PASS THE PARCEL...
Take it, feel it, and pass it on. Not for me, not for you, but for someone, somewhere, one day. Pass it on, boys. That’s the game I want you to learn. Pass it on.

Alan Bennett
The History Boys, 2004
KEEPING FAITH WITH OUR FOUNDING PRINCIPLES

TOWARDS A BURSARY ENDOWMENT FUND

The Manchester Grammar School was founded in 1515 by Hugh Oldham, Bishop of Exeter, to provide an education of the highest quality for those qualified by their intelligence and potential, regardless of parental income and background.

We have been proud to try to remain true to this objective since the School’s foundation. All places at the school were free until the late nineteenth century, and in the twentieth century successive governments helped to preserve access with the Direct Grant Scheme and the Assisted Places Scheme.

The Foundation Bursary Appeal was launched in 1998 as the state funded Assisted Places Scheme was withdrawn. Our objective was to establish a protected capital fund which would produce income in perpetuity to subsidise the fees of suitably able boys from families of modest means. By the end of our quincentenary year in 2015, the total value of the Bursary Fund stood at £23 million.

However, despite our success over a 17-year period, the resources of the Bursary Fund are not sufficient to operate as a true endowment fund to provide income in perpetuity for one-sixth of our pupils. Currently, a proportion of our on-going fundraising goes to supplement the annual grant from the MGS Trust – the remainder goes to increase the Trust’s capital resources. With this in mind, the School has pledged that the goal of establishing a true Bursary Fund endowment must be our next step.

We believe that a fund of £50 million would be able to generate investment income in perpetuity to provide means-tested bursaries for our current number of bursaries. Our ultimate aim is to establish a needs-blind admissions policy, which would enable a third of our pupils to access means-tested Bursary support, as in the days of the Direct Grant Scheme.

To achieve this, we would require a total fund of £100 million. If we are to reach this target a significant proportion of this amount will come from Old Mancunians supporting the School in their wills.
Buildings

Hugh Oldham’s original endowment in the early sixteenth century provided enough money for the school as it grew to be rebuilt more than once on the Long Millgate site.

In the 1920s the governors managed the relocation to Fallowfield, where the new school opened in 1931 following a fundraising appeal to the Old Mancunian community. Improvements and additions to the buildings since then have been dependent on the careful management of income and the generosity of donors. Government grants have not been available to help us to improve our facilities. Our priorities in setting the fees have been to try to ensure that the widest range of families has access to MGS, and that the cost of improvements does not fall unfairly on a few particular year-groups of parents.

Legacy gifts to the school which we are able to use for the development of buildings and facilities provide an enormous boost to our programme of fundraising campaigns and enable us to maintain an appropriate level of school fee.
RECOGNITION

BENEFACTORS
All donors of £2,000 or more are recognised as benefactors of MGS and listed in our Benefactors’ Book unless anonymity is requested.

MAJOR DONORS
Donors of £50,000 or more additionally have the opportunity to have their name inscribed on the stone boards in the Quad.

BENEFACTORS’ LUNCH
We invite to our annual Benefactors’ Lunch all who tell us of their intention to leave a legacy gift to MGS, as well as all those whose lifetime gifts qualify them as Benefactors.

...all of our benefactors are recognised...
Edward Langworthy, a wealthy cotton businessman, earned the title of 'our second founder' following his contribution of £10,000 to the School in 1870 and a further £10,000 on his death in 1874.

It is therefore fitting that we use his name to recognise those Old Mancunians and Friends who wish to support MGS by leaving a gift to the School in their will.
... to the significant number of OMs and friends who are already members of the Langworthy Society. Members of the Society have indicated to the Development Office that they intend supporting the School in their will. Some of our supporters wish to remain anonymous.

We are enormously grateful...

... to the significant number of OMs and friends who are already members of the Langworthy Society. Members of the Society have indicated to the Development Office that they intend supporting the School in their will. Some of our supporters wish to remain anonymous.

Simon Burch
Hedley Calderbank
Simon Caldwell
Ronald Carr
Robert Coffey
Alan Colman
Nigel Davenport
Gordon Davies
Nicholas Denyer
Cyril Doughty
William Downing
Ian Elliott
Peter Failows
Grahame Fish

Ian Fletcher
Neville Ford
Charles Forster
David Franks
Martin Gardner
Peter Gardner
Kevin Geary
John Gee
Lionel Glassey
David Goldberg
Peter Gordon
Ian Graymore
Barry Green
Brian Green
David Gregory
Robin Griffin
Roger Hanna
Ralph Harrison
David Hartley
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Frank Haslam
Gordon Heys
Allan Hill
Anthony Hodges
John Hodson
Michael Holland
David Holloway
Douglas Holt
Kenneth Holt
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David Jennings
John Johnson
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Alan Jones
Steven Joseph
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Adil Khan
Anthony Lemon
Iain Lyttelton

Duncan MacAskill
Frank Midgley
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Neil Wild
David Wilkinson
Ian Wiseman
Russell Withington
Ken Woods
Brian Woolley

Jon Aisbit
Malcolm Allan
Robert Allen
Rakesh & Rita Anand
Frank Andrew
Peter Ashurst
Peter Batterley
Marcus Bokkerink
Martin Boulton
Keith Bromley
John Buchanan
Andrew Buckley
WHY I’M SUPPORTING MGS WITH A LEGACY GIFT

The same energy, creativity, irreverence and curiosity fizzed down the green-tiled corridors like an energising electrical charge.

When new entrants to the school make their first walk down the entrance drive, for many it will be the start of a life-changing experience. I have never had the slightest doubt that my life would have taken a very different course had I not been fortunate enough to gain a scholarship to the school. Despite the huge achievements of the Bursary Fund, it fills me with a mixture of anger and sorrow that each year a number of boys are still not able to take up the places they have been awarded due to lack of funding. This represents exclusion of a particularly acute and also far-reaching form.

Leaving a legacy to MGS was an easy decision to make. Here is an institution whose values are enduring, and where money raised is used transparently with minimal administrative expenses. Most of all giving to MGS will make a real difference to someone’s life.

All of us who have passed through MGS have benefited from the legacies of the generous and visionary men and women who founded the school. It is now our turn to leave our legacy.

I obtained a State Scholarship, thanks to the focused teaching at MGS. It made attendance at the University of Bristol possible. As I prepared to leave MGS, Dr James asked to see me. He offered to help me should I have a problem. I did and he was particularly helpful in resolving it. I therefore appreciate the opportunity to not only acknowledge the academic help but also the pastoral care I received at MGS. It helped me have a successful career in Chemistry and subsequently in Medicine.

BRIAN WOOLLEY OM 65-72

It was to be nearly thirty years after leaving school before I again made the long walk down the entrance drive from Old Hall Lane, rekindling distant memory echoes of excitement, anticipation and even trepidation.

I was initially surprised how little had changed to the structure of the school although was to later learn how many twenty-first century facilities had been neatly implanted into a 1930s husk. More importantly the atmosphere and spirit of the school were immediately recognisable and unchanged.

NEVILLE FORD OM 46-52

I entered MGS at an unusual time. It was 1946 and WWII had ended. The Butler Act had passed and Dr. Eric James was into his second year as High Master.

I had benefitted from the Butler Act. I was a slum kid in Chorlton-on-Medlock, who had been coached by ‘Ma’ Miller, the Headmistress of St. Chrysostom’s School. My mother and stepfather gave consent, provided my attendance at MGS didn’t entail an expense for them.

At the time, the significance of being at MGS wasn’t evident to me. I was eleven years old and just went with the flow. However, following my passing of the School Certificate Exam at fifteen, my stepfather decided that I had had enough of ‘book learning’. It was time for me to get a job.

My form-master (Haffy Field of S4L) visited my parents to remind them that when I had entered MGS, they had signed that would keep me in school until the end of the academic year in which I was 16. He further convinced them to give me another year and I would get to a university.

...leaving a legacy was an easy decision to make...
IN PRAISE OF THE BURSARY

LEWIS BERTENSHAW OM 04-11

It’s hard to imagine where I would be without the MGS bursary scheme, but I’ve no doubt I’m in a much better place now because of it.

At the age of 10, the idea of attending a leading school like MGS had never crossed my mind, or my parents’ minds. In fact, we had a year or so earlier moved out of a perfectly good house to fall within the catchment area of one of Tameside’s best schools. The prospect presented itself, however, when a primary school teacher of mine suggested that I was probably clever enough to pass the exam.

I don’t remember too much from those days, but I do remember visiting the school and realising that it was a special place, something that I had to go for. At a young age – and under no pressure from my parents - going to a far away school and leaving behind every friend that I had somehow wasn’t a difficult decision at all. Yet making what seemed like a giant leap at the time would not have been even a remote possibility without the existence of the bursary scheme.

In short, I enjoyed school a great deal. I grew immensely as an individual and went on to achieve outstanding results at GCSE and A-Level. Perhaps most importantly, I wasn’t an example student in that I had certain behavioural issues, albeit rather silly in nature, but the way in which I was unconditionally treated like an adult despite – on occasion – behaving like a small child was essential in keeping me on the right path.

Throughout all my school days, I felt privileged and thankful for the opportunity that the bursary scheme had given me. When I finally realised that languages was my passion, the fantastic languages department helped me to develop what I think was an outstanding level of French that gave me a considerable springboard from which to launch myself into my studies of French and Portuguese at the University of Bristol.

I went on to gain a first, and was lucky enough to have brilliant experiences working in France and studying in Brazil. I am thankful for the bursary scheme for giving me the best possible start in life.

...privileged and thankful...

I’m now working as a corporate researcher, slowly saving for a masters in international relations. A university degree was perhaps not enough to sate the desire to learn instilled in me at school! When the time comes, when I see the horizon over a (surmountable) mountain of student debt, I’ll repay the much more important debt that I owe to the bursary scheme. It’s vitally important that children from working class backgrounds like myself can have the opportunity to attend an exceptional school like MGS.
The Bursary Fund is what allowed me to attend MGS, and to engage in all areas of school life. It gave me an unparalleled education but also a wealth of experience which I could never have otherwise enjoyed.

I have been able to perform music at St John’s Smith Square, London, and play rugby on the muddy pitches of Fallowfield. I have been able to become who I am in an environment that is constantly challenging and demands the best of you, whilst always keeping you safe. I’m currently studying Law at Birmingham University, only possible because of the support and expertise MGS provided. I am a kid that was given a chance. That’s what the bursary scheme provides. That’s what changes lives.