



Durham Cathedral Schools Foundation

Scholarships Foundation Policy

1. Policy

- 1.1** Scholarships are offered to attract the most able and talented pupils to attend Durham School. No scholarships are offered at Chorister School.
- 1.2** Scholarships are an explicit recognition of a pupil's abilities and talents and are therefore primarily prestigious.
- 1.3** All scholarships attract an annual monetary award of £1000. Pupils may hold a number of scholarships but only one remission of £1000.
- 1.4** All scholarships remain with a pupil for the duration of his/her time at the school, but are subject to annual review by the Director of Scholars [Durham School] and can be withdrawn on the grounds of weak academic progress, poor behaviour or failing to play a role in the wider school in a specific discipline. The Director of Scholars will periodically update parents of the progress of their child.

2. Procedure

2.1 Headmaster's Scholarship

- There is one Headmaster's Scholarship available each year to a pupil achieving a very high score in the 11+ entrance examinations in January. The decision to award will be made according to ranked performance, based on cumulative scores in mathematics, English, verbal and non-verbal reasoning tests and an interview.
- There is only one Headmaster's Scholarship awarded each year.
- Applicants will be invited to interview based on their cumulative test scores.
- In September 2023 it was decided to no longer award a Headmaster's Scholarship.

2.2 King's Scholarships [Durham School]

2.2.1 11+

- High achieving pupils who sit the 11+ entrance examinations in January each year are eligible for a King's Scholarship. The decision to award will be made according to the

ranked performance, based on the cumulative scores in the mathematics, English, verbal and non-verbal reasoning tests and an interview.

- The number of King's Scholarships awarded at 11+ is variable, but unlikely to be more than five. The threshold for awards is benchmarked against standards in previous years.

2.2.2 13+

- High achieving pupils who sit the 13+ scholarship examination in January each year are eligible for a King's Scholarship. The decision to award will be made according to the ranked performance, based on the cumulative scores in the mathematics and English scholarship tests and an interview.
- The number of King's Scholarships awarded at 13+ is variable, but unlikely to be more than four. The threshold for awards is benchmarked against standards in previous years.
- External pupils are invited to sit the 13+ scholarship examination according to their ranked performance based on the cumulative scores in the mathematics and English tests in the 13+ entrance examination. All internal Durham School pupils in Year 8, who are not already KS, are eligible to sit the 13+ scholarship paper, but those who are making outstanding progress in their studies are invited to sit the paper.

2.3 Burkitt Scholarships

- Burkitt scholarships are awarded provisionally, based on performance in the Burkitt mathematics, English and verbal and non-verbal reasoning tests taken in November/December. The threshold for provisional awards is benchmarked against standards in previous years.
- Burkitt scholarships are then confirmed in August, subject to satisfactory achievement at GCSE.
- Burkitt scholars are also eligible for support worth up to £1000 per annum if successful in gaining entry to either Oxford or Cambridge Universities.
- Burkitt scholarships are available to both external entrants and current Durham School Year 11, however King's Scholars need not apply.

2.4 Art or Design Technology, Drama, Music and Sport Scholarships

- Awards are made on the basis of references, auditions (music/drama), trials (sport), and any other relevant information benchmarked against awards made in previous years. Further details of criteria can be found in Appendix 1.
- A limited number of awards in the above disciplines are available at 11+, 13+ and 16+. Both external and internal pupils are eligible to apply.
- Students in receipt of such awards are expected to play a full part in the life of the school in the discipline for which the award was made and are expected in the case of art, DT, drama and music to continue their studies in that discipline to GCSE level, and in sport to play an active role in the school's games programme and fixture list. Those not continuing study to A Level must continue to offer a role in the life of the school in that discipline. Each discipline will have a set of expectations which each scholar is required to fulfil which will form part of the annual review process.
- All criteria for awarding and retaining an Art, Design, Drama, Music and Sports Scholarship can be found in Appendix 1.

3. Responsibilities

- 3.1** At Durham School, the Deputy Head [Academic] is responsible for policy and has oversight over the administrative process. He/she, alongside the Director of Scholars, will advise the Headmaster on the award of King's and Burkitt Scholarships.
- 3.2** The Director of Scholars and Heads of Section, in liaison with the Director of Admissions, will be responsible for the administration of all entrance examinations for Headmaster's, King's and Burkitt Scholarships.
- 3.3** The respective Heads of Department will be responsible for the assessment of art, DT, music, drama and sports scholarships and will advise the Headmaster on the award of scholarships. They will monitor the contributions scholars make to their discipline against an agreed set of expectations and give feedback to the Director of Scholars for each scholar's annual review.
- 3.4** The Director of Scholars will monitor the progress of all pupils with a scholarship annually and will periodically communicate this to parents. He /she will advise the Headmaster on whether scholarships should be withdrawn.

4. Cross Reference to other policies and documents

This policy should be read in conjunction with the Foundation Admissions Policy

5. Oversight

This policy is overseen by the Education Committee of the Governing Body and will be updated at least every three years.

Policy revised by J M Webb [Deputy Head Academic] 08/10/2014

A J Pearson [Deputy Head Academic] 13/10/2017

A J Pearson [Deputy Head Academic] 19/11/2020

A J Pearson [Deputy Head Academic] 26/11/2021

A J Pearson [Deputy Head Academic] 21/11/2024

Appendix 1

Scholarship Criteria

Art & Design

Award of a scholarship in Art is dependent on the candidate achieving the following criteria:

- Demonstrate highly developed drawing skills.
- Demonstrate a developed sense of design and compositional awareness.
- Demonstrate an ability to develop an idea from an initial starting point to a final outcome.
- Demonstrate an ability to explore different ideas and evaluate and change them according to intentions.
- Demonstrate an interest in and an awareness of other artists.

Durham School is committed to providing opportunities to stretch and challenge all Art and Design scholars. However, retention of the Scholarship is dependent on the candidate successfully demonstrating the following:

Lower and Middle School

- Taking Art and Design to GCSE level.
- Attending at least one extra-curricular subject related club on a weekly basis or equivalent.
- Achieving high assessment grades and marks throughout the academic year.
- Helping staff and other pupils, as appropriate and as instructed by their teacher.

Sixth Form

- Taking Art and Design, endorsed either Fine Art or Photography, to A Level.
- Achieving high assessment marks throughout the academic year.
- Supporting staff during the open mornings or curriculum evenings.
- Regularly working in the Department after school.

Design Technology

Award of a scholarship in Design Technology is dependent on the candidate achieving the following criteria:

- Demonstrate highly developed manipulative skills.
- Demonstrate a developed sense of form and design awareness.
- Demonstrate an ability to develop an idea from an initial starting point to a final outcome.
- Demonstrate an ability to explore different ideas and evaluate and change them according to intentions.
- Demonstrate an interest in and an awareness of other designers.

Durham School is committed to providing opportunities to stretch and challenge all Design and Technology scholars. However retention of the Scholarship is dependent on the candidate successfully demonstrating the following:

Lower and Middle School

- Taking Design Technology, either Graphic Products or Resistant Materials strand, to GCSE level.
- Attending at least one extra-curricular subject related club on a weekly basis or equivalent.
- Achieving high assessment grades and marks throughout the academic year.
- Helping staff and other pupils, as appropriate and as instructed by their teacher.

Sixth Form

- Achieving high assessment marks throughout the academic year.
- Supporting staff during the open mornings or curriculum evenings.
- Regularly working in the Department after school.

Drama

Award of a scholarship in Drama is dependent on the candidate achieving the following criteria:

- Experience of involvement in Drama productions, festivals, qualifications and/or related projects.
- Demonstration of outstanding potential in Drama in the scholarship audition.
- Good to outstanding achievement in the scholarship audition.

Durham School is committed to providing opportunities to stretch and challenge all Drama scholars. However retention of the Scholarship is dependent on the candidate successfully demonstrating the following:

Lower and Middle School

- Attendance at Lower School Drama Club
- Participation in House Drama activities.
- Participation in any relevant Drama productions
- Strong assessment marks in all work
- Study Drama in Year 9 and to GCSE level.
- Significantly contribute to co-curricular Drama within the school; either as a performer or through contribution to the technical, stage management or design teams.

Sixth Form

- Participation in whole school Drama productions.
- Significantly contribute to co-curricular Drama within the school; either as a performer or through contribution to the technical, stage management or design teams.
- Promote and lead House Drama for inter-house Drama competitions and help to support lower school Drama activities.

Award of a music scholarship is dependent on the candidate achieving the following criteria:

11+

- Standard equivalent to ABRSM Grade 3 high Merit or Distinction level on first instrument (or voice), Grade 1 or higher on a second instrument (or voice). If no second instrument or voice is offered the standard on the principal instrument would need to be higher. In all cases potential is an important factor.
- Ability to sight-read to pass level at the relevant grade.
- Ability to pass aural tests at the relevant grade.
- Satisfactory references from current music teachers.

13+

- As above, but performance at a standard equivalent to ABRSM Grade 5 high Merit or Distinction level on first instrument (or voice), Grade 3 or higher on a second instrument (or voice).

16+

- As for 11+, but performance at a standard equivalent to ABRSM Grade 7 high Merit or Distinction level on first instrument (or voice), Grade 5 or higher on a second instrument (or voice).

Durham School is committed to providing opportunities to stretch and challenge all music scholars. However, retention of the Scholarship is dependent on the candidate successfully demonstrating the following:

- Membership of appropriate musical ensembles as required by the Director of Music.
- Exemplary attendance at all rehearsals.
- Performing regularly as a soloist and in ensembles.
- Evidence of musical development through regular practice, positive reports from music teachers and appropriate progression through graded music exams.
- Music scholars are required to take music at GCSE but not necessarily at A level.

Award of a scholarship in Sport is dependent on the candidate achieving the following criteria:

11+ & 13+

- An outstanding performer in 'one' chosen sport.
- A very good school standard in a number of different sports
- A high standard of performance and excellent attitude on the scholarship assessment day.

16+

- A minimum of County standard in 'one' chosen sport.
- A very good school standard in a number of different sports
- A high standard of performance and excellent attitude on the scholarship assessment day.

Durham School is committed to providing opportunities to stretch and challenge all sports scholars. However retention of the Scholarship is dependent on the candidate successfully demonstrating the following:

Lower and Middle School

- Maintaining a high level of performance and being an 'A' team player.
- Attendance at all training sessions and extra skills sessions.
- Showing an exemplary attitude towards training and playing.
- 100% commitment and effort to all required sporting fixtures and inter-house competitions.
- Successful completion of an annual review.

Sixth Form

- Maintaining a high level of performance and being a 1st team player.
- Attendance at all training sessions and extra skills sessions.
- Attendance at all extra sessions; video analysis, nutrition, sport psychology.
- 100% commitment and effort to all required sporting fixtures and inter-house competitions.
- Successful completion of an annual review.