



WOODHOUSE GROVE SCHOOL

woodhousegrove.co.uk

Dear Parents

Following a meeting of the Board of Governors on Friday 24 March 2023, I am writing to advise you of the Governors' decision with regards to school fees for the Academic Year 2023-2024.

The Woodhouse Grove Governing Body recognises that fees are a significant investment and that many families make difficult choices to enable their children to experience the very real benefits that an independent education offers. The past year has been particularly difficult for families across the country and the additional expenditure due to the cost-of-living crisis has also impacted on the school's budgets. As was highlighted this time last year, every possible step is being taken to limit the effect of these additional costs. Governors are also very aware of the impact these expenses are having on parental incomes. Accordingly, the headline rate of fee increase has been set well below current inflation levels.

Excluding salaries, fuel costs account for nearly 20% of the school's ancillary expenditure. Controlling and reducing gas and electricity costs, whilst also lowering the school's environmental impact, remains a high priority. The appointment last year of a dedicated Energy & Sustainability Officer together with the installation of the solar panel array on the Sports Hall and Swimming Pool roofs last summer are already proving invaluable in the judicious management and control of energy costs. In addition to which, food inflation remains extremely high, reportedly running at 17.8% in February 2023. Unlike some of our local competitors in the sector, our fees remain virtually all-inclusive and also compare very favourably with other schools in the Methodist Schools' Group (MIST). Additional charges are not made for any meals (breakfast, lunch and tea), before and after school care at Brontë House and Ashdown Lodge, first examination fees, career tests, most textbooks, special learning support and pupil personal accident and off-site activity insurance. Any additional charge is limited to books or materials that are kept by students where they cannot be used again by others (e.g. science workbooks, art folders etc.).

As was highlighted last year, the school continues to work hard to absorb as much of the increase in costs as we can, to avoid passing on the whole burden to parents. This burden-sharing approach, whilst still investing in the school, will continue during the significant uncertainty and rising operating costs affecting all families and organisations.

Fees for the academic year 2023/2024 will be as follows:

Year Group	£ per term
Pre-Nursery / Nursery	£3,640 Term time only £4,675 51-week place
Reception, Year 1 & 2	£3,900
Year 3	£4,300
Year 4 to 6	£4,650
Year 7 to 10	£5,430 day £11,765 boarding
Year 11 to 13	£5,500 day £11,830 boarding

Apperley Bridge, West Yorkshire, BD10 0NR
enquiries@woodhousegrove.co.uk

I am Grovian.



Woodhouse Grove School is part of the Methodist Independent Schools Trust.
Registered Office: 66 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, WC2A 3LH.
Charity No. 1142794. Company No. 7649422.



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Details of pro-rata Nursery fees for part-time attendance are available on application to the Finance Manager.

A non-refundable deposit of £350 is due on acceptance of a place and an additional refundable deposit of £4,500 is due from overseas boarders.

As the Headmaster recorded in his End of Term letter, Woodhouse Grove's overarching aim is to provide an excellent all-round education with a strong academic core to allow every child to achieve their own personal best. The school is ambitious for all its young people; all of whom are encouraged and challenged to make the very most of their talents and the huge opportunities available. Developing each child's capabilities and helping them towards going on to lead happy and fulfilled lives is a key measure of our success. As parents, I am sure you will agree, the breadth of sporting, performing arts opportunities, trips and co-curricular activities that Woodhouse Grove offers is second to none.

The School is striving to be the best it can be, including offering its young people the best facilities, and thanks to the financial support of MIST, work has now started on the construction of a new Sixth Form facility. In addition to which, the installation of a cover over the existing Bolt Netball / Tennis Courts, adjacent to the Grainge 3G pitch, is now in the detailed design phase with work due to start in early July.

In reaching the decision to increase fees, Governors were mindful of our continuing commitment to ensure that we are able to provide all the benefits of an independent education whilst also very much aware of the increasing financial cost that is required to meet these expectations. In these challenging economic times, we thank you for the trust you place in the school. As always, we will continue to rigorously scrutinise expenditure and manage costs to ensure we achieve the best value for money and only apply the lowest fee increases required to sustain the outstanding quality of a Woodhouse Grove education.

Finally, on behalf of the Staff and Governors, I would again like to thank you for your unstinting loyalty and support.

If you have any concerns, or wish to discuss this letter further, please feel free to contact the Headmaster or myself.

Yours sincerely

Alan Wintersgill BEM, FCA
Chair of Governors

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