



BEESTON HALL SCHOOL

**SCHOLARSHIPS TO  
SENIOR SCHOOLS**

**A GUIDE**



### Scholarship options at Beeston Hall School's main feeder schools

School	Academic	Sport	Music	Art	Drama	General/ All-rounder	Other
Ampleforth	Yes	Basil Hume	Yes	Basil Hume	Basil Hume	Basil Hume	Individual scholarships are called Basil Hume Excellence in...
Eton	King's		Yes				
Framlingham	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Albert Memorial	Also: Porter's Science Award; DT award
Gresham's	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Academic Scholarship must be sat for All-Rounder
Harrow	Yes		Yes	Yes			Outstanding Talent Award will consider Sport and Drama
Langley	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	And DT
Oundle	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	And DT
QMY	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Also: Choral and Dance awards
Radley	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Thompson	Thompson accepts Sport as an option
Rugby	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Also: DT
Stowe	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Roxburgh	
Tudor Hall	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Uppingham	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Thring	Also: DT

### **Scholarships Awarded Since 2011**

Senior School	Scholarship awarded (number of)
Framlingham	Albert Memorial (1); Music (1)
Gresham's	Academic (2); All-Rounder (2); Art (2); Drama (2); Music (4); Sport (3)
Langley	All-Rounder (1); Drama (1); Music (1); Sport (1)
Norwich	Music (2)
Oakham	Art (1); Sport (1)
Oundle	Academic (6); General (6); Sport (4)
Radley	Academic (1)
RHS Ipswich	Sailing (1)
Rugby	Academic (1); Sport (2)
Stephen Perse	Academic (1)
Stowe	Sport (1)
The Leys	Academic (1); Sport (1)
Tudor Hall	Academic (1); Art (3); Music (2); Sport (2)
Uppingham	Academic (1); All-Rounder (1); Art (1); Sport (1)

### **But what does it take to become a Scholar at Beeston Hall School?**

Our Scholars will be risk takers, not fearful of trying new things, engaging with others and embracing the diversity of all.

Our Scholars should try to show that they are able to be good role models. They should:

- show tenacity
- be respectful
- have integrity
- show diversity
- be resilient
- be trustworthy
- be fair
- be caring
- show responsibility
- be a good citizen

They should be leaders both in and out of the classroom.

Our Scholars' programme will hold each Scholar responsible for setting personal goals and making commitments towards their educational growth.

Our Scholars' programme will hold each Scholar's parent/guardian responsible for helping their child/ren to be able to reach their personal goals and commitments towards their educational growth.

Our Scholars' programme will hold all our staff responsible for helping the children to realise their personal goals and commitments towards their educational growth.

We will encourage all our young people to believe in themselves and to face challenges with confidence, determination and a sense of excitement. They will learn to think for themselves, to do their very best and to care for others in school and in the wider world. They should also discover their own talents and interests, whether academic, sporting, musical, artistic or in performance.

### **How might my child be recognised as a potential Scholar?**

The decision to enter for a Scholarship to a Senior School reflects your child's demonstration of excellence in one or more areas. Pupils who are awarded scholarships may be considered in a variety of areas of excellence including Academic, Art, Music or Sport. As your child moves through his or her years at Beeston, it may become evident that they have a particular strength or talent and this will be nurtured and encouraged as they move towards their final year.

### **Does my child need to be really bright to get a Scholarship? What if my child is just average at everything?**

Academic, Art, Music or Drama Scholarships are awarded to children who are seen to demonstrate excellence in one of these particular areas. In cases where a child doesn't necessarily excel in any one area but demonstrates an interest and some ability in several areas, the opportunity to take an All-Rounder Scholarship is available to many schools. The All-Rounder Scholarship is made to those children

who don't necessarily excel, but rather demonstrate an interest in, and a certain aptitude for, a variety of disciplines which may include those above and a whole variety of additional ones, such as leadership qualities.

### **What benefits are there to having a Scholarship?**

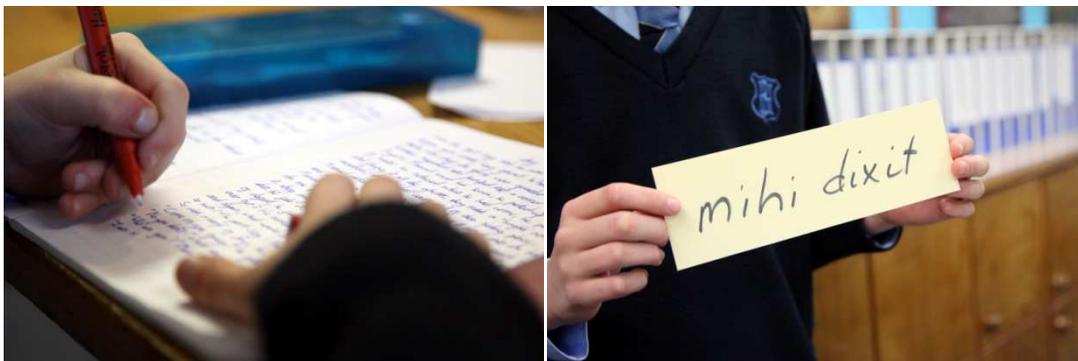
The obvious attraction in attaining a Scholarship is financial, although the value of awards has reduced significantly in recent years. In addition to this, the award of a Scholarship, in any discipline, is seen as a significant achievement by staff and other pupils alike, and certain additional privileges – some of them very longstanding and traditional – are afforded to those Scholars. It is a great achievement to gain a Scholarship and recipients, parents and staff are enormously proud of these awards.

### **Academic Scholarships**



Academic scholars need to be strong in all of the examinable subjects. We first start to find potential scholars during Year 6, although some gifted children will become apparent long before this. You cannot train to be an academic scholar and in fact, it is often the case that the person who always comes top in exams might not be an Academic Scholar. Again, it is down to the future school the child will be attending. An academic scholar should show flair within their work, a willingness to push themselves and a mind ready to explore beyond the boundaries of the examination syllabus.

Each school we feed has slightly different criteria for their scholarship examinations. At one end we have schools that will base their decision on Spring CE results and an interview, to some that use just Maths, English and reasoning, and to others that insist the child must sit a battery of tests approaching near AS/A level standard.



A child who chooses to sit an academic scholarship needs to be prepared. They will be expected to work independently outside the classroom, complete holiday work to a high standard and read around all their subjects (and others) without being forced. If the child also wishes to sit other scholarships, they may find that their final terms at school are VERY hard work and that holidays are non-existent.

If we believe your child would be able to acquit themselves well in an academic Scholarship examination then we would contact you towards the end of Year 7 to inform you. Obviously, you may not wish your child to sit the exam and there is no guarantee that a scholarship would be awarded. Children from some schools are 'hot housed' into winning these awards – we do not believe in that - but will do everything we can to ensure that your child performs well and shows themselves in the best light. We prepare the children for interview, but again, this is not formulaic as future schools can spot a child who has memorised answers. They want them to show spontaneity and confidence. The feedback we receive from our feeder schools is always favourable even if the candidate is not awarded a scholarship.

### **Spotting a potential Academic Scholar**

If a child:

- has obvious talent in one or more fields
- has a strong focus and works hard to develop a complex, deep and sophisticated understanding
- is naturally inquisitive
- immerses themselves in the learning environment
- is articulate
- is persistent in their aim to understand and demands deeper explanations
- is passionate about their studies
- is usually highly productive and wishing to do their best at all times
- is usually very competitive especially with other bright children

then that child has the potential to be a Scholar and should be nurtured accordingly.

---

### **Art Scholarships**



Potential Art scholars must be keen to extend their work and will have shown interest and ability beyond what is expected for their age. Senior schools usually ask Scholars to prepare a portfolio of more than ten quality pieces in any media for their interview. Candidates should be able to discuss their work confidently. They should know about one or two artists they admire and be able to talk about how they relate to their work using appropriate vocabulary. They will also have a drawing test. Individual schools differ and details are available on their websites.

The criteria for joining the Art Scholarship Group are ability, interest, time commitment and perseverance. The pupil's ability to make a substantial quantity of good quality preparation studies in their sketch books and finished pieces is vital.

### **How do we prepare the children for the various scholarships?**

Scholars have extra time with the Head of Art to do their own project work. We currently have three 45 minute lunch time sessions; a 45-minute prep session on Monday and an activity session of about an hour on Thursday evenings.

### **Pupil commitment and support from home.**

The children need to prioritise their Art if they are to be successful. They need to want to do it more than other interests as it demands a considerable commitment in time and effort. Parents will improve their child's chances if they take them on visits to galleries, encourage watching DVDs/ TV programmes about artists and obtain books at suitable levels for their children to read about art. A place to work in and materials to use are all important. Visits to schools where children want to be scholars and meeting the Art Department staff help children feel confident at interview, and also give them opportunity to talk about their interests with them.

### **Keys to success as an Art Scholar**

#### Enthusiasm and interest.

Their sketch book, portfolio and interview must show potential scholars have a keen interest in learning more, have a passion for their own and others' work and can include photos of their own large scale work or 3 dimensional works.

#### Skilled and experimental

Scholars will possess the ability to experiment and extend how materials can be used. They will develop the ability to use mix colours precisely, using line to suggest different texture, tone and three dimensions. They will be curious as to how other artists make their work, and about the artist's thinking and use their techniques, experimenting to make their own work.

#### Excited by Visual stimulus

Scholars should have keen observational skills. They will be children who find looking at Art e.g. illustrations, sculptures, pictures in books, films and photos in magazines and galleries inspiring, and who enjoy the visual world. This should be reflected in their sketch books. Visual information such as cut outs from magazines as reference for their work can be stuck in and used for reference. Tickets and postcards from exhibitions which inspire them can also be included as reminders.

#### Attitude

Scholars will learn to express their ideas about Art using appropriate vocabulary and listen thoughtfully to advice asking for help when they need it. Scholars think positively about the value of Art and their own work and how Art is valued in society, and where it is used. They will want to make the most of their opportunities in Art and think of it as a long term interest. They must be self motivated to practice and improve their observational drawing skills. They will be expected to lead pupils' Art in their new schools and almost certainly get an A\* at GCSE. Their independence should be developing, and their work and interests should not always be teacher or parent led.

### **Applications for scholarship to Senior Schools.**

Parents apply for their child to take a scholarship **only** after talking to the Head Master and the Head of Art and **only** if all agree together that the child should apply. This collective decision should be the outcome of an ongoing dialogue. We encourage you to speak to the Head of Art regularly to ask how your child is doing and come in and see their work.

Pupils can realistically only be entered for scholarship if they have produced sufficient work of a high enough standard and are keen to be Senior School Art scholars, take a lead here at Beeston in Art and want to do the same in their new school.

### **When do scholarships take place?**

Art Scholarships place at different times of the year. Application dates are often well in advance of interview dates. Earlier scholarships mean that children have less time to prepare. Uppingham and some other schools set a task for pupils to complete, so early application is advised to provide pupils with plenty of time to prepare. All schools have details on their website about how and when to apply, Bursaries and details about their interviews and exams for scholarship are also explained.

---

### **Sport Scholarships**



### **Is your child up to Sports Scholarship standard?**

There is no set Sports Scholarship standard as Senior Schools have differing sporting standards and they are not all looking for the same attributes in a Sports Scholar.

### **My child is an excellent sportsman/woman. Does this mean that he/she will definitely achieve a Scholarship?**

The simple answer here is NO. Sports Scholarships can be a real lottery and you don't necessarily know the standard of the other pupils attempting the Scholarship. Your child may turn up on the day and find they are in a group with several pupils who have represented England and your son/daughter has only represented Norfolk.

### **My child is not brilliant at sports. Is it worth them still attempting the Scholarship?**

Yes. As long as we feel that they are going to acquit themselves well, there is no harm in them attempting it. In most cases we don't know the standard of the other pupils attempting the Scholarship and your child might arrive on the day and find that there are very few candidates present, none of whom are particularly strong.

### **What are Senior Schools looking for in a Sports Scholar?**

Once again there is no straightforward answer to this. Some schools are looking for pupils who will contribute to 1<sup>st</sup> teams in three sports. Some schools stipulate that they want a child to be of county

standard in two sports. Others look for a child who will bring that school national recognition in a certain sport whilst also contributing to the main team sports. All Senior Schools are looking for pupils who are going to set the highest standards for themselves and are going to act as sporting role models within the school. More information regarding what a particular Senior School is looking for in a potential Sports Scholar can usually be found on that School's website. Alternatively, there is nothing stopping you contacting the Director of Sport at that School and asking them what they are looking for.

### **Which Schools offer Sports Scholarships?**

The answer is now that most schools offer some sort of Sports Scholarship although it may go under a different name. For example, Harrow's 'Outstanding Talent Award' and Radley's 'Thompson Award'.

### **What does the process entail?**

As you might expect, all schools do things a little differently. However, most assess in all three major boys'/girls' sports as well as offering the opportunity to perform in any specific events in which you believe your child excels: swimming or tennis perhaps. In the case of Athletics, the school will consider your child's recorded times/distances. However, almost without exception, they will interview your child on sporting matters and they will carry out some sort of fitness and basic co-ordination testing.

### **How will I know if my child has the potential to become a Sports Scholar?**

Your child's physical and sporting development is observed at Beeston by different staff during PE and Games sessions and information is fed back to the Director of Sport (who teaches all the PE in the School) who will then make contact with you. In most cases, Year 6 is when it is possible to suggest that a child may have the potential to attempt a Sports Scholarship. However, we do recognise that children develop at different stages.

### **What do Senior Schools base their judgment on and when?**

Many Senior Schools send their sports' staff to Prep. Schools to watch potential Sports Scholars perform or they send staff to referee/umpire matches so they can see them actually perform in a match situation. More often than not, they send them to IAPS and other tournaments where they can see a child perform in several matches. They gain a far greater awareness of a child's overall ability when performing in match situations as opposed to a 'one-off' trial day where they only see them performing skills and participating in a variety of tests. There is also a high degree of importance placed upon what we say about the child in our references and in the other references that they receive from their internal and external sports coaches. Most Sports Scholarships take place in the Michaelmas Term or near the beginning of the Lent Term.

### **Expectations of Beeston Team Members**

- Be aware of all practices and fixtures and check sports notice boards regularly.
- If you have to leave lessons early, ask the member of staff before the lesson begins or preferably write a note in advance. You should always know when your departure time is.
- Ensure that you have all of the necessary equipment and that you are properly dressed.
- When travelling to an away fixture, you should wear a full tracksuit.
- Your behaviour while travelling by coach or minibus should be exemplary.
- Take responsibility for ensuring that water bottles, first aid kit, balls, kit bags etc. are taken to fixtures and returned to School afterwards.

- Use time prior to the start of the match to warm up and prepare.
- Always try your hardest during matches and practices, even if things are not going your way.
- Never let your head drop. Team selections are made for effort as well as ability.
- Demonstrate good sportsmanship and never question an official's decision.
- Shake hands with your opponents at the end of the match.
- Attending match tea is compulsory and is very much part of being a team member.
- Ensure that your opponents have got their match tea before you have yours.
- Sit with your opponents during match tea, say goodbye to your opponents on their departure and always excuse yourself at the end of a match by asking your coach if you may leave.
- Thank your coach.
- Playing for a School Team is a privilege that must be earned by doing all of the above.
- **SPORTS SCHOLARS SHOULD SET THE HIGHEST EXAMPLE WITH REGARDS TO EVERY ASPECT OF PLAYING FOR A TEAM, NOT ONLY IN THE WAY THAT THEY PERFORM ON THE PITCH.**

### Drama Scholarships



### Is your child up to a Drama Scholarship standard?

There is no set Drama Scholarship standard as Senior Schools have differing standards/assessments.

### My child is excellent on the stage. Does this mean that he/she will definitely achieve a Scholarship?

The simple answer here is NO. You don't necessarily know the standard of the other pupils attempting the Scholarship; your child may turn up on the day and find they are in a group with several pupils who have been in a number of professional stage productions. Whilst it is about your child's talent and potential, it is also about the quality of the competition.

### What are Senior Schools looking for in a Drama Scholar?

Once again there is no straightforward answer to this. All Senior Schools are looking for pupils who are going to set the highest standards for themselves and are going to act as role models within the school. More information regarding what a particular Senior School is looking for in a potential Drama Scholar can usually be found on that School's website. Alternatively, there is nothing stopping you contacting the Director of Drama at that School and asking them what they are looking for.

### Which Schools offer Drama Scholarships?

Most schools offer some sort of Drama Scholarship although it may go under a different name and/or be part of an All-Rounder/General Scholarship.

### **What does the process entail?**

As you might expect, all schools do things a little differently. Schools will generally ask the children to prepare a piece of drama to showcase their talent; they will also be interviewed and most likely be asked to do some group exercises with the other candidates.

### **How will I know if my child has the potential to become a Drama Scholar?**

In most cases, Year 6 is when it is possible to suggest that a child may have the potential to attempt a Drama Scholarship. However, we do recognise that children develop at different stages.

### **What do Senior Schools base their judgement on and when?**

Some Senior Schools send a member of their Drama Department to Prep Schools to watch potential Drama Scholars perform. There is also a high degree of importance placed upon what we say about the child in our references and in the other references that they might receive from external sources. Most Drama Scholarships take place in the Lent Term of Year 8.

---

## **Music Scholarships**



### **When and how?**

The majority of Music Scholarships take place in the Lent Term, between January and March. Year 7 is a crucial year for building towards a Music Scholarship, with the Michaelmas Term of Year 8 being the one where all the hard work and preparation is pulled together in the lead up for the audition and interview.

### **How can we all help?**

Working towards a Scholarship is all about pulling together as a team. The pupil takes the responsibility for maintaining a good work ethic; the teacher delivers the programme of work and gives encouragement and guidance; the parent gives support by facilitating practice and nurturing interest.

### **Expectations for potential Music Scholars:**

- To be a hardworking and conscientious member of school ensembles and groups.
- To perform at concerts and contribute to the musical activities within the school.

- To demonstrate a real love for music and to enjoy all the different aspects of music within the Music School.
- To be a keen pupil and to show enthusiasm.
- To love making music and to make it a priority.
- To maintain a structured and disciplined practice schedule.
- To show reliability and to have a hardworking attitude.
- To work hard, love music and show a keenness to be involved in all things musical.

### **Expectations for teachers:**

Music scholars are given time to develop their skills and talents and are closely supported by the Director of Music. The timetable accommodates Scholars, with sessions set aside for development of musical skills.

Pupils are given excellent instrumental tuition by visiting professional tutors. These members of the music staff follow guidelines for preparing scholars for their Senior Schools and give their time and expertise to furthering and developing the talents of prospective pupils.

Time is set aside to develop performance skills, delivery, aural training, interview technique, singing, Viva Voce.

Good relationships are built with the Senior School of choice.

The Director of Music visits the Senior School of choice, with the prospective Scholar, for an informal audition/meeting in preparation for the main audition.

The Director of Music supports music practice sessions.

### **Expectations for Parents**

Parents are expected to support their children with their music practice, making it a priority during holidays, and by encouraging a regular and disciplined routine to ensure progress is made, particularly in the lead up to an exam.

It is hoped that parents will see the benefits of opening their children's minds by encouraging visits to concerts and performances covering a range of musical genres.

Equally, parents are encouraged to expose their children to music of all eras and to support this by engaging them in conversation which relates to it.

### **All Rounder Scholarships**

There is a wide range of All-Rounder Scholarships now available at most Senior Schools. Most awards will assess academic performance as well as Sport, Music, Drama and/or Art depending on the area of excellence. In addition, most assessments include team building and leadership exercises where the children are monitored carefully to see how they contribute in group exercises.

It is advisable to research Senior School websites for further information with regards to more General/All-Rounder Scholarships.

