for those considering a gift to Brentwood School.

For an informal discussion, please contact the Development Office, we are very happy to assist with your legacy plans.



Inheritance Tax

Inheritance Tax (IHT) is a tax on the estate – the property, money and possessions of someone who dies will be subject to 40% tax on their estate above the current tax threshold of £325,000.

However, if you leave 10% or more of your estate to charity, the tax due on any value above the £325,000 tax threshold may be reduced to a rate of 36% instead of 40%.

Any gifts you make to a qualifying charity (such as Brentwood School) during your lifetime or in your will – will be exempt from Inheritance Tax.

On the following page, two hypothetical examples (which relate only to an individual to whom no other exemptions apply) demonstrate how leaving a legacy gift in your Will can be a very cost-effective way to give. Even more powerful is that these legacy decisions result in a gift of many multiples of the actual cost:

In these examples :

- Mrs Huddleston leaves a gift of **£47,500** from an estate of **£800,000** but the cost to her estate is only **£11,400**
- Mr Ashton leaves a gift of **£22,500** from an estate of **£550,000** but the cost to his estate is only **£5,400**

Legacy gifts like these make a huge impact for a relatively minimal cost to your estate. You can also be assured that all legacy donations are used to fund our bursary endowment which means you change young lives in perpetuity. A true legacy.

You may find further information at www.gov.uk/inheritance-tax.

Mrs Huddleston's Estate

	Without 10% Legacy Gift & Tax at 40%	With 10% Legacy Gift & Tax at 36%
Value of Estate	£800,000	£800,000
IHT Allowance	£325,000	£325,000
Net Value of Estate	£475,000	£475,000
10% Legacy Gift	£0	£47,500
Value	£475,000	£475,000
IHT	£190,000	£153,900
Remaining for Beneficiaries	£285,000	£273,600
Cost to Estate	N/A	£11,400

Mr Ashton's Estate

	Without 10% Legacy Gift & Tax at 40%	With 10% Legacy Gift & Tax at 36%
Value of Estate	£550,000	£550,000
IHT Allowance	£325,000	£325,000
Net Value of Estate	£225,000	£225,000
10% Legacy Gift	£0	£22,500
Value	£225,000	£202,500
IHT	£90,000	£72,900
Remaining for Beneficiaries	£135,000	£129,600
Cost to Estate	N/A	£5,400



1557 Society



The 1557 Society has been established as a means by which we can thank, during their lifetime, Old Brentwoods, parents, and other supporters who have left a gift in their will to the Foundation.

Brentwood School was founded in 1557 with a vision to provide exceptional education to young people – a vision that has endured for over four and a half centuries. By naming our legacy society after this founding year, we honour the School's rich heritage while looking confidently to the future. Every legacy pledged through the 1557 Society helps sustain that founding purpose, ensuring Brentwood continues to transform lives for generations to come.

By confirming to the Development Office that you have made a bequest to the School, you will automatically become a member of the 1557 Society.

Members will receive a specifically designed gift bearing the logo which is taken from the marble plaque in School House dedicated to John Cooper Quennell OB and will also receive invitations to School and Foundation events, where you can see first-hand the impact of legacies on current and future generations.

Above all, the 1557 Society offers you the chance to share in a community of like-minded supporters who are helping to secure Brentwood's mission for years to come. Every legacy, whatever its form, is a testament to your belief in the life-changing opportunities a Brentwood education provides.

How to --- Make Your Legacy

At Brentwood School, we are proud of our heritage and committed to preparing young people to grow into confident, compassionate and well-rounded individuals.

Through the Brentwood School Foundation, legacy gifts from our alumni, parents and friends provide life-changing bursaries and ensure that talented young people – regardless of their financial circumstances – can benefit from a Brentwood education.

To make the process simple, we've partnered with **adeus**, a secure and easy-to-use Will creation platform. As a sign of our gratitude, we will cover the cost of the service, so to you it's **completely free**. This enables you to leave a gift to Brentwood School with confidence.



Click above to learn more about our partnership

Wills created with adeus fully comply with UK legislation and provide a straightforward way to create, print, sign, and store your Will securely in accordance with the Wills Act 1837.

Why Choose adeus to Leave a Legacy?

Create your will online with ease

Step-by-step guidance helps you leave a pecuniary, residuary or specific gift to Brentwood School.

Future-proof your wishes

Wills created with adeus qualify for a free upgrade to an 'electronic will' when legislation allows.

Stay connected

With your consent, adeus shares pledge insights so we can thank you appropriately.

Peace of mind

Your data is protected with enterprise-grade encryption and multi-factor authentication.



Sam Mason
Director of Development

Contact Us

While adeus provides a simple and secure way to leave a gift in your will, we know legacy giving is deeply personal.

If you are considering remembering Brentwood School in this way, we warmly invite you to have a conversation with Sam Mason, Director of Development.

Whether you are exploring your options, have questions about how your gift could be used, or simply want to talk through your wishes, Sam would be delighted to meet with you.

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Brentwood School

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www.brentwoodschool.co.uk/our-community/foundation

Registered Charity Number - 1153605