

# UCS BURSARIES

Accessing a unique education  
through fee assistance.





UCS Hampstead is a leading London day school that combines the highest standards of academic achievement and pastoral care with outstanding facilities for an all-round education with a distinctive liberal ethos.

From its beginning in 1830 UCS has had at its core a commitment to access, with a pledge that religion should be no bar to entry. In the 21st century, we add a further commitment – that the education we provide will not be restricted solely to those who can afford it. UCS consistently ranks as one of the top independent schools in London for the number of full bursaries offered. Last year, around 60 pupils received bursaries with the vast majority receiving 100% fee reduction. This equated to £1.2 million of bursary support. This fee assistance is available to pupils who join at 11+ and 16+ and is entirely means-tested.

*M J Beard, Headmaster*



# Eligibility And Applications

Fee assistance at UCS is entirely means-tested and the Foundation is able to offer full fee remission. Last year, sixty pupils received fee remission and 90% of these received a 100% reduction in fees. Fee assistance is assessed by income bands available to household incomes of up to £100,000. Each application is considered on an individual basis and includes allowances for housing costs (annual rent or mortgage), siblings and capital assets to determine the fee assistance percentage.

Fee assistance is only offered to candidates who have satisfied our entrance requirements – both in academic examination and at interview. The bursary fund also provides assistance in the payment of school trips. Pupils who receive a 100% bursary are entitled to attend academic trips free of charge and receive a significant reduction (greater than 50%) towards the cost of other trips.

Parents who wish to be considered for fee assistance should indicate this on the online Admissions Registration Form available at [ucs.org.uk/admissions](https://ucs.org.uk/admissions)

For bursary applications, a Financial Disclosure Form will then be provided to collect information about the family's financial circumstances. These details will be treated in complete confidence and will not influence the admissions procedures.





# Comprehensive Support

UCS is renowned for the quality of its pastoral care which helps to develop well rounded, curious and confident pupils. Outstanding pastoral care is founded upon close, honest and demanding relationships between teachers and pupils. Continuity of care is crucial and a team of Form Tutors, Year Heads, Housemasters (known at UCS as Deme Wardens) and Heads of Section manage the academic and pastoral development of each pupil. They ensure that every pupil is fulfilling their academic potential and feels well supported throughout their time at the Senior School.

An added layer of support is available to pupils who receive a bursary. This support is led by our Bursary Coordinator who oversees the development and progress of each bursary pupil from the moment they accept their offer of a place.



**Oliver Bienias**  
Bursary Coordinator

*"In 2021, around 20% of pupils who joined Years 7 and 12 received fee assistance. I am responsible for helping these pupils and their families settle in to UCS as quickly as possible and become an integral part of our community. This support is bespoke, is available from the moment we receive an application and depends very much on the needs of each pupil. If you would like to discuss any aspect of a bursary or UCS in general, please do not hesitate to contact me."*



# Former Bursary Pupils



**Kaylem Andrews** attended UCS from 2014–2019 and is currently working at a start-up company on a gap year before starting at university next summer.

*“When I came to UCS I was a quiet, unconfident boy. I left as a young man who had been equipped with the courage, know-how and drive to find his place in the world. Throughout my time at UCS, my teachers gave me constant guidance and helped me to move forward – both with my studies and with extra-curricular activities. Be it spending time with me after school to improve a history essay, or screaming at me to get lower to make a tackle in rugby matches, my teachers at UCS went above and beyond to ensure*

*all of us became the best possible version of ourselves. The one-to-one attention and care I received from both my form and subject teachers allowed me to achieve things that I would never have thought possible – who knew that one of the shortest people in Sixth Form would end up on the basketball team?*

*I strongly believe that my experiences and the learning values instilled in me at UCS have allowed me to flourish. I am now working at a start-up and the community work we carried out on Friday afternoons in the Sixth Form helped to prepare me for my professional life.*

*Thank you UCS. My life wouldn't be the same without the stellar education and cultural experiences that you gifted me.”*

**Jovana Pepic** attended UCS from 2016–18 and is currently reading Chemistry at the University of Oxford.

*“Moving from an all-girls state school to an independent school initially seemed a little daunting but everyone was so friendly, which made settling in easy. At UCS, the class sizes were a lot smaller than in my last school, which meant teachers were a lot more attentive to our individual needs. I always felt I could ask anything and help was always readily available. Physics was initially difficult but I was given lots of help and eventually I got an A\*.*

*Applying to Oxford was something I had always wanted to do but I don't think I would have had the same level of support at my previous school. That's another thing that really sets UCS apart. All the preparation sessions I had with the Head of Chemistry and the Headmaster were so helpful – they gave me a taste of what the interviews would be like and put me in an excellent position for the real thing.*

*I also benefitted from the numerous science clubs and the Physics trip to Geneva which gave me an insight into how what we studied in class is applied in the real world. I am very grateful for the opportunity I was given at UCS. It is truly an exceptional school, and I couldn't have picked a better place to spend my Sixth Form years.”*



## Former Bursary Pupils



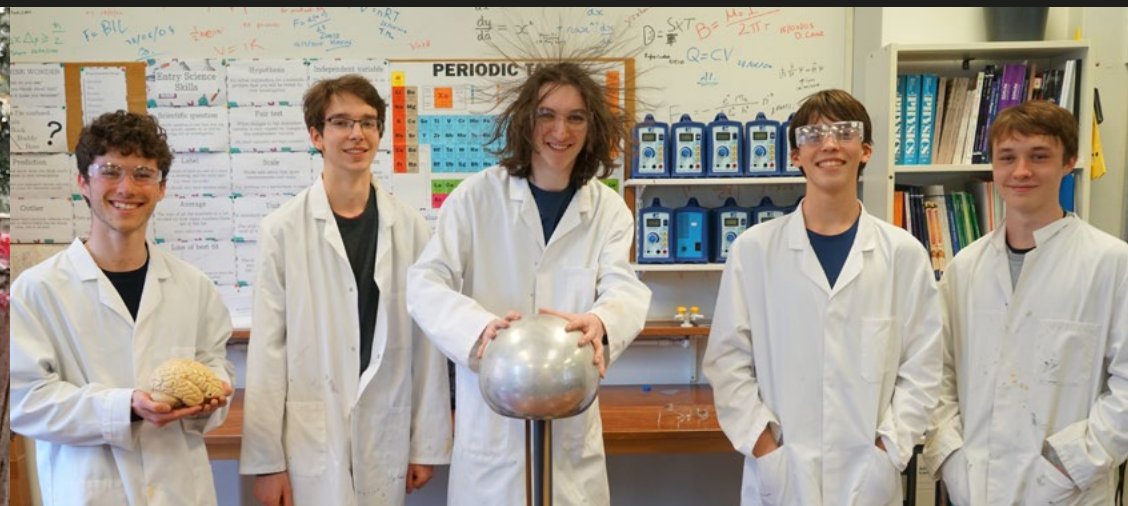
**Daevasyaa Murralesharan** attended UCS from 2018-2020 and is currently reading Philosophy at the London School of Economics.

*"I was initially worried about moving to UCS for Sixth Form because I didn't know anyone there. However, the school arranged multiple social events and taster days which meant it was easy to make new friends, find out about new subjects, and get a feel for the school. Following the taster lessons I switched one of my A-Level choices to Philosophy. I loved Philosophy so much that I am now studying it at university!"*

*At UCS the support I received was amazing. Applying to university and going through the*

*UCAS process was daunting. However, I was given great advice regarding what to study, which universities to apply for, and careers. The process was very smooth, pressure-free, I was accepted onto all the courses I applied for and I am now at my first choice university.*

*My teachers at UCS showed me that I could do things I wouldn't have thought I was capable of doing. I became a more confident individual. I very much appreciated how much time my Form Tutor and Deme Warden devoted time to discussing school life and allowing us all to reflect and assess our own performance. I strongly believe this time led to real self-improvement on an academic and personal level and I am so happy I chose to go to UCS."*



**Geno Racklin Asher** (centre in picture) attended UCS from 2013-2020 and is currently reading Mathematics at the University of Cambridge.

*"Moving from my state primary to UCS was a huge change. I was worried but I had absolutely nothing to fear. The atmosphere at UCS is so warm and friendly. Never before (and, I suspect, never again) have I seen so many teachers who so clearly enjoy sharing their love for a subject with their pupils. Teachers were always willing to explore questions beyond the limits of the syllabus and this made lessons enriching and enjoyable."*

*When I was in Year 8 I joined robotics club. We competed in competitions and after winning several we competed in the international competition held in Kentucky. As a bursary pupil, the school fully supported me with the costs of the trip. I was always impressed by how much I was supported with competitions. The Head of Physics recommended one to me and my experiment was subsequently performed on board the International Space Station.*

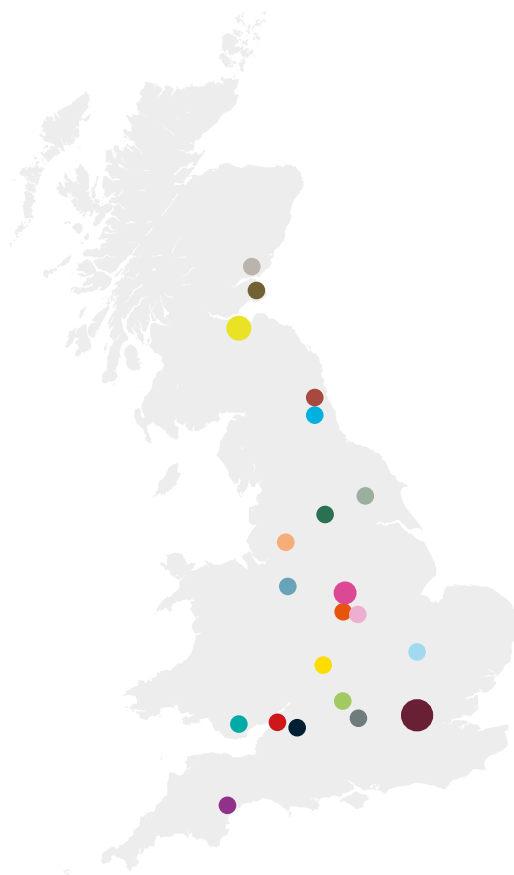
*I am immensely grateful to UCS for the quality of education and unbounded support I received throughout my time at the Senior School. The welcoming, inclusive ethos was evident from day one and I will not forget the teachers whose love for education radiated throughout the school."*

# Bursary Recipients At UCS – Where are they now?

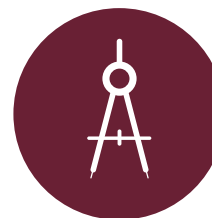
## Universities

● BATH	4
● BRISTOL	6
○ MCGILL (CANADA)	1
● CAMBRIDGE	3
● CARDIFF	1
● DUNDEE	1
● DURHAM	2
● EDINBURGH	6
● EXETER	1
○ HARVARD (USA)	1
● HERIOT-WATT	1
● IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON	6
● KINGS COLLEGE LONDON	4
● KEELE	1
● LEEDS	4
● LEICESTER	1
● LOUGHBOROUGH	1
● LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS	4
● MANCHESTER	4
● NEWCASTLE	1
● NOTTINGHAM	1
● NOTTINGHAM TRENT	1
● OXFORD	6
● QUEEN MARY	7
● READING	1
● ROYAL HOLLOWAY	1
● ST GEORGE'S	1
● ST ANDREW'S	1
● UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON	3
● WARWICK	6
● WEST LONDON	1
● WESTMINSTER	1
● YORK	1

Every year, UCS pupils move on to a variety of top universities both in the UK and abroad. Over the last six years, bursary pupils have left UCS to take up places at the following universities:



Most popular degree courses for bursary pupils leaving UCS in the last six years.



Engineering (7)



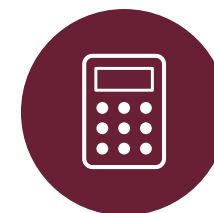
Medicine (5)



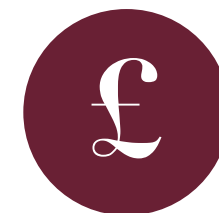
English (8)



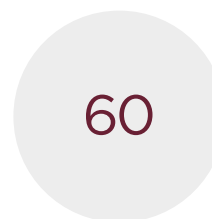
History (5)



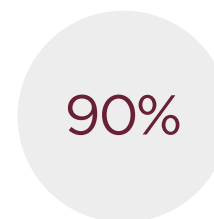
Maths (9)



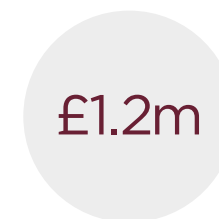
Economics (9)



pupils on  
means-tested  
bursaries



of bursary  
students receive a  
100% reduction



spent by UCS  
on bursaries  
annually





For further details regarding means-tested bursaries and the application process, please see [ucs.org.uk/admissions](https://ucs.org.uk/admissions)



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