



ST BEES SCHOOL  
WHERE WEST MEETS EAST

ADMISSIONS POLICY –  
INCLUDING  
SCHOLARSHIPS AND  
BURSARIES  
2025 - 2026

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## GENERAL

St Bees School is a co-educational independent day and boarding school for students from ages 11 to 18. Deciding on the right school for your child is very important, and we believe that a personal visit is invaluable. We very much hope that you and your child will visit St Bees School. We hold a number of open events throughout the year, which give a general introduction to the School. Details are published on our website and across our social media channels. We are also very happy to welcome prospective parents and their children at other times. Please contact the School's Director of Marketing and Admissions or Admissions Officer to arrange a visit.

## ENTRY PROCEDURE

St Bees School caters for those with potential – be it academic, creative, sporting, performance, etc. Applicants with a wide range of talents, interests and abilities are welcomed. Our selection process is designed to identify students who are able to benefit from our unique Fusion Curriculum and to make a positive contribution towards the life of the School.

The usual points of entry are at Year 7, Year 8, Year 9 and Year 12. We also offer a Pre-A Level course for international students wishing to enhance their English prior to the commencement of the public examination courses. The School's Registration Form is available on the School website and from the Director of Marketing and Admissions or Admissions Officer.

## INTERNATIONAL APPLICANTS

We welcome international students, who can study at St Bees School as boarders. Students should be reasonably fluent English speakers, commensurate with their age. English proficiency will be assessed via reports, an interview and online testing. Tuition in English as an Additional Language (EAL) can be easily arranged (additional costs apply).

## EQUAL TREATMENT

St Bees School's aim is to encourage applications from candidates with as diverse a range of backgrounds as possible. This enriches our community and is vital in preparing our students for today's world. A small number of bursaries are available to UK students in order to allow as many as possible who meet the School's admission criteria to attend the School. The maximum bursary available will be 25% (30% for the Full Circle Scholarship). St Bees School is committed to equal treatment for all, regardless of a candidate's sex, race, disability, religion or belief, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, pregnancy or maternity, or social background.

## SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

St Bees School does not unlawfully discriminate in any way regarding entry. The School welcomes students with disabilities and/or special educational needs, provided we are able offer them the necessary level of support that they require, cater for any additional needs and that our site can accommodate them. Additional costs may be incurred if the scope of help goes beyond what we can reasonably offer. These are made evident within the Terms and Conditions and the Fee Structure list.



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We strongly advise parents of children with special educational needs or physical or mental disabilities to discuss their child's requirements with the School before he/she sits the entrance exam so that we can make adequate provision for him/her. Parents should provide the Registration Form a copy of an educational psychologist's report or a medical report if they have one.

The School will discuss thoroughly with parents (and their child's medical advisers, if appropriate) the adjustments that can reasonably be made for the child if he/she becomes a student at the School.

## ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES

The aim of the process is to identify potential. St Bees School is looking for well-rounded students with a genuine interest in education in the broadest sense of the word, with interests that stretch beyond the confines of the academic curriculum. The School has a unique Fusion concept – merging the academic rigor of a British curriculum, alongside Western character traits such as teamwork and leadership with the hard work, depth and determination of the East. There are many co-curricular activities, all of which are important in developing a well-balanced, confident individual and the expectation is that all students will participate fully with these.

All prospective students are asked to attend an interview with the Headmaster (or a member of the Senior Leadership Team) and Director of Marketing and Admissions. The interview involves a series of informal questions to assess character. Sometimes additional testing may be required.

Candidates applying for scholarships are required to present additional samples of their work in relevant subjects for discussion/review.

Our offer of places into Year 12 is conditional upon a candidate achieving a minimum of Grade 5 in 5 (I)GCSE subjects, including both English Language and Mathematics, as well as at least Grade 6 in the subjects proposed for study in the Sixth Form.

Applications to St Bees are rolling, but the bursary opportunities are limited and awarded on a first come, first serve basis. We ask successful applicants to return their acceptance forms within two weeks. If this is not received, we will offer the place to candidates from our waiting list.



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## SIBLING POLICY

St Bees School has a sibling preference policy and most siblings join us at St Bees School. However, admission is not guaranteed and there may be occasions where the School judges that a sibling is likely to thrive better in a different academic environment. Siblings receive an additional 10% discount.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

St Bees School offers a range of prestigious scholarships designed to reward excellence and nurture talent. Scholarships are awarded based on merit and are accompanied by specific expectations for the scholarship holders. Scholars must uphold high standards of conduct, actively contribute to school life, and act as ambassadors for St Bees. A student can only hold one scholarship, and combined scholarships and bursaries will not exceed 50% fee reduction.

Students who apply for a scholarship will be invited to visit the school for interview. Due to their highly prestigious nature, only a small number of scholarship awards will be made each year. Scholarships are contingent on high standards of behaviour, fulsome support for the aims and ethos of the school and the capacity of the award holder to act as an ambassador for the school in all that they do.

A scholarship may be withdrawn in accordance with the terms upon which such award is made or in accordance with the School's Terms and Conditions.

The scholarship also applies to boarding costs if the student is a boarding student.

### 1. Full Circle Scholarship

The most prestigious scholarship, awarded to one exceptional student each year who embodies the values of Full Circle Education Group—hard work, determination, and ambition.

- **Criteria:**
  - Academic excellence, leadership qualities, and strong emotional intelligence (EQ).
- **Application Process:**
  - Interview with Danny Wang (Director of Full Circle Education Group).
  - Interview with the Headmaster.
  - Reference from current Headmaster.
  - Submission of a 500-word essay on "What is bravery?"
- **Award:**
  - 30% fee reduction.



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## 2. Academic Scholarship

Awarded to students demonstrating exceptional academic ability and potential for high achievement.

- **Criteria:**
  - Outstanding academic record and a passion for learning.
- **Application Process:**
  - Submission of school reports and academic transcripts.
  - CAT4 test to be taken in school.
  - Previous school reports and reference letter from current Head.
  - Interview with the Headmaster.
- **Award:**
  - *Up to 25% fee reduction.*

## 3. Sporting Scholarship

Awarded to students excelling in competitive sports with strong leadership and teamwork qualities.

- **Criteria:**
  - Proven talent in one or more sports and commitment to school teams.
- **Application Process:**
  - Reference from the Head of Sport / Sporting Coach and current Head.
  - Evidence of participation at a high level (e.g., club or national representation).
  - Interview with the Headmaster.
- **Award:**
  - *Up to 25% fee reduction.*

## 4. Creative Scholarship

Awarded to students who demonstrate outstanding ability in Music, Art, or Performing Arts.

- **Criteria:**
  - Excellence in their chosen discipline and contribution to school creative life.
- **Application Process:**
  - Portfolio submission (for Art) or performance recording (for Music and Drama).
  - Reference from the relevant Head of Department and current Head.
  - Interview with the Headmaster.
- **Award:**
  - *Up to 25% fee reduction.*



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## 5. Dragon Gate Scholarship

A scholarship for international students only, awarded to the top ten exceptional students in Maths and Science, who apply for 2025 entry into Year 12.

- **Criteria:**
  - Academic excellence across both Maths and Sciences.
- **Application Process:**
  - Interview with Senior Leadership Team
  - Reference from current Headmaster.
  - Academic testing online
- **Award:**
  - 50% fee reduction.

### Application Deadlines & Process

- Scholarship applications must be submitted alongside the standard school application.
- Interviews and assessments take place at St Bees School or online for international applicants.
- Successful candidates will receive a scholarship offer letter outlining their obligations as scholars.

By awarding these scholarships, St Bees School aims to attract and support students who will make a lasting contribution to our school community while excelling in their respective fields.

## BURSARIES

A Bursary is financial support given to students who would not otherwise be able to attend the school. The School offers a small number of means-tested awards to entrants at the usual points of entry, where the parents have indicated on the Registration Form that they require financial support. Bursaries are awarded on a first come, first served basis. Financial arrangements between parents and school MUST be kept confidential. Where an award is made, it is expressly agreed that the value will not be disclosed by parents to any third party. Failure to abide by this strict expectation forfeits eligibility for financial support with immediate effect.

Both parents are required to provide proof of their income and assets. The level of support varies according to parental need; but can extend to up to 25% fee remission in cases of proven need.

Bursaries are always offered for 12 months at a time. The family is required to provide fresh information about its circumstances for every year that their child attends the School. Levels of support may vary with fluctuations in income or wealth.

Bursaries are only offered to families who are resident in the UK. The School's practice is to allocate its entire available bursary funding on entry. The School's expectation is that parents who do not choose to apply for a bursary at the time that their child is being assessed will not require financial support throughout the time that their child attends the School, except in wholly unforeseen circumstances. A



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bursary may be withdrawn in accordance with the terms upon which such award is made or in accordance with the School's Terms and Conditions.

## RELIGIOUS BELIEFS

St Bees School welcomes applications from prospective students of all faiths and of no faith.

Although St Bees School has Christian roots, the School does not select for entry on the basis of religious belief, and it offers the opportunity for the practice of all faiths.

## TERMS & CONDITIONS

Copies of the School's Terms and Conditions are available to parents upon request.

## COMPLAINTS

The School's Complaints Procedure is on the School's website and can be sent to prospective parents on request. The Complaints Procedure is not available for use by prospective parents.

## RECORDS AND REVIEW

Applicants' details will be held on file with due regard to data protection legislation and the School's Privacy Notice.

The School will not hold the personal data of you or your child for longer than is necessary for a lawful purpose. This will generally be no more than 6 months following an unsuccessful application, but reasons to retain for longer might include: if the parents express an interest in the candidate re-applying for any reason at a later date, or in the potential candidacy of another sibling; or to deal with any ongoing matters or queries arising from the application.