

Sark Education

Education offer from Chief Pleas of Sark

Sark School provides education for the Island's children from the ages of 3 (optional) or 4 (compulsory) to the age of 13. Les Beaucamps High School (Guernsey) provides education for Sark children from the age of 13 to 16 years. In accordance with the United Nations Rights of the Child, Education at Sark School and Les Beaucamps High School is free for the recipients.

Sark School

The Head of School, Dr Nicholas Roberts, joined Sark School in September 2019 and writes:

“Sark School is a vibrant and exciting place to work and learn. Our policies and practices are informed by UK standards, which enables us to give our pupils the best possible start in life.

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 every day 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 complete their education in Guernsey. Whilst the Island of Sark pays for the children's schooling, the cost of accommodation and travel falls to the parents. If families have been on the Island for a number of years prior to the child's 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		
Scale as at 01/12/2020		
Years in Sark School from the age of 5 years	% parent contribution	Charges for 2020/21
Less than 2 years	100%	£6,200.21
2 to 3 years	90%	£5,580.19
3 to 4 years	80%	£4,960.17

4 to 5 years	70%	£4,340.15
5 to 6 years	60%	£3,720.13
7 years or more	50%	£3,100.11

Sark students attend Les Beaucamps High School, joining at the beginning of Year 9; although it is possible for students to attend one of the many private schools in Guernsey, at an additional cost to their parents. Sark students usually stay with host families during term time. 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.

Home Education

The parents of a very small number of children choose to electively home educate their sons and daughters. In Sark, the Education Committee is responsible for ensuring that every child, whether they are at school or home educated, 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 home educate their children will undergo an assessment of suitability of education and safeguarding, and receive regular visits from a member of the Board of Education, the Director of Education and/or representative of the Education Committee. Electively home educated children may take examinations as private candidates at Les Beaucamps High School in Guernsey. The cost of approved examination entry at Les Beaucamps High School only, 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.

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>

Prior to moving to Sark, if you have children under the age of 18 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) and inform the Education Committee if your child is heading for secondary education in Guernsey or being educated at home.

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.

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.