



*Incorporating
King James's
Grammar School
Founded 1616*

King James's School

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Headteacher
Deputy Head
Deputy Head
Acting Deputy Head
Chair of Governors

Mr C A Sugden
Dr C A Walton
Mr I W Simpson
Mr S K Giles
Mr D B James

July 20, 2011

To all parents/guardians of Year 13 students

Dear Parent/Guardian

As you may be aware the Government has announced major changes in funding for post-16 students as from September 2011. Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) will be continue to be paid up to July 2012 for some, but not all, of those students who have been receiving payments for the last year (or in some cases two). The details are as follows:

- Those students who first received EMA in 2010/2011 and are on the maximum £30 rate will continue to be paid in 2011/12, but at the reduced rate of £20 per week.
- Those students who first received EMA in 2009/2010 and are now going into their third year of Sixth Form (ie Intermediate students who went onto AS, then A2, or a student resitting either Year 12 or Year 13) will continue to receive the same level of payments as they are currently getting.
- Students who fall into either of the above categories do not have to reapply; they will receive a new contract in the summer. They should keep it safe and bring it into school at the start of the new term.
- For those students who have been getting either £10 or £20 for the past year funding will cease at the end of the summer term. These students will be officially notified during July/August.
- For any students in care, leaving care, on income support, or receiving both Employment Support Allowance and Disability Living Allowance, weekly EMA payments will be replaced with a bursary of £1200 a year from September.

From September 2011 a new 16-19 Bursary Fund will operate to support students facing financial hardship. King James's has been allocated limited funds from the Department for Education, to be targeted at those facing greatest need. The criteria for application will be as follows:



- Young people in care, care leavers, young people receiving income support in their own right and disabled young people receiving both Employment Support Allowance and Disability Living Allowance. This group will be eligible for a bursary of £1200 a year.
- Those students receiving Free School Meals (FSM). Please see the enclosed notice for information on eligibility for FSM and how to apply. If you believe your son/daughter may be eligible but has not up to now been receiving FSM, or your financial circumstances have recently changed, we would strongly advise you to apply as soon as possible to ensure that, if awarded, they are able to access FSM from the start of the new school year in September. Once awarded FSM your son/daughter will also then be eligible for support from the 16-19 Bursary Fund.

If you have any queries please contact Ms Oestreicher in September by email at oestreicher@king-james.n-yorks.sch.uk or through the Sixth Form office on 01423 798704.

Yours sincerely

Richard Wood
Director of Sixth Form



Who is eligible for free school meals (FSM)?

From 1st April 2011, parent(s) must be in receipt of any one of the benefits below:

- Income support
- Income-based jobseeker's allowance
- Income-related employment and support allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of state pension credit
- Child Tax credit, provided they are not getting Work Tax credit and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) that does not exceed £16,040

How can I apply?

You can apply quickly and simply by visiting:

northyorks.gov.uk/educationandlearning/schoolsandcolleges/freeschoolmeals

You only need to provide your name, date of birth and national insurance number along with details of your child.

Alternatively, telephone: **01609 533405**

How can I be sure my child won't be treated differently in the dining hall?

Free meal accounts are automatically credited to cashless catering daily (£2.10 @ June 2011) so no other pupils will know. You can add to this amount should you wish. Eligible students in the 6th Form are dealt with discretely.

KING JAMES'S SCHOOL, KNARESBOROUGH **THE SCHOOL FUND**

Registered Charity: 515460

KING JAMES'S X-FACTOR!

What is The School Fund?

The School Fund is a registered charity for the improvement of our education and welfare provision. Money raised reaches the bits not fully funded by the Department for Education and helps give us the added X-Factor!

What sort of things does it provide?

- Achievement rewards
- Pupil incentives
- Financial assistance
- Better resources

How can I help?

We will write each year inviting you to make a donation to help make King James's that bit more special. Your donations really count and are appreciated by everyone.

