



CLAYESMORE



SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS



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INTRODUCTION

We offer a variety of scholarships for entry each year. These include: Academic, Art, Design & Technology, Music, Sport and All-Rounder. The criteria for these different awards are laid out in this booklet and they all involve different types of assessment and interviews that are undertaken at the school during the Autumn Term.

In all scholarship areas, we are looking for pupils who are already strong achievers but we are particularly keen to meet young people with the potential to develop further and more fully in their scholarship area. Parents are welcome to discuss scholarship opportunities with academic staff and we also very much welcome visits to the school.

EXPECTATIONS

Senior School scholarships are available for entry into Year 9 and Year 12. Students in Year 11 at Clayesmore may apply for a Sixth Form scholarship.

We expect scholars to be enthusiastic contributors to school life, in their scholarship area particularly. Academic scholars will be expected to join in and lead in departmental specialist interest groups, maintain a reading list, and to participate in the Model United Nations.

Music scholars will be members of the choir and of other ensembles and be conscientious in setting aside time for practice. Sports scholars will keep up their own physical fitness and participate in as many of the sports development group activities as they can. They will also be enthusiastic sports team members, keen to develop their skills.

For non-academic scholarships, candidates should expect to attain at least a C grade standard across the board at Common Entrance. For candidates not taking Common Entrance, a useful guide will be the potential to achieve 8 passes at GCSE at the end of Year 11.

Pupils may be entered for more than one scholarship or for an All-Rounder scholarship.

FINANCE

Clayesmore scholarships range in value from 5% up to 25% of the fee and this remission may be increased through a simultaneous bursary application. The bursary will be reviewed on a regular basis. Scholarship awards upto 75% are available in exceptional circumstances.

Students awarded a music scholarship receive free musical tuition in their first two instruments.

Academic, music, sports, drama and all-rounder scholarships are awarded once for the duration of the student's time at Clayesmore.

Awards in Art, DT, and in a specific sport continue for as long as the student takes the subject.

All scholarship awards are reviewed annually and can be withdrawn if a student's commitment, performance or behaviour falls short of what is expected of a scholar.



APPLICATION

Students must be registered to join the school to be able to apply for a scholarship. An early application is advised. Scholarship assessments take place in take place the week commencing 26 January. each year.

We would be pleased to meet potential applicants and their parents to discuss the process with the Head or Deputy Head Academic and other appropriate staff.

REFERENCES

The candidate's present school will be asked to provide a report giving a summary of the candidate's general progress, academic record and potential, their all-round contribution to the school, any positions of responsibility held, and their relationships with other pupils and with staff.

INTERVIEWS

All candidates will be interviewed by the Head and/or the Deputy Head Academic.

In Art, Drama, Music, Sport and DT candidates will also be interviewed by the head(s) of department.

Sixth Form applicants may also be interviewed by either the Head of Sixth Form or a head of department.



CLAYESMORE

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR YEAR 9 ENTRY

ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

Assessment is by examination and interview.

Candidates will sit two subject examination papers and have an interview with the Head and/or another senior member of staff.

Candidates are assessed in English and Mathematics.

English and Mathematics are 60 minutes long.

Exams are based on the national curriculum for students in Year 7 or Year 8. Papers are designed to be accessible and to allow students to show their knowledge - they are not designed to be awkward.

A set of sample subject papers can be obtained from the Admissions office.

Students who have access arrangements can be accommodated: an Educational Psychologist's report or specialist teacher assessment should be sent to us with the application form.

Current pupils with scholarships awarded in Year 5 looking for Year 9 entry are invited to re-apply for Year 9 scholarships.



MUSIC SCHOLARSHIPS

Candidates are assessed by an audition at Clayesmore. They will also be asked to take a multiple-choice test of reading comprehension.

Students should offer at least two instruments (which may include voice). For the audition, two pieces should be prepared on the first instrument and one on their second instrument. We will provide an accompanist, if required, but candidates are permitted to bring their own accompanist if they wish.

Total performance time should not exceed 15 minutes. Regardless of whether voice is offered as an ‘instrument’, singing a song is encouraged though is not compulsory. Sight-reading and aural tests appropriate to the grade level of the candidate’s first instrument will be given. The standard of performance on the first instrument should be not less than that of Grade 5, though we welcome applications from candidates who may not have taken any formal music exams.

All Music Scholars are encouraged to take Music as an academic subject at least to GCSE.

All applicants are encouraged to attend the school for a trial scholarship audition with the Director of Music at least a term before the real auditions.



CHORAL AWARDS

Candidates are assessed by an audition at Clayesmore. They will also be asked to take a multiple-choice test of reading comprehension.

Candidates who offer singing as a first study should normally offer an additional second instrument. Candidates should prepare two songs of contrasting character (i.e. one secular, one sacred) and one piece on their second instrument. Exceptionally, a (limited) choral award may be made to a boy or girl with a strong traditional singing background who will contribute to the choral life of the school but who does not have a second instrument. Total performance time should not exceed 15 minutes. Sight reading and aural tests appropriate to the singing grade level of the candidate will be given.

All applicants are encouraged to attend the school for a trial scholarship audition with the Director of Music at least a term before the real auditions.

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY SCHOLARSHIPS

Candidates are assessed by interview at Clayesmore. They will also be asked to take a multiple-choice test of reading comprehension.

Students should be able to demonstrate above average skill and enthusiasm in the area of creative problem-solving and the physical manufacture of high quality products in the workshops. Successful candidates are likely to have good drawing skills and take pride in the presentation of their work.

It is expected that a Design & Technology award winner will give their time freely and willingly to support the activities of the department. If a candidate should stop studying Design & Technology, the award will cease.

ASSESSMENT

Candidates should bring a portfolio of both recent and past graphics/drawing work and one piece of recent practical work and be able to discuss and explain their work in the interview.

The candidate's graphics/drawing/CAD work should demonstrate an ability to communicate ideas and concepts. Practical work will be examined and discussed in terms of quality and skills used in its manufacture, and the candidate's general views on technological issues and developments in the world at large will also be sought and examined.

Candidates will be interviewed by the Head and/or the Deputy Head Academic and the Head of Design & Technology.



DRAMA SCHOLARSHIPS

Candidates are assessed by interview at Clayesmore. They will also be asked to take a multiple-choice test of reading comprehension.

Candidates should have reached a high standard in acting, design or technical skills.

Candidates offering acting will participate in a short workshop and will work together on a number of group exercises so that their ability to co-operate creatively can be assessed. They should also have prepared an audition speech to perform. It is expected that they will have learned the lines. They may bring any props or costumes needed in the performance but this is not required. Candidates offering design or technical skills should bring a portfolio documenting their recent work. Candidates offering acting may wish to bring photographs or DVD extracts.

Actors will usually have taken a major role in at least one school production and may well have a good deal of additional experience, either at school or for another company, amateur or professional. Designers will have designed a set or a number of costumes for a production, either at school or for another company. It is likely they will also have participated in the manufacture of the set or costumes. They should have a portfolio of drawings and photographs documenting the process.

Technicians will have experience in helping to prepare a lighting or sound plot and may have a portfolio of diagrams and cue sheets. They may have some examples of sound recordings they have edited. Recipients of the awards will be expected to contribute strongly to the dramatic life of the school throughout their time at Clayesmore.

Candidates may, if appropriate, submit references from clubs or schools to which they belong.



ART SCHOLARSHIPS

Candidates are assessed by interview at Clayesmore. They will also be asked to take a multiple-choice test of reading comprehension.

Students should bring two things to the interview:

a) a personal drawing book containing linked images and ideas, first hand drawings, scrapbook items, notes and jottings etc. This is most important and should convey the impression of a person who thinks visually and enjoys drawing.

b) a portfolio of selected paintings and drawings and/or work in three dimensions should also be produced for assessment. At least two different topics should be represented. The candidate will be expected to discuss his or her work at the interview.

A practical assessment will be held during the day.

Candidates will be expected to demonstrate a serious commitment to creative activities in a general sense, while showing particular interest in a specific area of two or three dimensional activity. While a well-developed range of drawing skills is desirable, a too-precocious ability in this area can be a limitation at this age. Therefore, an intelligent enthusiasm, coupled with an excitement in the creative processes generally, will be looked for in examples of work and at interview.



SPORTS SCHOLARSHIPS

Candidates are assessed by interview and practical activities. They will also be asked to take a multiple-choice test of reading comprehension.

Successful candidates will be awarded to girls and boys who will contribute strongly to the major games played at Clayesmore. For girls, these are Hockey, Netball, Tennis or Athletics and for boys, Rugby, Hockey, Cricket or Athletics. Candidates must be Clayesmore 'A' team standard in at least two of these major games, and be at county standard in one of them. They must also have a strong third sport.

We also offer some scholarships for students who offer just one sport at a very high level – at least county standard – and who have the potential to take this to a much higher level.

Candidates from schools who do not play our major games should not be discouraged from applying. They will be assessed on their athletic potential.

Students who play for a club outside school may submit a reference from their club.



ALL-ROUNDER SCHOLARSHIPS

This type of scholarship is for genuine all-rounders who are likely to make a strong contribution to Clayesmore life in a broad way but who are not necessarily quite up to the standard of the scholarships in all the separate disciplines.

Candidates are expected to display a good standard of academic attainment, as well as ability and promise in sport, where candidates should be of 'A' team standard in at least one major game and be a strong participant in at least two further areas of school life. It is anticipated that these will be chosen from Music, Art, Design & Technology and Drama, but other skill areas such as Dance or Speech & Drama will be considered.

Candidates will be interviewed by the Head and/or the Deputy Head Academic.

Candidates will be given opportunities to demonstrate their capabilities in sport and their other specified skills. They will be exposed to a series of tests designed to identify current standard, potential and ability to respond to coaching/teaching. Candidates may provide a reference from an external club/ county coach, music teacher, etc. to verify achieved standards.

Candidates will also take a multiple-choice test of reading comprehension.





CLAYESMORE

SIXTH FORM SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships are available for academic performance or for excellence in music, art or sport. Candidates should have strong potential in their chosen areas and be academically ambitious.

All candidates must take exams and attend interviews at Clayesmore.

Students who have access arrangements can be accommodated: an Educational Psychologist's report or specialist teacher assessment should be sent to us with the application form. Current pupils with scholarships awarded at Year 9 entry looking for Year 12 entry are invited to re-apply for Sixth Form scholarships.

SIXTH FORM ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

Assessment is by examination and interview.

Successful candidates will be predicted a strong set of GCSE grades, and have a lively interest in the subjects they wish to study at A Level. Candidates take a one hour paper in each of the three subjects they would like to take in Year 12, or a suitable alternative chosen by the student if the course is new to them. They will also be asked to take a test of reading comprehension, and be interviewed by the Deputy Head Academic and / or the Head of Sixth Form.

Sixth Form Academic Scholars are expected to play a leading role in the academic side of school life, demonstrating exceptional commitment to their work and by participating fully in academic clubs and societies.



SIXTH FORM MUSIC SCHOLARSHIPS

Assessment is by audition and interview.

Candidates must offer two instruments, one of which may be voice. Candidates should prepare two pieces on their first instrument and one on their second, with or without accompaniment. Candidates are welcome to perform on a third instrument/voice in order to demonstrate their full musical ability. Total performance time should not exceed 25 minutes. Singing as a first, second or third option is encouraged though not compulsory. Sight-reading, scales and aural tests appropriate to the grade level of the candidate will be given. The standard of performance on the first instrument should not be less than that of Grade 6 of the Associated Board or other recognised music conservatoires.

Auditions will be followed by a short interview during which the candidate's motivation and interest in music will be assessed. It should be stressed that musical potential is as important a factor in this assessment as instrumental or vocal prowess. A Music Scholar must expect to play a full part in the musical life of the school - being ready to perform solos and to be a member of any appropriate ensembles, including choir. We would hope that any Sixth Form Music Scholars would take Music A Level.



SIXTH FORM ART SCHOLARSHIPS

Assessment is by practical test and interview.

Candidates will be expected to demonstrate a strong commitment to Art and Art History, as well as an interest in contemporary Art. While we would expect to see a wide range of techniques and a willingness to experiment, we would also like to see evidence of development within a specialist area such as Painting, Sculpture or Ceramics. An advanced level of visual sophistication will be expected.

Candidates should be able to demonstrate a high standard of analytical drawing and an understanding of the energy and commitment needed to achieve well at A Level standard. Scholars will be invited to submit work for exhibitions and be expected to participate in workshops and life drawing on a regular basis. All Sixth Form Art Scholars are expected to take Art A Level.



SIXTH FORM SPORTS SCHOLARSHIPS

Assessment is by practical tests and interview.

Candidates should be capable of competing in at least two 'major game' teams and demonstrate above average technical ability in a third sport.

Sometimes a scholarship is awarded in a specific sport where only one skill, sport or event is offered. In such cases candidates should be able to provide evidence of achievement of competing at a minimum of 'county' level and demonstrate the desire and practical physical and technical ability to reach divisional and/or national level in their specific sport or event.

Sixth Form sports scholars are expected to be highly motivated, self-disciplined, and able to maintain their commitment to their sport and participate in a variety of formal and informal school sports and activities. It is also expected that a Sixth Form sports scholar will act as a role model for younger pupils in terms of behaviour and conduct. They must demonstrate a high level of drive, ambition and self-discipline to be able to cope with the demands of sustained high-level training and maintain their personal academic standards whilst pursuing their sporting goals.

A Sports Scholar is expected to make a commitment to sport beyond that of non-scholarship pupils and take part in the Sports Development Group training programme. It is the policy of the School for all pupils to represent School teams when selected and sports scholars particularly may be asked to support minor games teams if relevant. Sport Scholars are expected to enter any competitions as a member of 'Clayesmore School', except where the school does not meet competition qualification criteria.

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY SCHOLARSHIPS

Candidates are assessed by interview at Clayesmore and by submitting a portfolio of work.

Students should be able to demonstrate above average skill and enthusiasm in the area of creative problem solving and the physical manufacture of high quality productions in the workshops. Successful candidates are likely to have good drawing and CAD skills and take pride in the presentation of their work.

It is expected that a Design & Technology award winner will give their time freely and willingly to support the department.

Candidates should bring a portfolio of both recent and past graphics/drawing work and one piece of recent practical work and be able to discuss and explain their work in the interview.

The candidate's graphics/drawing/CAD work should demonstrate an ability to communicate ideas and concepts at a high level. Practical work will be examined and discussed in terms of quality and skills used in its manufacture.

The candidate's general views on technological issues and developments in the world at large will also be sought and examined.

Candidates will be interviewed by the Head and /or the Deputy Head Academic and the Head of Design & Technology.





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