



Queen Mary's SCHOOL

Scholarship Information



For Scholarship Assessments
Spring Term 2024

Queen Mary's School is delighted to offer a number of Scholarships to pupils who can demonstrate ability and potential in key areas, to ensure that the School continues to uphold its high standards in Academics, Art, Music, Riding and Sport.

Winning a scholarship is an enormous achievement for any pupil – and a wonderful way to recognise talent, endeavour and intellectual curiosity. Scholars will be challenged accordingly, and given plenty of opportunities to broaden their minds and develop their talents. Recent trips have included Durham, Museum of the Moon, the Horse of the Year Show and an international England Hockey match. Former scholars have also gone on to gain scholarships at many prestigious sixth forms.

Scholarship Assessment Dates

Scholarship Application Deadline	Friday 8 December 2023
Riding Scholarship Assessments	Monday 22 January 2024
Sport Scholarship Assessments	Tuesday 23 January 2024
Art Scholarship Assessments	Wednesday 24 January 2024
Music Scholarship and Senior Choristership Assessments	Thursday 25 January 2024
Academic Scholarship Assessments	Friday 26 January 2024

The Process

Both internal and external candidates can be considered for awards.

In order to receive an award, candidates are required to submit an application form and undertake a Scholarship assessment. An external adjudicator will be present at the assessments. Scholarships are awarded only as the result of the Queen Mary's Scholarship assessments. Candidates may be entered for no more than three awards.

Pupils joining Year 7 in 2024 who are awarded Scholarships will take up their awards in the following September, pupils already in the Senior School who are awarded Scholarships will take up their awards immediately. Badges will be awarded at the Scholars Dinner in September.

Queen Mary's Scholarship Programmes

Queen Mary's scholarships are honorary awards, focusing on enhancing pupils' skills and talents. The successful candidates will be supported during their time at Queen Mary's and be enrolled in one of the school's Scholarship Programmes, including termly opportunities to develop their talents and skills within workshops and on educational trips. All scholars are invited to the annual Scholars' Dinner. Means-tested bursarial assistance is available in addition to scholarships for families looking for fee remission.

Expectations

Scholars will be encouraged to act as ambassadors and must contribute to the wider life of the school and in doing so will develop their skills and talents. The awards are continuously reviewed to ensure that every girl is making the expected progress and fulfilling her role as a scholar. Queen Mary's School reserves the right to remove the Scholarship award if these standards are not being maintained.

Academic Scholarship Programme

Pupils at Queen Mary's achieve excellent GCSE results and many scholars are awarded Scholarships to attend some of the country's most prestigious sixth forms and universities including Oxbridge. Academic scholars may have a particular talent for one subject, but scholarships will be awarded to those candidates who demonstrate academic ability and flair across a number of subject areas.

Assessment

Following the completion of the application form, candidates will be assessed through written assessment, an interview with the Head and an enjoyable critical thinking activity. No specific preparation is required.

The Programme led by The Head

- Scholars will be invited to join an extra-curricular activity aimed towards developing higher level thinking skills and enjoying new challenges.
- There will be termly opportunities to attend conferences, lectures and events to further knowledge, talents and expand learning. Academic Scholars also welcome visiting speakers.
- Scholars' Dinner and leadership opportunities.

Art Scholarship Programme

The thriving Art Department at Queen Mary's School includes a large double-height Art studio flooded with natural light and opportunities to exhibit and create art in the beautiful 300 year old building and surrounding grounds. Scholars work across all disciplines including photography, painting, drawing, printmaking, textiles, sculpture and graphics. Scholarships are available for candidates who show, on assessment, exceptional artistic ability.

Assessment

Following completion of an application form, there are three parts to the assessment process. Each part is intended to give the candidate their best opportunity to communicate their passion for the subject:

Portfolio. Candidates will be asked to present some examples of work showing their ability and passion. Particular value will be placed on work created independently. There is no expectation to produce work specifically for this assessment. Any work that shows creativity can be included.

Interview. Candidates will have the opportunity to discuss their work with the Head of Art. During this discussion, candidates will be asked a series of open-ended questions about their interest in art, and their reasons for applying for the Scholarship. The questions will be given in advance, and candidates can bring notes with them.

Drawing Test. The candidates will sit a standardised drawing test. They will select an object and create a closely observed drawing using pencil. This test will take approximately one hour. The Art Department will provide all relevant stimulus and all necessary materials.

The Programme led by the Head of Art

- There will be opportunities to visit galleries and exhibitions, engage with visiting artists and enter competitions to further knowledge, talents and expand learning.
- The opportunity to create and display work in exhibitions both in and out of school alongside professional artists. Work may also be published in school marketing materials.
- Attendance at the Scholars' Dinner.

Riding Scholarship Programme

The British Horse Society (BHS) approved Queen Mary's Equestrian Centre has an excellent reputation and many riders and teams have achieved national success. The centre nurtures talent and promotes good horsemanship across all levels of ability giving scholars the opportunity to grow and progress.

Assessment

An application form allows candidates to highlight the level at which they ride. Candidates will undertake a ridden assessment on their own or a school pony. They will be asked to show knowledge and understanding of the horse's performance and will be assessed on their chosen discipline (jumping/dressage). A discussion with the assessor regarding daily horse care and stable management will also form part of the assessment.

The Programme led by Queen Mary's Equestrian Centre Manager

- Scholars will be part of the Queen Mary's Equestrian Team that competes at events across the country.
- There will be opportunities to attend events, workshops and competitions to further knowledge, talents and expand learning.
- Scholars' Dinner.
- Scholars will be asked to lead activities and mentor younger children.

Sport Scholarship Programme

Sport is central to life at Queen Mary's School and many teams across the year groups have had successes at local, county, regional and national level. Within the 40 acre grounds girls play Netball, Hockey, Tennis, Dance and take part in Cross Country, Swimming, Gymnastics, Athletics, Rounders, Football, Cricket and more. There is also a state-of-the-art full sized Astro pitch with a sports pavilion. Sport Scholarships will be offered to candidates who can demonstrate exceptional sporting ability and potential and who will contribute to the busy sporting life of the school.

Assessment

To be eligible for a Sport Scholarship, candidates must show ability or potential in at least two sports. Following the completion of an application form, the assessment will include fitness testing and a Hockey and Netball assessment. As other sports may not be assessed, please provide performance levels, video evidence or times to support your application.

Candidates will be assessed on their ability to perform current skills and their ability to learn new ones. The school understands that candidates will have had a range of previous experience and this will be taken into consideration.

The Programme led by the PE Department

- There will be opportunities to attend conferences, lectures, professional coaching sessions and competitions to further knowledge, talents and expand learning.
- Visits to major sporting venues across a range of sports.
- Scholars' Dinner.
- Leadership opportunities for Scholars to lead clubs and mentor younger children.

Music Scholarship Programme

As a school, Queen Mary's has strong traditions in instrumental music and choral singing with many girls achieving Distinction at Grade 8. Queen Mary's Chamber Orchestra is the school's flagship instrumental group and for over 40 years the Chapel Choir has enjoyed a reputation as an outstanding chamber choir in Yorkshire and beyond.

Scholarships will be awarded, following completion of an application form and Music Scholarship audition, to those candidates demonstrating real musical talent and potential. Music scholars are expected to play a full part in the musical life of the school, participating in both choirs and orchestras.

General Guidelines

- Year 7 candidates are expected to have reached a minimum Grade 2 standard on their first instrument. To be learning another instrument would be an advantage.
- Year 8 candidates are expected to have reached Grade 3 standard on their first instrument. To be learning another instrument would be usual but not vital.
- Year 9 candidates are expected to have reached at least Grade 4 standard on one instrument and to be learning a second instrument; probably around Grade 2/3 standard.

Musical potential is also important and the grades quoted are intended as a guide. It is likely that examinations taken will have received a Merit or Distinction.

Assessment

Following the completion of the Application Form, candidates will be required to present the following at audition:

- Two contrasting pieces of music on their principal instrument (lasting, in total, no more than 10 minutes)
- One piece of music on the second instrument.
- In addition, candidates will be given aural tests, sight-reading, relevant scales and arpeggios on their first instrument and a short viva-voce where the candidate's involvement in music-making will be discussed.

The Programme led by the Music Department

- Financial remuneration for one set of music lessons and one examination per academic year encouraging tuition in multiple instruments.
- There will be opportunities to attend workshops, lectures, concerts and competitions to further pupils' knowledge, talents and expand learning.
- Opportunities to take part in many performances and events across the academic year both in School and in churches, cathedrals and concert venues.
- Invitation to join groups including the outstanding Chamber Orchestra and Chapel Choir.
- Mentor and leadership opportunities with Prep Orchestra.
- Scholars' Dinner.
- Annual mentoring from a professional musician.

Senior Choristerships

These new Choristerships are available to Year 9 – 11 members or potential members of the Chapel Choir.

General Guidelines

- Applicants should have achieved a minimum level of Grade 5 Singing (or the equivalent standard) by the end of Year 8.
- Evidence of outstanding commitment for at least two years, to the Queen Mary's Chapel Choir, or another similar choir in a school or church setting, with a reference provided by the choir leader.

Assessment

- Applicants will be auditioned and will be required to sing two contrasting pieces as well as completing sight singing (Grade 5 standard) and aural tests, (Grade 5 standard).

Acceptance of a Senior Choristership will require a commitment to the Queen Mary's Chapel Choir until the end of Year 11.

The Programme led by the Music Department

- Financial remuneration for one set of singing lessons and one singing examination per academic year.
- There will be opportunities to attend workshops, lectures, concerts and competitions to further pupils' knowledge, talents and expand pupils' learning.
- Opportunities to take a leading role in many performances and events across the academic year both in School and in churches, cathedrals and concert venues.
- Invitation to perform solos and duets within the Chapel Choir.
- Scholars' Dinner.
- Recognition as one of the Senior Choristers in the Chapel Choir with leadership responsibilities given including mentoring new choristers.