

Bancroft's

Independent Co-educational Day School 7–18

||+ Information Booklet



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Scan to hear
more from
Mr Dickinson

Welcome From The Head of Lower School

Welcome to Bancroft's, where we are dedicated to nurturing young minds and shaping bright futures. As the Head of Lower School, it is my privilege to extend a warm and heartfelt welcome to you and your family.

At Bancroft's, the happiness and wellbeing of our pupils take precedence above all else. We believe that a child's educational journey should be not only academically enriching but also emotionally fulfilling. Every child is unique, with their own set of talents, interests, and challenges. As such, we understand that no one-size-fits-all approach will suffice. Our commitment is to provide each child with the individualised support and care they need to thrive.

We firmly believe that education goes beyond the confines of the national curriculum. While academic excellence is a fundamental goal, we understand that success in life requires more than just mastering subjects. That's why we take a holistic approach to education, focusing on the whole child. We strive to cultivate a diverse skill set, nurturing qualities such as creativity, critical thinking, resilience, and empathy. Our aim is to equip our pupils with the tools they need to navigate

an ever-evolving world and to become responsible and compassionate global citizens.

We take pride in our dedicated and passionate team of educators. They are not just teachers; they are mentors, guides, and partners in your child's educational journey. They recognise the unique strengths and challenges of each pupil and work tirelessly to ensure their growth and development.

When I first walked under the tower, I was taken back by the beautiful architecture, but it was the warmth of the wider community of pupils, teachers, parents and support staff that made me choose Bancroft's. We invite you to become a part of our Bancroft's family, where every child is celebrated for who they are, and their potential is limitless.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions with our Admissions team. Together, we can ensure that your child's educational experience is as unique and extraordinary as they are.

Mr Paul Dickinson
Head of Lower School
admissions@bancrofts.org

Introduction





Our Background

Bancroft's school is an HMC co-educational school for approximately 1100 pupils aged 7-18. Founded by the Drapers' Company in 1737, as a result of a bequest from Francis Bancroft, the school still maintains its historic links with the City, combining the best of traditional values with innovative practices.

The school moved to its present site at Woodford Wells in 1889. The fine Victorian quad was designed by Sir Arthur Blomfield and provides a dining hall, chapel, library and classrooms. There have been many additions to the original buildings over the years, which have ensured that Bancroft's has first rate facilities, including a swimming pool and sports hall on site. Bancroft's became fully coeducational in 1979. In 1990 a Preparatory school was opened, providing education for children aged 7-11.

The school is committed to providing excellent value for money, as well as offering Assisted Places to those who could not otherwise attend the school.



The Bancroft's Aim

We aim to provide a transformative experience for every child.

The School's Values

Our education is based on six core values: Curiosity, Kindness, Integrity, Courage, Balance and Excellence. We think these values are essential to the wellbeing of every child.



Curiosity

We want our pupils to take delight in the possibilities that the world has to offer and to develop an abiding curiosity about the world; to explore their imaginative and creative potential and to take pleasure in self-expression.



Kindness

We want Bancroft's pupils to be kind, to have integrity and the courage to pursue and protect what is good; to make wise decisions, based on compassion and empathy.



Integrity

We want our pupils to learn to understand themselves and others and develop a clear moral grounding for their lives.



Courage

We want our pupils to show courage and a spirit of adventure in all aspects of their learning; to confront challenges and try to overcome them.



Balance

We want our pupils to learn how to live balanced, healthy, productive and well-regulated lives and to learn to understand the different aspects that combine to create a secure framework for flourishing.



Excellence

We want our pupils to aspire to be the best they might be and to make the most of their talents and abilities; we want our pupils to form realistic and ambitious ideals for the future.

Being Bancroft's

Our Educational Framework



I wrote my own travel blog



Yoga on a Tuesday helps me find my inner balance



I took part in Engineering Day



I am part of the Elite Chess Squad



I spent the day shadowing a set designer

I was inspired by my visit to Tate Modern



I play football for the County



I take part in the weekly Musical Theatre Club



I lead the Junior Sustainability Society



I joined the Young Game Designers Club



I help with the community choir



Physical Activity

Creativity

Scholarship

Futures

Community



How it Works

Extending a pupil's commitment as a Bancroftian beyond academics and embracing a holistic approach to school life.

At Bancroft's, we take pride in our comprehensive approach to pupil development, revolving around an educational framework known as *Being Bancroft's*.

This is a rounded educational philosophy running through the whole of the school which guides pupils to take full advantage of the huge range of different opportunities on offer ; whether immersed in academic research, being out on the sports fields, taking part in charitable activities, acting on the stage, playing music or attending some of our numerous clubs and societies, we want our pupils to challenge themselves and learn by taking part wholeheartedly in school life.

The journey begins in Lower School.

To complete the first two years of *Being Bancroft's*, pupils must provide two pieces of evidence per strand of the framework each year.

The five strands are:

- **Community**
- **Futures**
- **Scholarship**
- **Creativity**
- **Physical Activity**

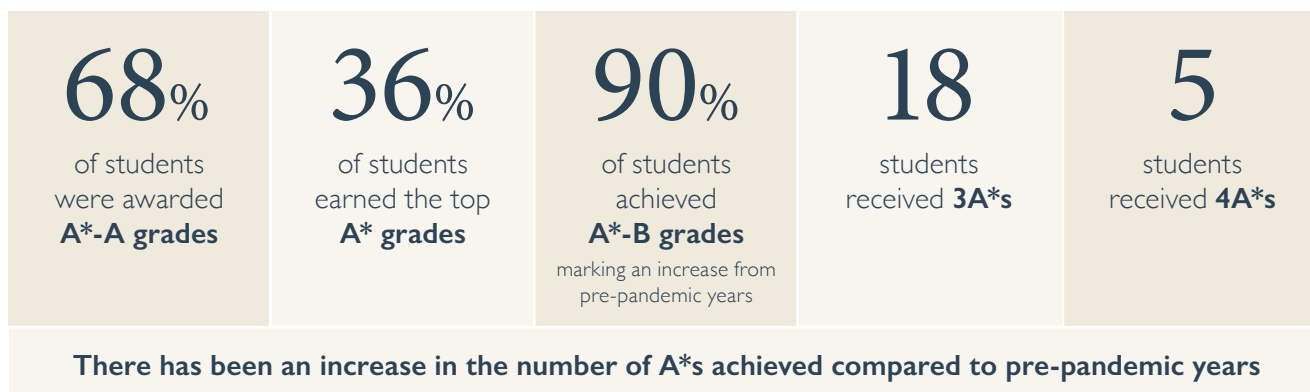
Transition to Middle School

The next phase of *Being Bancroft's* will begin in Middle School. To prepare for their move through to Sixth Form, pupils will initiate the practice of documenting their evidence through UniFrog journals.

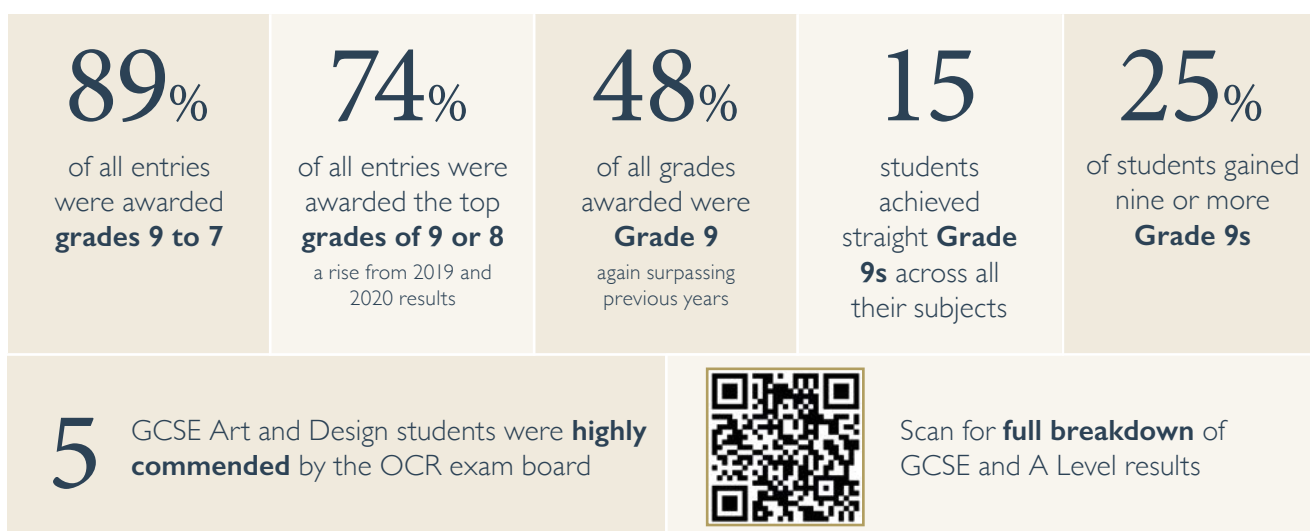
This will not only familiarise them with the platform but also equip them for its future application in university admissions.

Results and Leavers' Destinations

A Level Results 2023



GCSE Results 2023



University Destinations

Over the last fifteen years, Bancroft's has consistently sent almost all of our U6th students to the leading universities in the UK and North America, including Oxbridge and Russell Group universities.

An increasing number of students have gained places on highly competitive degree apprenticeship programmes with the likes of Dyson, Range Rover, PwC, and JP Morgan. Others choose to enter directly into employment or take a gap year that usually involves some charitable/volunteering work overseas.

The post-18 options are increasing every year and our careers office can provide extensive and detailed guidance on all available options.

See the following page for a full list of last year's university destinations and courses.



University	Course
University of Cambridge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology (2) • English • Land Economy • Law • Mathematics • Medicine • Music • Natural Sciences
University of Manchester	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economics • Geography (3) • History • History and Spanish • Mechanical Engineering with Industrial Experience • Medicine • Ancient History
University College London	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anthropology • Economics • Geography (3) • Medicine (2) • Physics
King's College London, University of London	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computer Science with Management • Economics and Management • Geography (2) • Liberal Arts • English
University of Warwick	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History and Global Sustainable Development • Law and Sociology • Linguistics with Spanish • Mathematics and Philosophy • Philosophy • Politics and Economics
Queen Mary University of London	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biochemistry • Chemical Sciences with Foundation • Economics and Politics • Law
University of Nottingham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Criminology • Environmental Science • History • Industrial Economics
Imperial College London	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electrical & Electronic Engineering • Materials Science and Engineering • Medical Biosciences (2) • Mathematics
London School of Economics and Political Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economics • History • Philosophy Politics and Economics (2) • Politics and Economics
Durham University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anthropology • History • Natural sciences • Physics

University	Course
University of Leeds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classical Civilisation • Geography • Mathematics
University of Bristol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biology • Civil Engineering • Engineering Mathematics (2)
University of Bath	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chemistry • Economics • Politics with Economics (with professional placement)
Anglia Ruskin University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biomedical science (3) • Illustration • Medicine (2)
University of Exeter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Politics and Management • History • Physics with Astrophysics
University of Liverpool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sociology and Business Studies • Veterinary Science
St George's, University of London	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biomedical Science (2) • Medicine (MBBS)
University of Edinburgh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History • Philosophy
London South Bank University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chiropractic (with foundation year) • Psychology
City, University of London	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actuarial Science (with professional placement) • Economics
University of East Anglia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pharmacy • Politics and Economics
University of Hertfordshire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engineering with Foundation Year • Pharmacy
University of Oxford	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History • Mathematics
University of Sussex	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business • Management and Economics
Swansea University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electronic and Electrical Engineering
Ravensbourne University, London	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art Foundation (3)
University of Southampton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geography
Aston University, Birmingham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economics
Glasgow School of Art	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Architecture
Kent and Medway Medical School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medicine
University of Plymouth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Architecture
SOAS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economics
University of St Andrews	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economics
University of Westminster, London	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marketing Management



Co-Curricular Life

Within our vibrant community, we strive to cater for the passions and interests of everyone, ensuring a balance between academic and co-curricular life.

We have designed our school day to enable plenty of activity, enrichment and exercise to take place while all the children are here: lunch is almost an hour and a half so that eating, chatting, playing and attending a club can all happen.

An impressive array of 250 clubs and societies are held throughout the year... and the count is ever increasing.

Below is a selection of our clubs for the upcoming year:



WEIGHTLIFTING CLUB	MICROBIT CODERS	
SCIENCE CLUB	MUSICAL THEATRE	
YOUNG GAME DESIGNERS		
OPEN GYM	SPANISH SPELLING BEE	
DISSECTION/SUTURING CLUB	CCF	
UKULELE CLUB	ARCHITECTURE CLUB	
FORMULA 1 IN SCHOOLS		
CRAFT CLUB	YOGA	BADMINTON
SUSTAINABILITY SOCIETY		CHESS CLUB
MODERN UNITED NATIONS		
ANIMATION CLUB		BOARD GAMES
JUNIOR HISTORY CLUB		VOLLEYBALL
AFRO - CARIBBEAN SOCIETY		
STUDENT LEADERSHIP		JEWISH SOCIETY
SWIMMING CLUB		CROSSFIT FOR ALL
WARHAMMER CLUB		ART CLUB
ISAAC PHYSICS CLUB		

Sports

All pupils participate in a vibrant weekly programme of PE and games. The Thirds (Year 7) have games on a Friday afternoon and curriculum sports are football, hockey, rugby, netball, athletics, cricket, and tennis. They also have three 50-minute PE lessons per fortnight which includes swimming, basketball and gymnastics.

The school runs teams for all major sports across various skill levels. These teams maintain an active schedule of fixtures against nearby schools and have achieved considerable accomplishments in regional and national tournaments.

Music

Diverse orchestras, choirs and ensembles, encompassing various musical genres, rehearse regularly, presenting a wealth of musical options. We encourage all new pupils to explore and embrace the musical avenues the school offers. Many Bancroftians also benefit from private tuition provided by our visiting music professionals.

Our current orchestras, ensembles and choirs include:

- Thirds Choir
- Bancroft's Big Band
- Bancroft's Singers
- Boys Voices
- Girls Voices
- Camerata
- Chamber Ensembles
- Concert Band
- Drum Line
- Flute Ensemble
- Junior Orchestra
- Percussion Club
- Rock/Pop Band
- Soul Band
- Sinfonia
- Ukelele Club

Drama

There are plenty of opportunities to get involved in drama, both on and backstage. Our technician is delighted to work with anyone who wants to learn more about sound and lighting design. We are always looking for people to help us with sourcing and building set and props for productions. We have two ambitious annual school productions: a senior show and a junior show.

Recent productions have included Arabian Nights, Oliver, Bugsy Malone and Crazy For You. Each year there is a House Drama competition, for which all houses produce a short play involving all year groups. In addition, pupils may take LAMDA examinations in the Speaking of Verse and Prose up to Grade 8 (Gold Medal) with lessons given by visiting staff.

Combined Cadet Force/Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme

Membership of the thriving CCF, which includes both army and air force sections, is an option for L4th (Year 9) upwards. The Duke of Edinburgh's Scheme is also available to pupils in the L4th upwards. Bancroft's pupils enjoy great success at Bronze, Silver and Gold levels.

Scouting

The Bancroft's Sea Scout group meets every Thursday evening at school during the autumn and spring terms. All Thirds (Year 7) are eligible to join. Sea Scouts enjoy the activities we associate with Scouts, but also experience a wide range of water-based activities. In the summer term Scouts have the chance to get on the water at nearby Fairlop Waters. The activities are run by a highly qualified group of leaders whose qualifications allow a wide range of activities to be run safely including dinghy and yacht sailing, kayaking, rowing, power boating, climbing and swimming.

The highlight of the year is the week-long summer camp. Held in the summer holidays, camp includes many exciting land and water activities and challenges. A number of other camps occur throughout the year, such as stays on HMS Bristol in Portsmouth for water activities and a Christmas camp for land activities such as hiking, fire lighting and cooking.

“Every day, a club or society offers something for everyone, no matter what you enjoy!”

Raoul (L6)

Trips

At Bancroft's, we believe in enriching the educational journey of our pupils through a diverse range of exciting school trips. These experiences are designed to not only enhance their understanding of various subjects but also to ignite their passion for learning and exploration.

Exploring History

Our younger pupils embark on thrilling journeys to historical landmarks. From the medieval splendour of **Rochester Castle** to the stunning **Canterbury Cathedral**, they uncover the stories of the past. Those studying the First World War also embark on a poignant Battlefields Tour to **northern France**.

Geography Adventures

As pupils progress, our geography trips take them further afield. They witness the "restless earth" in the volcanoes of **Sicily**, explore the landscapes of north **Wales**, and even jet off to international destinations like **Barcelona, Ecuador, and Iceland**.

Language Immersion

Learning a new language is a journey best experienced firsthand. Our language trips offer pupils the opportunity to immerse themselves in Spanish, German, and French-speaking countries. From **Salamanca** to **Haßfurt**, and **Nice** to **Granada**, these trips emphasize oral communication, making language learning truly unforgettable.

Skiing Adventures

Our annual Junior Ski Trip is a highlight for budding skiers of all levels. Whether you're a beginner or an experienced skier, these trips provide a chance to hit the slopes and make remarkable progress. For older students, our Senior Ski Trip offers a thrilling alpine experience.

Making a Difference

We believe in giving back to the global community. Our volunteering trips to **Costa Rica** and **Peru** have seen pupils building classrooms and improving community facilities. More trips to Peru are planned for 2024, ensuring that our pupils continue to make a positive impact.

Sports and Culture

Sports enthusiasts have the opportunity to train and compete internationally. Hockey, netball, cricket, and rugby teams embark on sports tours to destinations like **Argentina, South Africa, Canada, Malaysia, Singapore, and Barbados**. Meanwhile, our talented Bancroft's Players shine at the **Edinburgh Fringe Festival**, sharing their creativity with a broader audience.

Adventurous Training

Members of our CCF and Sea Scouts enjoy adventurous training in the **Lake District** and summer camps, fostering leadership and teamwork skills.

Exploring London

We take full advantage of our proximity to **London** by organising regular trips to museums, galleries, and theatres. These outings provide a cultural immersion that complements classroom learning.





Pastoral Care

Bancroft's pastoral system is a tremendous strength of the school. It underpins all that we do, enabling pupils to flourish and make the most of their opportunities.

We endeavour to foster a friendly, supportive and caring environment in which each pupil is cherished and nurtured and their individual needs are addressed. We aim to make our pastoral care proactive with a focus on wellbeing and the individual.

The House system lies at the heart of our pastoral care with tutors and House staff being key points of contact for pupils and parents throughout their time at school. On a daily basis, the tutor is the first port of call, fostering the academic, co-curricular and pastoral welfare of each pupil and our Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) programme is delivered in House groups. The House staff are supported in their role by the Deputy Head, Pastoral, who is also the Designated Lead for Safeguarding and Child Protection matters.

We recognise that adolescence can be a turbulent time and sometimes a pupil may experience difficulties which require specialist and professional help. Counselling is available in school for those who feel they need it and we will always source help from outside if necessary.

The Senior House staff oversee all House activities and Junior House staff have specific responsibility for Thirds to Lower Fourths (Years 7-9); together they lead weekly House assemblies during which teachers and pupils share thoughts, celebrate achievements and perform. Sport, drama, music and spoken English competitions between the four Houses promote a friendly rivalry. Each House celebrates its own identity with events such as their family evenings which help bond parents, pupils and staff.

Throughout the school year we run several pastoral evenings to which all parents are invited. The format of such evenings may vary to include talks, workshops and discussion groups. Subjects covered have included: academic pressures; digital technology and teens; striking the balance between the academic and the co-curricular and mental wellbeing.

11+ Admissions

Entry Information and Requirements

Entry at 11+ into Year 7 is on the basis of performance in entrance tests and at interview.

11+ Admissions Journey for September 2024

Wednesday 15 November 2023	Closing date for Bancroft's to receive Initial Assessment of Income Forms (IAIF) for Assisted Places
Friday 1 December 2023	Closing date for completed registration forms and registration fees to be received
Tuesday 9 January 2024	Testing day at Bancroft's
Saturday 27 January 2024	11+ interviews (by invitation only)
Thursday 15 February 2024	11+ offers sent out by email
Thursday 22 February 2024	11+ Offer Holders Event for parents and pupils (by invitation only)
Monday 4 March 2024	Closing date for acceptance of places

Applications

Registrations are made online and must be accompanied by a non-returnable registration fee.



Scan the QR code to register.

Please note that if you are applying for an Assisted Place you must first complete an Initial Assessment of Income Form (IAIF). We will then review the financial criteria and either invite you to register for an Assisted Place with a reduced fee, or invite you to register for a fee-paying place.

A copy of your child's birth certificate or passport must be uploaded together with your registration form for all applications.

Entry Requirements

The purpose of our entrance process is not to make Bancroft's more academically selective, but to help us make offers to children we feel will benefit most from the education we offer. We receive many more applications than we have places. Some candidates will be placed on a waiting list following the examination and interview and may be offered places if vacancies arise.

The closing date for registrations is Friday 1 December.

Entrance Tests

Children will sit three tests in the January before joining us: an online reasoning test, a short English paper and a short maths test. Sample maths and English papers are available on the 11+ Admissions page of our website.



Scan here for past papers.

Interviews

Children who perform well in the tests are called back for interview; reports from current schools are considered.

The interview is a wonderful opportunity for us to meet your child and get to know them better. Our interviews are one-on-one, and there is no need for any special preparation. We welcome curious and inquisitive children who are eager to engage in conversations and share their thoughts on a wide range of topics, even ones they may not be familiar with.

Please rest assured that our aim is not to catch applicants out; instead, it is a chance for them to get to know us better too. We look forward to a friendly and enriching conversation during the interview process.

Acceptance

Offers will be emailed on Thursday 15 February 2024.

Please be aware that we also maintain a wait list for those who have performed exceptionally well in our tests and interview.

Given the high demand for places and the limited number of available spots, not all applicants can be accommodated immediately. However, please know that being on the wait list is a positive position, and we will keep you informed if spaces become available.

Fee-Paying Places

For candidates who are offered a full fee-paying place, the school fees are payable by direct debit in ten equal instalments starting in August. School fees are reviewed annually. Fees include tuition, lunch, the use of text and library books, stationery and scientific materials and games. Fees charged by external examination boards are added to the fee account in the relevant years.



Please scan the QR code for details of our current fees.



Scan the QR code to hear Mr Dickinson explain the admissions process



“Pupils who have a clear academic focus also appreciate the importance of maintaining a balanced lifestyle”

ISI Inspection, 2022

Assisted Places

Bancroft's is committed to broadening access to the school by offering financial support to eligible parents/guardians with the payment of school fees through the provision of Assisted Places.

These Assisted Places are designed to enable children of high ability from all backgrounds to enjoy a Bancroft's education, when their parents/guardians might not otherwise be able to afford the full school fee.

An Assisted Place is a means-tested award and candidates are required to pass the entrance exam to be eligible. Assisted Places are awarded following a confidential financial assessment of household income which is reassessed every year. Assisted Places continue whilst the pupil maintains their educational potential and abides by the school's rules and policies.

If you would like your child to be considered for an Assisted Place, you should first complete the Initial Assessment of Income Form (IAIF) online. If it is likely that you will meet the criteria for an Assisted Place

from the information supplied on the IAIF, you will be asked to complete the online registration form and pay a reduced registration fee of £20. You will then be asked to submit a detailed Financial Disclosure Form (FDF). This is a comprehensive confidential statement of your income and assets. At this point you will need to supply copies of any additional information, confirmations, and supporting documentation, which may be required.

The assessment of the level of financial assistance is calculated on a graduated scale based on information given on the FDF and supporting documents. Assisted Places will only be awarded once the school's financial assessment criteria has been met; Assisted Places are awarded based on performance in the entrance exam, school reports and an interview.



Scan the QR code to complete the Assessment of Income Form. If you are applying for a full fee paying place, please do not complete this form.





Awards

Bancroft's prizes scholarship and learning highly, but it is our policy only to give fee-remission for pupils who otherwise would not be able to attend the school.

Academic and other achievement is recognised and celebrated by our prestigious Drapers' Awards; these are honorary awards given on an annual basis, apart from our Music Awards, which are awarded every two years.

Drapers' Music Awards

11+ Music Awards are made during pupils' first school year once they have had a chance to settle in and enjoy some of the extensive music co-curriculum we offer. The award is initially held for two years. Every pupil can re-audition for an award.

Pupils can make their application in January by completing a form, copies of which are available in the music office or from music staff. The assessments take place before the end of the Spring Term with the awards starting in the Summer Term. Award holders receive free music lessons on one instrument for two years. For exceptional pupils there might be the possibility of more than one award, particularly where someone is keen to learn a new instrument.

Music Award holders are expected to make a significant contribution to the musical life of Bancroft's and to inspire others by setting the best example to other pupils. The Music Department will give award holders every opportunity to perform at award-holders' concerts and provide enrichment opportunities through masterclasses, composing, music technology and conducting.

Drapers' Academic Awards

In assessing potential Academic Award holders, we look for academic leadership and intellectual curiosity. We try to distinguish the bright from the well drilled, the inspired from the effective and we aim to uncover flair. Considerable time is taken to ensure that the process is fair. Although awards do not carry monetary values, they are a prestigious offer extended to only the best candidates – both internal and external. Academic Award holders are among the most talented pupils here, making a wide and valuable contribution to the life of the school. Academic Awards for pupils joining us in the Thirds (Year 7) are based on performance in our entrance tests and interview. Academic Awards are held for one year at a time and are re-awarded each year during the school.

We do not offer fee remission for pupils who receive Drapers' Academic Awards; fee remission is only applicable to Assisted Places.

Other Drapers' Awards

Once pupils join the school there are opportunities each year to achieve an additional variety of awards in creative subjects, drama, sport, for contributions to the school community as well as for the other key subject areas; these awards are given annually. We aim to recognise excellence and contribution in all areas of school life and for embodying and contributing to our school values; we try to ensure that all our pupils are given opportunities to win recognition for their contributions and achievements during their time at Bancroft's.

Awards will be based on the performance and commitment shown in the relevant area during each school year. As with other awards (with the exception of Music), Sport, Art, Computing and DT, Drama and Community Awards are given every year and can be re-awarded.

Quick Links



Registration
Form



School
Website



Fees

Contact Information

Telephones:

020	8505 4821	School Office
	8505 4826	Bursar's Office
	8506 6760	Head's Office
	8506 6761	Admissions Office
	8506 6751	Prep School

Email:

admissions@bancrofts.org
office@bancrofts.org

Website:

www.bancrofts.org

Address:

611-627 High Road
Woodford Green
Essex
IG8 0RF

N.B: All information contained herein is correct at the time of publication.

If you have any queries or would like any further information on joining Bancroft's School, please contact our Admissions Registrar, Mrs L Hague, on 020 8506 6761 or email admissions@bancrofts.org

Further information may also be found on our website: www.bancrofts.org