

RGS Guildford: Remember Us

“We were founded in 1509 as a ‘free schole’ for the benefit of bright local boys without means. We are still educating bright local boys, but we are currently only able to offer bursary support to 7% of the student body. I have seen the transformational effect of an RGS education, as have many of you. My ambition is full merit-based open access: that every bright boy who earns his place can take it up, irrespective of his financial circumstances.”

Dr Jon Cox, Headmaster

Our Vision for the Future

To achieve this merit-based open access, we need new and sustainable support. With it, we can fulfil the aspirations of boys who would otherwise be turned away; we can increase opportunity and diversity in our School for the benefit of all; we can open up new pathways to inquisitive, intelligent, industrious local boys and motivate and encourage other independent sector schools to follow our lead.

The Enduring Bursary Fund

In 2016, we created a new Fund – the Enduring Bursary Fund. The Fund will grow capital in order to invest, thereby creating a number of bursaries in perpetuity. It will take time to build the Fund but we are hopeful that those who have remembered the RGS in their will wish to invest in this important fund for future generations of RGS boys. The Headmaster and Governors also intend that, wherever possible, income from RGS in Qatar and future international schools will be invested in this fund for the Bursary Programme.

Remembering RGS in your will

Leaving a legacy to the School in your Will is possibly the greatest gift you can offer during your lifetime. Following in the footsteps of those whose names line the beams of Big School – Beckingham, Austen, Powell and many more, giving in this way ensures that generations of RGS boys can benefit from your gift.

Named in honour of our founder, we have established The Beckingham Society to celebrate and recognise those who, during their lifetimes, have chosen to make a bequest to the School. All those who make a bequest to the School will be invited to become members of the Society. The decision to make a bequest is often private and personal, so no member’s name will be published without their permission. The Headmaster hosts an annual lunch for members of the Society to share news of the year gone and his plans and vision for the year ahead.

For those drawing up their wills for the first time, the RGS Foundation details are:
RGS Guildford Foundation, High Street, Guildford, Surrey, GU1 3BB
Registered charity number 1089955.

If you have already drawn up your Will, you may add a bequest by way of a Codicil. A Codicil form and Codicil Guidelines are included in this document.

Opening doors to opportunity

There are several types of legacies to consider:

Pecuniary Legacy

A pecuniary bequest is a gift of a specific sum of money to a named beneficiary. As the value of a specific sum would decrease over time owing to inflation, it is possible to index-link the sum so that it maintains its current-day value.

Residuary Legacy

This involves leaving all or part of the net residue of your estate to RGS Guildford once other bequests have been made. It has more flexibility than a pecuniary bequest because you do not have to quantify the sum or take inflation into account when you draw up your Will.

Reversionary Legacy

This is a way of providing for your family first and then benefitting the Royal Grammar School. It involves leaving the assets to trustees so that the named beneficiaries can enjoy the income during their lifetime, with the whole or a portion reverting to RGS Guildford on their death.

Conditional Legacy

This provides for the eventuality that if none of your named dependants survive you, your estate will be left to other named beneficiaries and charities including RGS Guildford.

Specific Bequest/Gifts in Kind

This involves leaving a specific personal possession to the School: examples include property, jewellery, antiques, works of art, stocks and shares.

Tax Implications - UK

Inheritance Tax is payable following your death if your estate is worth more than a certain amount after your liabilities have been deducted. The Inheritance Tax threshold is usually reviewed annually in the Budget. Information on current tax levels is available from the Development & Alumni Relations Office at RGS Guildford or the Inland Revenue website at hmrc.gov.uk for the latest information on tax-efficient giving.

The RGS Guildford Foundation is a registered charity and any bequests that you make in your Will are exempt from Inheritance Tax. Bequests made to RGS Guildford, through the Foundation or directly, would normally be deducted from the net balance of your estate and reduce the amount which is liable for Inheritance Tax. In this way you can ensure less of your money is lost to the state on your death.

Pledge Form

If you decide to leave a legacy to RGS Guildford, we would be grateful if you could notify us. A pledge form is available. It is not legally binding but is enormously valuable from a financial planning perspective. We look forward to welcoming you as a member of the Beckingham Society, following your pledge. This will enable us to thank you during your life-time for the legacy you are planning to make.

Contact Us

Thank you for your consideration of RGS Guildford.

If there is anything you would like to discuss further or that we can help with, please contact Monica Popa, Development Director, on mpo@rgsg.co.uk / +44 (0)1483 887143.