



SOLIHULL

# Scholarships and Exhibition Awards

A M B I T I O N - O P P O R T U N I T Y - C O M M U N I T Y

# A word from our Scholars & Exhibition Holders

Being awarded a scholarship made me feel recognised for all the hard work and effort that I put in. Furthermore, it provided me with extra support, guidance and some great opportunities.

*Tom (Academic)*

The Scholars' Programme at Solihull School has presented me with multiple beneficial opportunities, many of those which pique my interest, such as being encouraged to join the LAMDA public speaking programme.

*Raksha (Academic)*

As a scholar, I have taken advantage of the wide range of super activities such as academic lectures and workshops that have set me up very well for university applications. It also kickstarted my involvement in Debating; something that I have thoroughly enjoyed.

*Sophie (Academic)*

Being a scholar has provided me with fantastic support and opportunities as well as enabling me to contribute to school life and develop my team and leadership skills.

*Katy (Music)*

I am immensely appreciative of the extraordinary music community at Solihull School, where I have consistently received support and faced challenges that have enhanced my musical growth. The dedicated Music Department staff and the numerous opportunities available have inspired me to pursue a future career in music.

*George (Music)*

Being a scholar ensures there is never a dull moment due to exciting play rehearsals and the wonderful people that I work with.

*Liam (Performing Arts)*

I am so grateful for such an enriching Scholars' Programme which offers me endless opportunities to do what I love!

*Jennifer (Performing Arts)*

Being a scholarship award holder is amazing. I am able to represent the school in an area in which I have a great interest. I love that I can mentor younger peers and get them involved in all the brilliant things that my scholarship offers.

*Caspar (Performing Arts)*

Sport at Solihull School has been so inclusive and rewarding and has given me so many unforgettable life experiences.

*Seb (Sport)*





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## Message from the Executive Headmaster

Solihull School is one of the great schools of England and I am delighted that you are thinking about putting yourself forward for a scholarship or an exhibition here. We offer a confident, rich programme in innovation and creativity.

Solihull School is academic and ambitious. The pupils and the staff work hard here for success in every subject discipline and in an amazing variety of sports, music, art, dance and drama. During your application itself and once you have become a member of this school, we will encourage you to show us what you can do. We know what excellence looks like and we know how to help you to show us the very best of yourself. You will find the teachers are your keenest supporters and that we want you to do well. You will enjoy the rigour of our assessments. You will rise to the challenge of the process.

**You will never regret applying to join us here at Solihull.**

**Charles Fillingham**  
Executive Headmaster



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Being awarded a scholarship or exhibition at Solihull begins a journey of growth, exploration, and self-discovery for pupils with exceptional potential







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We are not just looking for the brightest talents, but those who have a spark, an independent spirit, and great curiosity. Scholars and exhibition holders are the trailblazers, who view challenges as opportunities and emerge even more resilient with each trial they face.

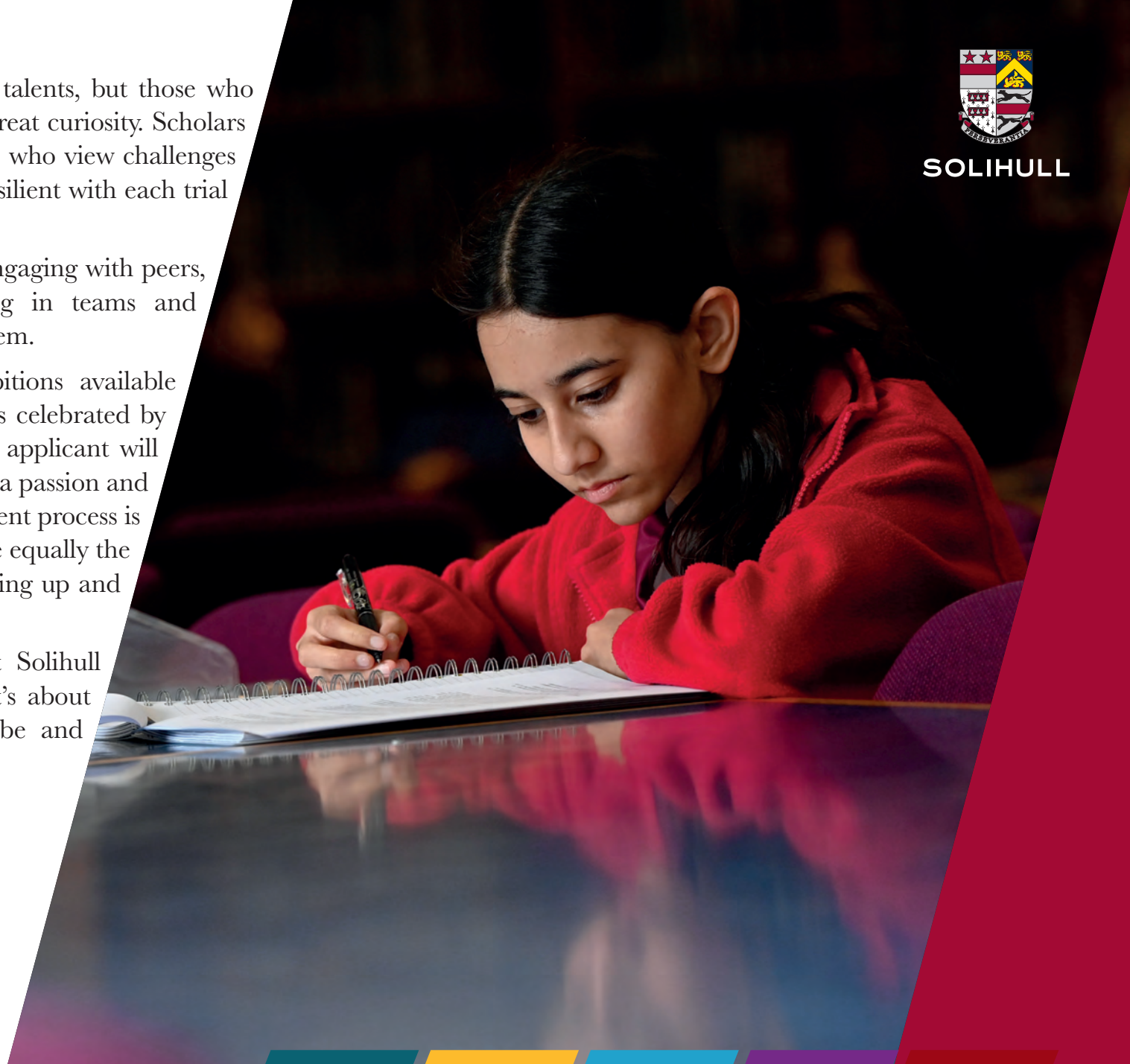
They are active members of school life; engaging with peers, collaborating with teachers, participating in teams and ensembles and motivating those around them.

The breadth of scholarships and exhibitions available represents the diversity of talent and skills celebrated by the Solihull community. Whilst not every applicant will be successful, we encourage all pupils with a passion and desire to apply. We ensure that the assessment process is a fun and enjoyable experience as we value equally the effort pupils put into the process, by stepping up and putting themselves forward.

Being a scholar or exhibition holder at Solihull means more than just winning a prize, it's about committing to being the best one can be and leading the way for others to follow.

Kind regards,

**Mrs K L Robinson**  
Deputy Head Academic



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# Academic Scholarships & Exhibitions

## **We are pleased to offer Academic Scholarships & Exhibitions at 11+ and at 16+.**

Typically, a scholarship will be offered with some fee remission whereas an exhibition is without fee remission. Both are considered to be highly prestigious.

### ***Aims of the programme:***

- To nurture exceptional academic ability
- To provide a framework for pupils to excel in their academic studies and be academically aspirational
- To provide opportunities for Scholars & Exhibition Holders to be active participants in the intellectual life of the school and to share their skills with others

### ***Applicants should:***

- Have high levels of general academic potential
- Demonstrate intellectual curiosity
- Have the resources and drive to learn independently
- Have a passion for academic study

### ***Examples of activities and support:***

- Mentoring and support from a designated academic coach
- Opportunities to attend and present at our lecture series “Thinking Outside the Box”
- Completion of LAMDA award public speaking examinations
- Entering national reading competitions such as The Royal Society Book Competition
- Developing language skills via the UK Linguistics Olympiad
- Attending the Loynton Lecture Series

- A percentage fee remission (scholarships only)
- Crest award (Science and Engineering)
- A bespoke programme for aspiring Oxbridge applicants, for future medics, dentists and for the next generation of veterinarians

### ***Expectations of Academic Scholars & Exhibition Holders:***

- To demonstrate high levels of effort and attainment
- To contribute actively to the academic life of Solihull School
- To attend all Scholars’ & Exhibition Holders’ sessions
- To take advantage of the wide range of enrichment opportunities on offer and work to develop their intellectual passion
- To enter academic competitions such as essay writing and Olympiad
- To be a voracious reader
- To attend academic lectures regularly
- To support and coach younger pupils, being a role model to others
- To be an ambassador for academia, the Scholars’ & Exhibition Holders’ Programme and the school at all times



# How to Apply

## 11+

- External applicants may apply online, pupils currently in J4 (Year 6) at Solihull Preparatory School should contact the Admissions Office
- The Executive Headmaster considers the performance of the pupil in the examination and interview, as well as their general academic profile.

## 16+

- External applicants may apply online, pupils currently in Upper Fifth (Year 11) at Solihull School should contact the Admissions Office
- Candidates will usually be predicted a minimum of Grade 8 in at least six subjects
- Candidates will sit a one-hour multiple choice, critical thinking paper

The Executive Headmaster considers the performance of the pupil in the examination and interview (external applicants), as well as their academic profile.

*All Scholarships & Exhibitions are awarded at the discretion of the Executive Headmaster. All dates relating to the Scholarship & Exhibition process are available on the school website or from the Admissions Office.*



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# Art Scholarships & Exhibitions

**We are pleased to offer Art Scholarships & Exhibitions at 11+ and at 16+.**

**Typically, a scholarship will be offered with some fee remission whereas an exhibition is without fee remission. Both are considered to be highly prestigious.**

## *Aims of the programme:*

- To provide a framework for pupils to excel in Art
- To create an environment where pupils have opportunities to create, exhibit and grow in confidence developing their artistic skills
- To provide opportunities to access high quality teaching and prepare students for university and art college where appropriate

## *Applicants should:*

- Be confident and innovative artists or designers who practise their skill regularly
- Be able to demonstrate potential for outstanding performance as an artist or designer
- Be able to articulate and demonstrate a passion for Art

## *Examples of activities and support:*

- Mentoring by art department staff and senior art scholars and exhibition holders
- Opportunities to further explore Art by attending workshops and life drawing classes as well as meeting professional artists
- Opportunities to work on whole school Art projects such as completing large canvas works for public spaces

- One-to-one coaching, support and advice to develop as an artist
- Access to outstanding facilities
- Help to organise and lead specific Art events that are scheduled throughout the school year
- Opportunities to teach and to share skills and knowledge with pupils in both the Preparatory School and Senior School
- A percentage fee remission (scholarships only)

## *Expectations of Art Scholars & Exhibition Holders:*

- To be confident and innovative artists and designers who practise/draw regularly
- To attend all Scholars' & Exhibition Holders' sessions and mentor meetings
- To play an active role in the Art life of the school
- To direct and instruct younger pupils and be a role model at all times
- To be an ambassador for the Art Department, the Scholars' & Exhibition Holders' Programme and the school at all times



# How to apply

- External applicants may apply online, current pupils at Solihull School should contact the Admissions Office
- Applicants will be sent a drawing task to produce at home after the registration closing date and given approximately 10 days to complete. The artwork should be completed by the applicant alone without any help from parents, teachers or other sources
- Applicants should submit a supporting reference from their current Art teacher before the assessment
- Shortlisted candidates will be invited to attend an Art assessment and should provide a portfolio of their most recent work; completed within the last 12 months

## *The assessment will comprise:*

- An interview about experience and interest in Art
- A short practical drawing task
- A discussion about the drawing task and portfolio work

A Level Art is a required option for 16+ candidates applying for an Art scholarship or exhibition.

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# Music Scholarships & Exhibitions

**We are pleased to offer Music, Choral and Organ Scholarships and Exhibitions at 11+ and at 16+. Typically, a scholarship will be offered with some fee remission whereas an exhibition is without fee remission. Both are considered to be highly prestigious.**

## *Aims of the programme:*

- To provide a framework for pupils to excel in music performance both individually and in ensembles
- To create an environment where pupils have opportunities to perform, grow in confidence and develop their musicianship
- To provide opportunities to access high quality individual teaching and to prepare musicians for university and music college entrance where appropriate

## *Applicants should:*

- Be confident performers, having regular tuition on their chosen instrument(s) or voice
- Practise regularly
- Be confident sight readers
- Have good aural skills
- Perform in instrumental or vocal ensembles
- Have a passion for making music

As a guideline, 11+ candidates will be performing at a strong grade 4 or 5 level on their main instrument or voice, and 16+ candidates will be at grade 7 or 8 level. That said, promising musicians are encouraged to apply even if they have not yet

attained these grades. Solihull is looking for musical potential as well as achievement.

## *Examples of activities and support:*

- Free individual tuition on one instrument or voice
- Access to superb facilities in the David Turnbull Music School and Bushell Hall
- Mentoring by music staff and senior music scholars or exhibition holders where appropriate
- A percentage fee remission (scholarships only)

## *Expectations of Music Scholars & Exhibition Holders:*

- To practise regularly to develop individual performance abilities
- To play an active role in the musical life of the school, performing in school concerts, recitals, assemblies and other school events such as Open Morning and Prizegiving
- To direct and coach younger musicians and ensembles, being a role model for other musicians and pupils in general
- To take graded examinations in practical music and theory
- To join appropriate instrumental and vocal groups. Instrumentalists are expected to join at least one vocal group
- To attend all Scholars' & Exhibitors' sessions and mentor meetings
- To be an ambassador for the Music Department, the Scholars' & Exhibition Holders' Programme and the school at all times



# How to apply

- External applicants may apply online, current pupils at Solihull School should contact the Admissions Office
- Applicants should send a supporting reference for each instrument offered, or voice, before the assessments
- Shortlisted candidates will be invited to attend a Music audition

## *At audition candidates will be asked to perform:*

- Two short but contrasting pieces of their own choice on their main instrument or voice
- One piece of their choice on any other instrument or voice (it is not necessary to offer more than one instrument or voice to apply for a scholarship or an exhibition)
- Scales and sight reading
- Aural tests
- A short song of their choice (unless voice is one of their selected 'instruments')

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# Performing Arts Scholarships & Exhibitions

**We are pleased to offer Performing Arts Scholarships & Exhibitions (Dance/Drama/Musical Theatre) at 11+ and at 16+. Typically, a scholarship will be offered with some fee remission whereas an exhibition is without fee remission. Both are considered to be highly prestigious.**

## *Aims of the programme:*

- To provide a supportive framework in which pupils can excel within Performing Arts; providing opportunities for pupils to grow in confidence and develop their skills, becoming innovative thinkers and creators, and confident performers
- To provide opportunities for pupils to access high quality teaching and experiences to prepare them for higher educational establishments and the Performing Arts industry where appropriate

## *Applicants should:*

- Be confident and innovative performers in one or more of the disciplines of Dance/Drama/Musical Theatre
- Be able to demonstrate potential for outstanding success in one or more of these areas
- Be able to articulate and demonstrate a passion for the Performing Arts

## *Examples of activities and support:*

- Mentoring by dance and/or drama department staff and senior dance and/or drama scholars or exhibition holders
- Opportunities to further explore the Performing Arts by attending workshops, watching live performances and talking to industry professionals
- Opportunities to teach and to share skills and knowledge with pupils in both the Preparatory School and Senior School

- Opportunities to audition for main parts and roles within the various performances in school
- Help to organise and lead specific events that are scheduled throughout the school year
- One-to-one coaching, support and advice with auditions and higher education applications for Performing Arts courses
- Access to excellent facilities
- Support to expand expertise into other fields of Performing Arts, such as tech and lighting
- A percentage fee remission (scholarships only)

## *Expectations of Performing Arts Scholars & Exhibition Holders:*

- To be confident, innovative, dedicated and disciplined
- To attend all Scholars' & Exhibition Holders' Programme sessions
- To play an active role in the Performing Arts life of the school, being involved in relevant experiences, projects or performances, either on or off stage
- To be a role model for younger peers, showing initiative and guiding them to improve their skills
- To be an ambassador for the Performing Arts (Dance/Drama/Musical Theatre), the Scholars' & Exhibition Holders' Programme and the school at all times



# How to apply

- External applicants may apply online, current pupils at Solihull School should contact the Admissions Office
- Applicants should submit a supporting reference from a specialist within their chosen area/areas of expertise before the audition
- Shortlisted candidates will be invited to attend an audition in the style of a workshop, and an individual performance and interview

## *The audition will consist of:*

- A practical workshop with other candidates
- An interview about recent experience and interests
- A performance audition in your chosen discipline

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# Sport Scholarships & Exhibitions

We are pleased to offer Sport Scholarships & Exhibitions in Cricket, Hockey, Netball and Rugby at 11+ and at 16+. Typically, a scholarship will be offered with some fee remission whereas an exhibition is without fee remission. Both are considered to be highly prestigious.

## *Aims of the programme:*

- To provide a framework for pupils to excel in sports performance both individually and within a team setting
- To create an environment where pupils have opportunities to perform and grow in confidence, whilst developing a positive attitude towards training, teamwork and fair play
- To provide opportunities to access high quality individual coaching and to prepare pupils for sport beyond school and university entrance where appropriate

## *Applicants should fulfil one of the following criteria:*

- Regional level or equivalent in cricket, hockey, netball or rugby, where such opportunities exist
- Demonstrable potential for outstanding performance in cricket, hockey, netball or rugby

The school is looking to support outstanding Sport Scholars & Exhibition Holders who, given access to the high level of coaching available at Solihull School, will develop into elite performers in one or more of our major sports.

## *Examples of activities and support:*

- Specialist coaching from internal and external sports coaches where appropriate
- Mentoring by sport staff and senior sport scholars & exhibition holders, where appropriate

- Performance-analysis programmes and support
- Athletic Development Training
- A percentage fee remission (scholarships only)

## *Expectations of Sport Scholars & Exhibition Holders:*

- To be confident performers and train regularly
- To play an active role in the sporting life of the school
- To direct and coach younger pupils, and be a role model for all pupils, representing the sporting life of the school in a positive and inclusive manner
- To be an ambassador for the Sport Department, the Scholars' & Exhibition Holders' Programme and the school at all times





# How to apply

- External applicants may apply online, current pupils at Solihull School should contact the Admissions Office
- Applicants should send a supporting reference from their current Head of Physical Education, or a club coach representative, before the assessments
- Shortlisted candidates will be invited to attend a Sport Scholarship assessment

## *The assessment will consist of:*

- A short briefing by the Director of Sport
- A practical, physical performance assessment marked against criteria selected by the school in one, or more, of the core sports (cricket, hockey, netball and rugby)
- A short interview with our sport staff and Assistant Head (Co-Curricular)

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# Scholarships & Exhibitions - Frequently Asked Questions

## 1. How do I apply for a scholarship or an exhibition?

At 11+, please indicate your intention to apply for a scholarship via our online form. The exception is for academic scholarships and academic exhibitions at 11+ where every candidate is considered for an award automatically.

At 16+, please also apply online - this includes applications for academic awards. All current pupils at Solihull School should contact the Admissions Office. Please feel free to contact the Admissions Office at the school with any questions.

## 2. Can a child apply for more than one scholarship/exhibition?

Yes, they can. They should complete a separate application form for each scholarship they would like to apply for at the time of registration. There are different application criteria for each one and so it is important to check the 'how to apply' sections within this booklet.

## 3. What are the different types of scholarship available at Solihull School?

Academic, Art, Music, Performing Arts, Sport. All of these are available at 11+ and 16+.

## 4. What is the difference between a scholarship and an exhibition?

Both are prestigious and sought-after awards. A scholarship usually comes with a discount on the pupil's school fees whereas an exhibition does not. Both allow access to the programme of enrichment and extension activities.

## 5. What is the financial value of a scholarship at Solihull School?

Scholarships and exhibitions are intended as a recognition of excellence and a signifier of high attainment in the application process. An exhibition is an honorary title only with no financial value, but the award of a scholarship can come with fee remission of 5% or 10%. This discount on fees will normally be applied to school bills each year.

## 6. Can an exhibition be upgraded to a scholarship?

It is possible for a pupil who is awarded an exhibition at 11+ to apply successfully for a scholarship at 16+ in the same or in a different area of school life.

## 7. How will my scholarship or exhibition be recognised in school?

New scholars and exhibition holders are recognised at a formal prizegiving ceremony in their first year at the school. They also receive a badge which is worn every day. Of course, there is also a Scholars' & Exhibition Holders' Programme of mentoring and activities.

## 8. If I am unsuccessful in gaining a scholarship, can I apply for a bursary?

Scholarships and bursaries operate separately from each other. If you would like to apply for a means-tested bursary, you should tick the correct box on the registration form and the necessary paperwork will be sent to you after the registration closing date. Solihull School may use an external company to assess applications for bursaries.

## 9. Do I need to sit a separate exam if applying for an academic scholarship?

Not at 11+, for this entry point, the Executive Headmaster considers the performance in the entrance examination and interview, as well as a confidential report from feeder schools. Applicants are not required to sit a separate exam. Applicants are not allowed to resit the 11+ examination.

At 16+, academic scholarship applicants will sit a one-hour multiple choice, critical thinking paper. The interview performance (external applicants) and grade profile of the candidate, from examinations or predicted grades will also be taken into account. Candidates will usually be predicted a minimum of Grade 8 in at least six subjects if they are to be considered for a scholarship.

## 10. Can I change the dates of my scholarship assessment?

Assessment or audition dates or times cannot be changed to accommodate individual requests. The majority of 11+ and 16+ scholarship assessments take place within the school day Monday-Friday, with some taking place after school on weekdays.

The 16+ academic scholarship examination takes place on a Saturday.

## 11. If I am awarded a scholarship or an exhibition at Solihull School, do I have to choose certain subjects at GCSE or A Level?

Generally speaking, you have a free range of options. The only exception is for an Art scholar or exhibition holder - these pupils must take Art at GCSE and either Art or Photography at A Level.

## 12. Can I request feedback on my scholarship assessment?

We will send formal letters to candidates for scholarships and exhibitions whether they are successful or unsuccessful. Due to the volume of applicants, we are unable to offer personalised feedback on any scholarship application, assessment or audition. Scholarships will be offered exclusively on the basis of merit and the performance demonstrated during the scholarship assessment process.

## 13. Do previously earned Solihull School 11+ scholarships continue into the Sixth Form?

Yes, they are maintained throughout the pupil's time in school up to the end of the Upper Sixth (Year 13). Sometimes, pupils want to apply again for an academic scholarship and, if successful, they are re-awarded the status at the prizegiving ceremony at the start of the Lower Sixth (Year 12).

## 14. What happens if a scholar or exhibition holder does not meet expectations?

The presumption is that scholars and exhibition holders will maintain their awards. In the rare event that the school has concerns about a pupil meeting expectations, it may be necessary to remove the award. Our priority remains to foster a supportive environment to help students achieve their fullest potential at Solihull.

## 15. I am already a pupil at Solihull School, can I apply for a scholarship?

All scholarships are open to pupils at 11+ and 16+. Pupils in J4 (Year 6) or in the Upper Fifth (Year 11) at Solihull can therefore apply for either an 11+ or 16+ scholarship. Given the substantial volume of applications we receive annually, we recommend thoughtful consideration of your suitability before proceeding with your application. Your Form Tutor or Head of Year would be an excellent person to discuss this with.

## 16. As well as the financial remission element, do scholars receive any additional benefits?

Yes, kudos! Scholars become members with full access to a relevant programme. There is also a member of staff attached to each scholar or exhibition holder who will guide them. They will meet with pupils during the school year and will prompt the pupils to challenge themselves and to make the most of opportunities.



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