



Hurst

Hurst Foundation

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Engage: Bursaries that transform lives



‘Bursaries form a vital element of the character of the school, providing life-changing educational experiences to dozens of children from a diverse range of backgrounds.’

Hello + Welcome



Work Hard, Do Good and Engage.

This simple mantra is at the heart of everything that we do at Hurst. It also underpins the vital work that the Foundation Office undertakes to help provide a Hurst education to as many children as possible through our engagement with the wider community of OJs and parents.

Hurst was founded in 1849 by Nathaniel Woodard, motivated by the belief that all pupils should be offered the opportunity to learn, flourish and achieve great things in their lives. Our charitable purpose remains the same today: we aim to give every child the best possible education, regardless of their background or financial means.

Bursaries therefore form a vital element of the character of the school, providing life-changing educational experiences to dozens of children from a diverse range of backgrounds. We rely on the generosity of the Hurst community to fund our bursarial provision and widen access to all. A significant number of OJs, parents and friends of Hurst have already joined us in our mission by committing their support for our programme. I am asking that you help us in whatever way you are able to contribute.

As someone who benefited hugely from financial support in my own education, I can assure you that I will be working hard to secure funding for future generations of Hurst pupils. Please help us to do even more good for the community by engaging with our fundraising campaign. In doing so you will change lives, for good and forever.

Best wishes,

Dominic Mott
Head of College



Engage with Hurst and transform lives

Our new bursary campaign is central to Hurst's educational vision, demonstrating our long-term commitment to giving young people a chance to change lives, to lead and to be change makers.

There has never been a more important time than now to provide life-changing opportunities for children at Hurst. Recent changes to the way fees and independent schools are taxed means that, for many, a Hurst education is not financially viable. Therefore, to ensure that Hurst provides as much access as possible to a diverse range of pupils, we need to be able to provide financial support that will change lives.

We are looking to raise £8.2 million for the 1849 Bursary Fund. Our ambition is to provide long-term support for twenty full bursary pupils at Hurst who will be known as Foundationers.

“There has never been a more important time than now to provide life-changing opportunities for children at Hurst.”



Bursary story: Ziggy (Crescent - 2025)

When I first visited Hurst, I was blown away by the dance, arts, science, and maths departments, but it all felt entirely out of reach until we found out about the bursary award. When I found out I had received the bursary, I was so excited and I started planning my entire future after that. Now, I am proud to be leaving as Head Boy of the College.

I have had the opportunity to stage my own dance show, which was an incredible experience, as well as performing in a number of dance and drama productions. As an all-rounder, Hurst has given me a great breadth of academic opportunities but, in particular, I have found a passion for Architecture, which I hope to study at University, something that has only been introduced to me during my time at Hurst.

Hurst has changed my life and given me opportunities with my education that I know wouldn't have been possible without the financial help that I received. I feel so enriched by my time at Hurst.

Bursary story: William (Red Cross - 2005)

I was fortunate to attend Hurst on a bursary and scholarship, which gave me access to incredible opportunities. I participated in the Choir, volunteered through Hurst's community service scheme, and represented Sussex in Lawn Bowls. I achieved AAA at A-Level, served as Cross Country Captain for three academic years and was awarded the 'Most Contributing Student Award' (2002), the 'Computing Prize' (2003 and 2004), and the 'Endeavour Award' (2005).


Hurst provided the foundation for me to become the first in my immediate family to attend university. I earned a BSc and MSc from the University of Southampton, leading to roles at JP Morgan Chase and Co. on a graduate scheme as a Project Manager for Investment Bank Technology, and later as a Graduate Recruiter for Finance across Europe.

After retiring on health grounds, I completed a PhD at the University of Southampton where I am now an Associate Professor of Sustainable Careers and Human Resource Management. I hope to achieve full Professor status in 2027/2028. In 2024, I was honoured to be listed on the Shaw Trust Disability Power 100 as one of the UK's most influential disabled people.

The financial support that I received while at Hurst provided me with a valuable foundation to achieve such things. I encourage others (if you can) to support students who might otherwise miss out on the transformative experiences that Hurst can provide. Together, we can empower more young people to thrive and go on to lead sustainable careers.



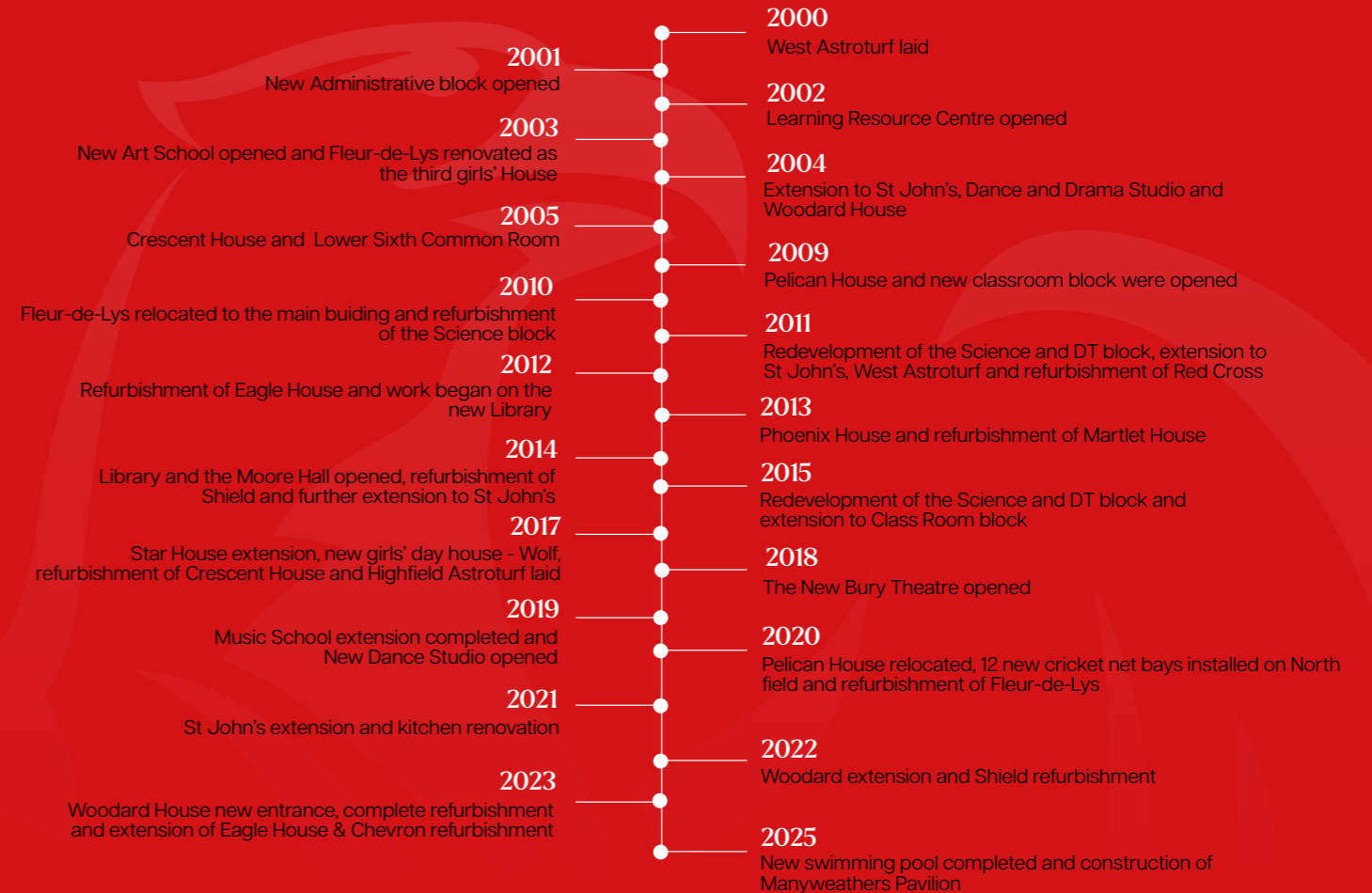
A history of transforming lives



A vertical timeline on the left side of the page, featuring a central vertical line with white circular markers at each year. The text for each year is positioned to the left and right of this line.

1849	Foundation of St John's College in Shoreham
1850-53	Construction started on main school buildings
1902	The first swimming pool was built
1930	The Chapel tower was dedicated
1956	Construction of Eagle House and the Theatre
1960	Martlet House was completed
1980	Opening of the Music School
1982	The Link Building was built and Red Cross Modernised
1987	Construction of the Sports Hall
1991	Chevron became Hurst's first Day House
1993	The first girls joined the Junior School
1997	Computer Centre and Shield renovated as the second girls' House
1999	Upper Sixth Girls moved to St John's House

1850	Moved to Mansion House in the village of Hurstpierpoint
1865	The main part of the Chapel was finished
1921	The Memorial Cricket Pavilion was built
1948	Junior School expanded into its present buildings
1959	The classroom block was opened
1966	The all-weather hockey pitch on the South Field was opened
1981	The Swimming Pool was covered and heated
1984-85	Modernisation of the extension of the Science block
1988	The Craft, Design and Technology Centre was created
1992	St John's House opened
1995	The first girls joined the Senior School following a major refurbishment of Martlet House
1998	Red Cross renovated and major development of the Junior School



A vertical timeline on the right side of the page, featuring a central vertical line with white circular markers at each year. The text for each year is positioned to the left and right of this line.

2000	West Astroturf laid
2001	New Administrative block opened
2002	Learning Resource Centre opened
2003	New Art School opened and Fleur-de-Lys renovated as the third girls' House
2004	Extension to St John's, Dance and Drama Studio and Woodard House
2005	Crescent House and Lower Sixth Common Room
2010	Fleur-de-Lys relocated to the main building and refurbishment of the Science block
2012	Refurbishment of Eagle House and work began on the new Library
2014	Library and the Moore Hall opened, refurbishment of Shield and further extension to St John's
2017	Star House extension, new girls' day house - Wolf, refurbishment of Crescent House and Highfield Astroturf laid
2019	Music School extension completed and New Dance Studio opened
2021	St John's extension and kitchen renovation
2023	Woodard House new entrance, complete refurbishment and extension of Eagle House & Chevron refurbishment

2000	West Astroturf laid
2002	Learning Resource Centre opened
2004	Extension to St John's, Dance and Drama Studio and Woodard House
2009	Pelican House and new classroom block were opened
2011	Redevelopment of the Science and DT block, extension to St John's, West Astroturf and refurbishment of Red Cross
2013	Phoenix House and refurbishment of Martlet House
2015	Redevelopment of the Science and DT block and extension to Class Room block
2018	The New Bury Theatre opened
2020	Pelican House relocated, 12 new cricket net bays installed on North field and refurbishment of Fleur-de-Lys
2022	Woodard extension and Shield refurbishment
2025	New swimming pool completed and construction of Manyweathers Pavilion



Bursary story: Frazer (Star – 2020)

Hurst really changed the trajectory of my life. I hadn't planned on going to college, let alone University and now I am studying Accounting & Finance at Bath University and have secured a job with a finance company in London to start after I graduate. That was never on the cards for me before Hurst and it was only made possible with the bursary award.

When I joined Hurst, academically I was not where I needed to be. The teachers took the time to bring me up to speed, often with 1-1 tuition. I was made to feel so welcome and supported. Hurst felt like a family to me. I enjoyed every second of my time at Hurst and made life long friends.

One of my proudest achievements was being invited on the Hurst rugby tour to South Africa. I had the opportunity of staying with a host family, experiencing a different culture and playing against some of the best school boy teams globally. None of this would have been possible without the opportunities and support I was given at Hurst.

Bursary story: Holly (Fleur – 2017)

I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity I had to attend Hurst, which was only possible with the support of the bursary award. I would not have had the opportunity to move from drama school and pursue my change in career aspirations to medicine. Hurst was the perfect environment to make that possible. The College enabled me to study the essential subjects required for entry into medical school while also allowing me to continue my passion for drama at A-level.

The support I received from my teachers was invaluable. I initially found some areas challenging, but the teachers at Hurst went above and beyond to help. They provided extra tuition sessions and tailored support, ensuring I could build the necessary academic foundation. Beyond academics, Hurst also helped prepare me for my medical school interviews and assisted with my applications, which ultimately helped me secure a place to study medicine at the University of Leicester.

Now, as a Foundation Year 2 doctor working in the UK, I can truly appreciate how my time at Hurst helped shape my journey.



Why we need bursaries

Although we have always been passionate about widening access to Hurst, the demand for bursaries outweighs the financial support that we can currently offer.

We want to seek out and provide extensive financial support for disadvantaged children who would otherwise be unable to access a Hurst education.

We recognise that many of these children will need additional care, support and incidental funding to ensure that they thrive at Hurst. And in thriving, Hurst Bursary pupils will inspire our whole community.

What bursaries do

- Encourage children with talent, determination and commitment
- Raise the overall standard of education
- Promote inclusion & diversity
- Increase social mobility
- Create future ambassadors
- Foster belonging
- Enhance our community



Support our campaign



Regular giving

Regular giving to our campaign makes a huge impact. For example, if 100 people donated £25 a month, we could provide a 100% bursary each year for a deserving child.



Sponsor a child

Full bursaries are offered to those who are in genuine need and donors can ask to sponsor a child with specific interests or from a particular background.



Donate online

Any donation, big or small, will make a significant difference in helping to provide a Hurst education for a bursary pupil.



Legacy gift

Leaving a gift in your will is one of the most powerful and lasting gifts you can give. Legacy donations also have tax advantages as they are free of Inheritance Tax.

Tax efficient giving

If you are a UK tax payer, giving to the Hurst Bursary fund, Gift Aid enables us to increase the value of your gift by up to 25% at no additional cost to you. To make a Gift Aid donation you must pay as much income tax and/or capital gains tax as the amount reclaimed by Hurst. This is currently 25 pence for every pound donated. Higher rate tax payers who make a donation through Gift Aid may claim extra relief by claiming the difference between the higher rate of tax (40% and/or 45%) and the basic 20% rate of tax on the total gross value of the donation.

Donor	Gift	Gift Aid Added	Total Value of Donation	Taxpayer Reclaim	Cost to Donor
45% Tax Payer	£180,000	£45,000.00	£225,000.00	£56,250.00	£123,750.00
	£72,000	£18,000.00	£90,000.00	£22,500.00	£49,500.00
	£36,000	£9,000.00	£45,000.00	£11,250.00	£24,750.00
40% Tax Payer	£12,000	£3,000.00	£15,000.00	£3,000.00	£9,000.00
	£6,000	£1,500.00	£7,500.00	£1,500.00	£4,500.00
	£1,849	£462.25	£2,311.25	£462.25	£1,386.75



The Hurst Foundation is made up of Old Hurst Johnians, current and former parents, former staff members and friends of the Hurst community. The Foundation was created to encourage fellowship and develop the Hurst community. There are a number of sub-groups of the Foundation, centred on worldwide regions, sport and profession. More Details can be found on the Foundation website.



Hurst Worldwide was created in 2025 to reconnect alumni across the globe and provide giving opportunities to Hurst. These groups will meet on a regular basis, organising dinners and fundraising events. We currently have groups running in the USA, Australia, New Zealand, Southeast Asia, the Middle East and India.



Hurst@Uni was created in 2025 to encourage greater links between recent leavers, to provide onward support, and keep recent alumni connected to Hurst. Hurst@Uni events are organised in liaison with the Head of Sixth Form. They provide an important connection with the school and its current pupils. Hurst undergraduates are encouraged to come back to the school to speak to sixth formers, giving insights into the courses they are reading.

Giving Societies

Our most generous donors, and those who leave a legacy gift to Hurst in their will, automatically join either the St. John's Society or the 1849 Society.

The St John's Society

Donors who give £1849 or more annually (£155 a month for 7 years).

Members will receive:

- An annual newsletter
- A bespoke St John's handmade lapel pin
- An annual dinner hosted by the Head of College
- A framed membership certificate



The 1849 Society

Benefactors who leave a legacy gift in their will.

Members will receive:

- An annual newsletter
- A bespoke 1849 Society handmade label pin
- An annual lunch to consult on the College's strategic plans
- An annual dinner hosted by the Head of College

“I encourage others to support those students who might otherwise miss out on the transformative experiences that Hurst can provide. Together, we can empower more young people to thrive.”

William (Red Cross – 2005)



A welcome from the Hurst Foundation Team

The Hurst Foundation arranges events, reunions and celebrations between Foundation members in the UK and around the world. Working closely with current pupils, we look to find meaningful connections that will help develop the leaders of tomorrow.

The Foundation also promotes our Engage fundraising campaign to provide life-changing bursaries for children at the school.

Whether you are a former pupil, current or former parent, have taught or still teach at the school, or simply have a connection with Hurst, we are delighted to welcome you to our Foundation community and hope to welcome you to our events in the future. If you would like to contact us about our events or how you can get more involved, please email foundation@hppc.co.uk

If you would like to discuss donating to our campaign, please contact the Director of Foundation, Gareth Doodles, via gareth.doodles@hppc.co.uk

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