

# The Feoffees Of the Common lands Of Rotherham

## The Rudston Bursary

Rudston Preparatory school was an independent School in Rotherham for children up to the age of 11. It was established in 1948 and closed in 2015. It was organised as a Charitable Trust and when it closed its trustees decided to donate a sum of money from that which remained (after all of the costs had been cleared) to Rotherham's oldest charity; The Common Lands of Rotherham, the Trustees of which are the Feoffees. It is the Feoffees responsibility to decide how best to administer this donation.

The Common Lands of Rotherham dates from at least the early 14<sup>th</sup> Century. The Feoffees role historically was in many ways akin to that of a modern town council. After the reformation they played a critical financial role in supporting Rotherham Grammar School as well as providing succour and support to the poor, needy and aged of Rotherham. In the early 18<sup>th</sup> century it also started a general school to educate children, known as the National School. It continues to provide support to education to this day, one example being the award of scholarships to sixth form students educated in RMBC and about to enter university.

It has been agreed with the former Rudston Trustees that their donation should be put to use as a bursary, to be awarded annually, to a newly qualified teacher, (NQT), taking up their first position as a primary (3-7 or 5-11) teacher in a school in the area covered by Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council (RMBC). The position taken must be based on a full-time contract. Teachers working as supply, covering for 'leaves of absence', maternity leave or being employed for short 'fixed terms' will not be eligible for this bursary.

The bursary will be awarded in partnership with Sheffield Hallam University (SHU) and is valued at £2,500, to be paid in three instalments commencing during the first term of the successful teacher's first post. The second and third instalments would be paid at a similar time during the second and third years of that teachers' career. The continued payment to cover all three years will be dependent upon the successful teacher remaining as a teacher in a RMBC primary school for the full three years covering the Bursary. The Bursary would continue if the teacher moved to another primary school as long as it was to both a full-time contracted position and the new school was still in the RMBC area.

The amount awarded each year will be as follows:

Year one:     £ 650  
Year two:     £ 750  
Year three:    £1,100

Applicants are invited from students who meet the following criteria:

- i) *Will have successfully completed a recognised teacher training degree course at SHU, specialising and qualifying in being able to teach primary aged pupils (3-7 or 5-11).*
- ii) *In the opinion of tutors and staff at SHU has exemplified the correct attitude and approach to teaching children during their overall course and is considered by the staff to be likely to become an outstanding teacher and an asset to the profession.*

iii) *Has demonstrated the required effort and application on the overall teacher training course. (This should be confirmed by SHU.)*

To be considered for this bursary applicants are required to submit a letter of application, of no more than 500 words, in which they should clearly set out:

- their reasons for wanting to pursue their chosen career, to include academic interest and potential career aspirations.
- how they believe the Bursary will help them in the pursuit of their career.

All applications received will initially be assessed by academic staff in the Department of Education at SHU, who will then submit a shortlist of up to four candidates to the Secretary to the Feoffees of The Common Lands of Rotherham.

The shortlisted applications will be assessed by a panel of Feoffees and SHU staff. The final decision will be taken by the Feoffees. In assessing all applications, the panel will consider:

- the student's commitment to primary teaching in Rotherham as demonstrated in the letter of application.
- effort evidenced during their University career.

The award will be conditional on achievement of a full-time contracted teaching position in a primary school within RMBC. The successful recipient will be required to submit a report to the Feoffees at the end of their first and third years of teaching.

The successful applicant will be announced during the summer after the completion of their University course and immediately prior to them taking up their first teaching appointment. The recipient will receive their Bursary at the beginning of their NQT year. A formal certificate of award of the scholarship will be made at the time of the successful recipient's degree ceremony of that year.

Successful applicants will be expected to permit a photograph of themselves receiving their bursary award to be published in the press and to be placed on to the Feoffees web site.

**Individual letters of application should be submitted to the Head of the Teacher Education Department during the final year of their Initial Teacher Training. The recommended applications, together with all supporting documentation, must be submitted to the Secretary to the Feoffees before the end of June of the year of application and once a full-time contracted position of employment has been offered. The Bursary will only be made available after the successful person has commenced their job.**

## **Addendum Concerning Receipt Of Payments For Years Two And Three Of The Rudston Bursary**

The bursary is paid to individuals over a three-year period. The first payment of £650 will be made directly by Sheffield Hallam University. The second and third payments will be made directly by the Feoffees of The Common Lands of Rotherham, and will occur at the beginning of the second and third years teaching of the Bursary recipient.

As already indicated the Bursary is conditional on being employed on a full-time contracted teaching position in a primary school within RMBC. For clarification, supply, temporarily covering for such as maternity leave, a term time only contract or similar would **not** satisfy the above condition. It is recognised that some teachers may change schools during this three-year period, and if so, doing this will not necessarily disqualify them from continuing to receive the remainder of their Bursary, as long as the main conditions continue to be met, including remaining in the employ of a primary school in the RMBC area.

To receive their second and third payments recipients need to submit a letter of confirmation signed by the headteacher of the school at which they are employed, on official school headed paper, confirming their ongoing, or new, employment status at that school.

The successful recipients are reminded that they are required to submit a report to the Feoffees at the end of their first and third years of teaching. These reports should be submitted to the Secretary to the Feoffees, Mrs. A. Ogley, using the e-mail [Feoffees@gmail.com](mailto:Feoffees@gmail.com). Any questions regarding the Bursary should also be sent to Mrs. Ogley at this same e-mail address.