

Sark Education

Education on Sark

Sark School provides education for the Island's children from the ages of 3 (optional) or 4 (compulsory) to the age of 13 (Year 8). Les Beaucamps High School in Guernsey provides education for Sark children from the age of 13 to 16 years (Years 9, 10 and 11). In accordance with the United Nations Rights of the Child, education at Sark School and tuition at Les Beaucamps High School is free for the recipients. Accommodation in Guernsey for Years 9, 10 and 11 is payable by parents, with some discounts available for pupils who have spent most or all of the primary school years on Sark. Parents are able to elect to send their children in Years 9, 10 and 11 to one of the private colleges in Guernsey and receive a contribution towards the tuition fees. Other options may be considered on an application basis, again subject to limits on fees.

Sark School

Sark School aims to ensure that pupils are both engaged and challenged in their learning, using a wide variety of teaching strategies, skills and up-to-date learning resources. Small class sizes mean that Sark School is able to provide an individualised and bespoke curriculum, always placing the child at the centre of every decision that is made. Sark School provides a first class, all-round education for the Island's children, supported by the highest standards of pastoral care. The Sark School team strive to offer children the chance to achieve in all areas. The school opens its doors to the local community for its enrichment programme. Tapping into the very best skills the Island has to offer enables Sark School pupils to broaden their horizons and learn new skills, whilst also placing the school at the centre of the Island's community.

13+ Education

When young people reach the end of Year 8 (13 years), they currently complete their education off-island or parents can opt to home-educate. Whilst the Island of Sark pays for the children's schooling in Guernsey, the cost of accommodation and travel falls to the parents. For pupils who have attended Sark School for all or most of their education before the move to Guernsey, the Government of Sark contributes financially (on a graduated scale) to the cost of accommodation and travel. As an example, please see the scale below and the charges. The scale may be altered at any time and parents will be charged in accordance with the latest scale agreed by the Education Committee of Chief Pleas. Invoices

to parents are raised by the Treasurer on a termly basis and must be paid to the Treasurer within 30 days of invoice date. Interest may be incurred on the late payment of invoices.

Accommodation and Travel

Accommodation and Travel Scale as at October 2023		
Years in Sark School from age 5 years	% Parent Contribution	Charges for 2023/2024
Less than 2 years	100%	£8,315.20
2 to 3 years	90%	£7,483.68
3 to 4 years	80%	£6,652.16
4 to 5 years	70%	£5,820.64
5 to 6 years	60%	£4,452.08
7 years or more	50%	£4,157.60

Sark students join their new school at the beginning of Year 9. Sark students usually stay with host families during term time. Host families are volunteers from the Guernsey community and are not always available in which case alternative solutions will need to be sought. During the winter months, travel disruptions often mean that Sark children stay in Guernsey at weekends too, but in summer months they are able to travel home on a Friday evening and return to Guernsey on a Sunday evening.

Sark may, at its discretion, contribute towards boarding fees for a UK state school, where the tuition is free.

Children Electively Educated at Home

The parents of a very small number of children choose to electively educate their sons and daughters at home. In Sark, the Education Committee is responsible for ensuring that every child, whether they are educated at school or at home, receive an efficient full-time education suitable to his or her age, ability and to any special educational needs which he/she may have. This means that every family who chooses to educate their children at home will undergo an assessment of suitability of education and safeguarding, and receive regular visits from representatives of the Education Committee. Children who are electively educated at home may take examinations as private candidates at Les Beaucamps High School in Guernsey. The cost of approved examination entry at a school in Guernsey is met by the government. Parents can choose to make alternative arrangements for examinations at their own cost.

Post-16

Children leave school at the end of the academic year in which they are 16 years old, or on the last Friday in June of that year, whichever is the sooner. Post-16 education is not provided or funded by the Island.

Further Information

More information on Sark School can be found on their website: www.sarkschool.co.uk.

The school also has a presence on Instagram via their handle @sarkschool. Information about Les Beaucamps High School can be found at: <https://sites.google.com/lbhs.sch.gg/home>

Moving to Sark

Prior to moving to Sark, if you have children under the age of 16 years, please contact the School Administrator on admin@sarkschool.co.uk. She will ensure that you have all the information that you need and arrange a meeting with the Head of School (if your child is of Sark School age) or inform the Education Committee if you have a child on secondary school age so options can be discussed with you.

Registration documents for prospective pupils must be submitted to the school before moving to Sark. A registration form can be found on their admissions' page: <https://www.sarkschool.co.uk/admissions>. A registration document must also be completed for children aged 13+ or who will be home educated.

Vacancies

Employment opportunities at Sark School are advertised on-island for non-teaching roles and in the TES for teaching posts. All employment opportunities are also posted on the school's website: <https://www.sarkschool.co.uk/vacancies>.

Please direct any questions about the school or education on Sark to the School Office on admin@sarkschool.co.uk.