



Report – Board of Governors City of London Freeman’s School

Regulations for the admission and maintenance of Foundation Scholars

To be presented on Thursday, 7th March 2013

To the Right Honourable The Lord Mayor, Aldermen and Commons of the City of London in Common Council assembled.

SUMMARY

1. The Orphans of a deceased Freeman of the City of London are eligible for consideration as Foundation Scholars which are funded from Freedom fee income.
2. Foundation Scholarships are currently approved by the Court of Common Council upon the recommendation of the Board of Governors of the City of London Freeman’s School. It is now proposed that authority to approve Foundation Scholarships be delegated by the Court to the Board of Governors.
3. Following a discussion at the January 2013 Board of Governors meeting the guidelines for considering requests have been updated and are before the Court for approval.

RECOMMENDATION

4. We **recommend** that the updated guidelines be approved and that authority to approve Foundation Scholarships be delegated by the Court to the Board of Governors of the City of London Freeman’s School.

MAIN REPORT

BACKGROUND

5. On 24th March 1960, the Court approved Regulations under which children of a deceased Freeman of the City of London could be elected as Foundation Scholars at the City of London Freemen's School, subject to the recommendation of the Board of Governors. Such scholarships are funded from Freedom fee income.
6. At the last Board of Governors meeting it was resolved to seek approval of the Court to delegate future Foundation Scholarship application decisions to the Board, removing the need to seek the concurrence of the Court of Common Council in every case and assisting in the efficiency and expediency of decision-making.
7. Section 14 of *The Act for Establishing a School for Orphans of Freemen of the City of London* 1850 permits the Court of Common Council to delegate any of its powers under that Act to a committee.
8. If the Court is mindful to agree to delegate powers to the Board of Governors the *Regulations for the admission and maintenance of Foundation Scholars* will need to be updated and agreed by the Court. The revised guidelines are at appendix A and subject to the approval of the Court.

UPDATED GUIDELINES

9. At our January 2013 meeting we reviewed the current Foundation Scholarship guidelines. We felt that these should be updated to reflect both the day and boarding Foundation Scholars. The current guidelines are weighted towards boarding scholars. The revised guidelines are at appendix A.
10. We consider that the reference to 'Freewoman' in the existing regulations should be removed so that we go forward with the original title of 'Freeman', subsequently providing clarification in a footnote that the term 'Freeman' refers to people of both gender who have been awarded the Freedom of the City of London. This would be consistent with other references to 'Freemen' in 'City' terms.
11. It is recommended that the Court approves the revised guidelines. The Comptroller and City Solicitor has confirmed that should the Court of Common Council agree to the revised guidelines and delegate to the Board of Governors the authority to take decisions as to which children should be admitted as Foundation Scholars, the Board's current Terms of Reference are sufficiently broad to accommodate the change without revision.

All of which we submit to the judgement of this Honourable Court.

DATED this 21st day of January 2013.

SIGNED on behalf of the Committee.

**JOHN ALFRED BENNETT, DEPUTY
Chairman**

City Of London Freeman's School

Regulations for admission and maintenance of Foundation Scholars

The Court of Common Council has delegated to the Board of Governors of the City of London Freeman's School authority to elect as Foundation Scholars any child or children of a deceased Freeman¹ of the City of London subject to the following conditions: -

1. Eligibility

- (a) To be eligible for consideration as a Foundation Scholar, a child must be the orphan of a deceased Freeman of the City of London. Step-children or adopted children are also eligible. Children whose parents were reduced in circumstances by casualties which they could not avert shall be especially eligible for admission.
- (b) Foundation Scholars will be admitted normally between the ages of nine and eleven years, and exceptionally thereafter.
- (c) No children will be accepted as Foundation Scholars unless:-
 - (i) the Headmaster of the City of London Freeman's School certifies to the Board of Governors that they are academically able to profit from instruction in the school, and
 - (ii) should the Scholar become a boarder, the School Doctor certifies to the Board of Governors that they are physically fit to enter the School as boarders.
- (d) The maximum number of foundation Scholars allowed in the School at any one time shall be such as the Board of Governors may from time to time determine.

2. Maintenance in the School

- (a) The City of London Corporation will provide Foundation Scholars with all clothing needed in term time and, in addition, pay for any extras (except pocket money) such as would normally be incurred by fee-paying boarders at the school, subject to the Headmaster's approval.
- (b) The Board of Governors are empowered to require a parent or guardian of a Foundation Scholar, either before or after admission of the child to the school, to pay all, or a portion of the tuition and or boarding fees, if in their opinion the financial circumstances of the parent or guardian are sufficient, and to require

¹ The term 'Freeman' refers to people of both genders who have been awarded the Freedom of the City of London.

the production annually of a certificate indicating whether or not there has been any change in such circumstances.

- (c) Foundation Scholars will leave school at the end of the School year in which they reach the age of sixteen years unless it is, in the opinion of the Headmaster, educationally desirable that they should remain at school. They will not remain at school unless exceptional circumstances warrant it, after the end of the school year in which they reach the age of 18 years.
- (d) The Board of Governors have power to expel or require the removal from the school of any Foundation Scholar at any time if in their opinion the circumstances warrant it.

3. Procedure for election of Foundation Scholars

- (a) A parent or guardian of the orphan of a Freeman shall make application to the Board of Governors of the City of London Freeman's School (through the Town Clerk) upon a form giving all necessary particulars, and accompanied by the following certificates:
 - (i) Birth of the child
 - (ii) Marriage of the child's parents, or proof of adoption or acceptance of responsibility for custody of the child
 - (iii) Death of the Freeman or Freewoman
 - (iv) Chamberlain's Freedom certificate
- (b) The Board of Governors may require either the surviving parent (or guardian), or the candidate for election, to appear before them or before such person or persons as may be empowered by the Board to interview them on their behalf.