



stephen perse

foundation

leaving a legacy



The Stephen Perse Foundation is different. We applaud success but nurture a diverse, inclusive community in each of our six schools – we have two pre-preps in Madingley and Cambridge, Dame Bradbury's in Saffron Walden, the junior school and senior school and our sixth form college in Cambridge, all forming together the Stephen Perse Foundation.

Tracing our roots back to 1881, the Stephen Perse Foundation provides an exceptional education to over 700 students and share a common aim: to foster a love of learning, developing inquiring, reflective, open-minded young people prepared for the opportunities and challenges of the twenty-first century and equipped to play an active role in an increasingly international world.

Can you remember us through a gift in your will?



Senior school lessons

Providing families in and around Cambridge with access to education through ability, irrespective of family income, has always been central to the ethos of the Stephen Perse Foundation. Such an aim was specifically promoted under the Direct Grant and Assisted Places systems and, since their withdrawal, has been encouraged through our bursary scheme.

Leaving a gift in your will to the School, however large or small, will enable access to the exceptional education offered at the Stephen Perse Foundation, and secure educational continuity for all pupils throughout their time here.

We currently offer a bursary scheme that covers up to 100% of the fees in the Junior and Senior School. The awards are provided, for the most part, from the School's current fee income. We are now reaching out to the wider school community to help us fund more bursaries and to ensure sufficient hardship monies are available to support those families who experience temporary financial difficulties during their daughters' time at the Stephen Perse Foundation.

The gift of education



Art class in junior school

The Perse School began life in 1617, as a free grammar school, funded by a bequest under the will of Dr Stephen Perse of Gonville and Caius College. Between 1879 – 1881 an energetic group of local academics and business people organised meetings and raised subscriptions to establish what was then The Perse School for Girls, later to become the Stephen Perse Foundation.

In 2007 Perse Girls and The Perse School became wholly separate charitable enterprises, and the schools are now unconnected.

Philanthropy has always been part of our history. Without endowments, the Stephen Perse Foundation has always depended on the generous help of its friends and supporters.



OPG Group 23 at the 2009 reunion

The gift of a Stephen Perse education is priceless to those who have the opportunity to experience it. Back in 2010, we were delighted when The Old Persean Guild (OPG) Committee and Trustees of the Persean Benevolent Trust (PBT) created a new fund through the donation of £75,000 to the Stephen Perse Foundation to be used to support pupils through both bursaries and hardship grants.

The Stephen Perse Foundation benefited hugely from the generosity of Susan Maddocks, a former Governor, one of whose daughters also attended the School. In her will Susan left £750,000 to the school without restriction. So far these funds have been used to boost resources for bursaries, both in the Senior School and at the Sixth Form College, reflecting the importance that Susan attached to access. However, as our more general campaign to boost bursary funds progresses, the Governors appreciate the freedom they will have to use the remaining portion of Susan's generous bequest in other appropriate ways.

Some of the ways your gift will help



Children's tea at the 2009 reunion

£200	for a year 7 on their first residential trip
£500	would allow a student working towards the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award to take the final assessment.
£600	would pay for music tuition for a piano student for a year
£5,135	one term's fees for a student in the senior school (£4,385 in junior)*
£15,405	for student in the senior school (£13,155 in junior)*
£70,000	could cover the school fees for a student throughout her Senior School education*

* These figures are for fees as at 2015, and the five year projection is for illustrative purposes to show the sort of level of support for donations. These fees are subject to change annually and cannot offer an exact fee projection.

A donor's story



Friends at the 2009 reunion

'I have decided to leave a legacy to The Stephen Perse Foundation in my will due to the support my family and I got from them when we needed it most.

My daughter was in Year 8 when my husband was diagnosed with terminal cancer aged just 44. He was self-employed and unable to work. We found ourselves living out a nightmare whereby not only were we facing his untimely death but the prospect of losing everything we valued. Our main concern was the welfare of our two children at this terrible time. We knew we had to sell our lovely home but wanted to keep some sense of normality within the madness. Obviously friends and school were that stability.

When we informed Miss Kelleher, the Principal, of our situation, she immediately invited us to meet her. I don't really recall what happened next as we were not troubled with form filling and detail, but with generous financial assistance from the school and another benefactor, Olivia's school fees were paid. This arrangement carried on until after my husband's death in December 2006. I now receive a small endowment and feel able to pay again. Olivia did well in her GCSEs and is now at The Stephen Perse Sixth Form College. Without this bursary I dread to think what would have happened to our then 13 year-old daughter. I never thought something like this would happen to us and I would urge everyone to consider leaving a legacy to the school to help others like us in the future. It really does make a difference, and that is why I too am leaving a legacy to the school!

Karen Wright

The value of support



OPG Group 57 members at the reunion 2009

Olivia Wright, daughter of Karen Wright (from the previous page), speaks about how important a bursary was to her. It was funded through the hardship fund, supported by legacies.

Olivia, who was able to continue to our Sixth Form College, recalls 'To me, it was so kind that the Foundation let me stay here. It meant I didn't have to tell everyone at a new Foundation what had happened, and I didn't have to tell everyone here why I would have to leave.

I was just trying to get through it all at the time, and just being with my three close friends who knew what had happened meant a lot. The teachers all knew me well, and they just understood how I was coping. If I had needed to leave and go somewhere new, the new teachers wouldn't have understood me.

School was the one thing around me that wasn't changing. I know in my family we were all dealing with it from different perspectives, and it was really important looking back that I had the stability of school.

I want people to hear about my experience to encourage them to help the Foundation and help other people who might be in a similar situation to me.'

Olivia Wright

Leaving a gift in your will – what you can do



OPG Group 67 in the dining hall, reunion 2009

There are five ways to support the Stephen Perse Foundation in your will.

- Option 1: A pecuniary bequest – an exact sum of money
- Option 2: A residuary bequest – the balance of your estate
- Option 3: A specific bequest – some particular possessions
- Option 4: A reversionary bequest – a gift to pass to us after another named recipient has enjoyed the income during their lifetime
- Option 5: A conditional bequest – a gift to pass to us if none of your named beneficiaries survives you

The Stephen Perse Foundation is a registered charity, therefore bequests are not liable to inheritance tax. If you leave the tax-free portion of your estate to relatives and friends and leave the balance to charity, the entire estate effectively becomes tax-free. Donors should consult their financial adviser and/or solicitor for more expert advice. We can acknowledge legacies by dedicating a bursary in your name – but we also understand if you prefer to remain anonymous.

If you've already made a will, you can easily add a bequest to us by making a codicil (a form is enclosed with this brochure) with the help of your solicitor.

We would be most grateful if you could indicate your intentions on the 'Intentions Form' enclosed with this brochure and return it to our Alumni Relations Officer, Melissa Santiago-Val.



Junior school science lesson

Suggested wording for a legacy in your will

It is very important to ensure wills are written accurately. If you would like to remember us in your will, you can adapt this wording to suit the type of gift you wish to leave us.

'I give free of tax to The Stephen Perse Foundation (charity registration number 1120608) the sum of £xxxxxx (xxxx pounds) or the whole [or x per cent share] of my residuary Estate for its general purposes and I declare that the receipt of the business director or other proper officer shall be sufficient discharge therefore.'

Please contact our Alumni Relations Officer, Melissa Santiago-Val if you would like more information, by email on alumnirelations@stephenperse.com or on 01223 454700 x 307.

A selection of photos from the OPG 2009 reunion



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The Stephen Perse Foundation

The Stephen Perse Foundation (Private Limited Company No. 6113565 registered in England and Wales) comprises the Stephen Perse Pre-Prep School, Stephen Perse Foundation Junior School, Stephen Perse Foundation Senior School, Stephen Perse 6th Form College and Dame Bradbury's School and is a registered charity for the advancement of education (Charity No. 1120608).

