



## 1. ACCESSING OUR SCHOOLS

*Already widely admired, the British public is increasingly supportive of our schools.*

*HMC schools charge fees but very many families receive financial assistance in meeting them.*

### Public perceptions

- **40% of parents** in British independent schools are new to fee-paying education. Many are from ethnic minorities.
- In Britain, a majority of adults **support government assistance** for fee-paying schools.
- **Only 10% of the British public** dismiss the idea that independent schools make no positive contribution to the economy.
- 59% of British adults believe **standards are highest** in independent fee-paying schools (up from 47% in 1997).
- **57% of parents** would access a fee-paying school if they could afford to (up from 48% in 2002).

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## Access and fees assistance

- HMC schools provided **over £365 million in fee assistance** in 2013.
- **Over 35% of pupils** at HMC schools receive help with their fees.
- 10% of HMC pupils are on means-tested bursaries; over 40% of these have **support for more than half of their fees**.
- In the year 2012-2013 bursary provision in HMC schools **rose by over 8%**.

Learn more at [www.hmc.org.uk/factcards](http://www.hmc.org.uk/factcards)

Leading  
Independent  
Schools

