



Sixth Form Music Scholarship

Music Scholarships can be awarded from Year 12 and will last for the rest of a student's time at the school. They are prestigious awards that provide talented musicians with opportunities to develop their skills, broaden their experiences, and play a leading role in the musical life of the school.

Scholars receive free weekly coaching sessions from one of our pianists. These sessions may be used to practise pieces with an accompaniment, develop musicianship, or receive general musical guidance. Scholars also have regular performance opportunities, taking part in at least one lunchtime recital and one evening recital each year, and, depending on their instrument, participating in chamber music ensembles.

Scholarships are awarded for the duration of a student's time at school; however, continuation is subject to the scholar meeting the expectations made clear upon acceptance of the award. Music Scholars are expected to demonstrate leadership, commitment, punctuality, and exemplary conduct in all musical activities, acting as role models to others. They should contribute fully to the musical life of the school and join a number of ensembles suitable for their first-study instrument or voice.

Appointments are made on the basis of current playing ability, potential, and likely contribution to the Music Department. As a guide, candidates should be working towards approximately Grade VIII (ABRSM or Trinity). However, greater value is placed on distinction-level achievements at any grade rather than lower results at higher levels. Successful candidates will present polished, expressive performances demonstrating musical sensitivity and understanding.

Auditions are conducted by the Director of Music and Assistant Director of Music and will consist of a performance of two contrasting pieces on a first instrument (which may be voice) and an optional performance on a second or third instrument, **sight-reading** at approximately Grade VII standard (unaccompanied, with time allowed for preparation), and **aural tests** including singing back a 2-part melody, cadence identification (perfect or imperfect) and a brief discussion of a short piano extract. Finally, there will be a short interview.

Applications for a Music Scholarship should include a reference from the candidate's instrumental or singing teacher and must be submitted by the application deadline. Auditions are held in November. Fee remissions may be available for especially deserving candidates, and families are invited, if they wish, to contribute all or part of any remission to the school's bursary fund.