



MERCHANT TAYLORS'
School

Scholarships and Bursaries





Scholarships

There is not, nor should there be, a fixed idea about what a Merchant Taylors' Scholar should look like. However, what they will all have in common is a love of learning. They should enjoy a challenge, and be ambitious in their desire to learn more. They should be ready to show initiative and take a lead in their own learning and in the academic life of the school. They should be ready to show boldness in their pursuit of excellence and knowledge, and recognise both the necessity of failure and the importance of persistence if they are to succeed.

At Merchant Taylors' we seek to celebrate the exceptional talents of our scholars, and aid their progress by providing a programme of enrichment and guidance beyond their normal lessons.

Scholarships are awarded at the 11+ and 13+. However there is also an opportunity for internal promotion at the end of the Thirds, Upper Thirds, and Fourth, thus ensuring that every boy has the opportunity to join to the program.



Academic Scholarships

- Major Academic Scholars
- Exhibitioners

Subject Scholarships

- Sport
- Music
- Drama
- Art
- Design Technology

Bursaries

For more information please see our website www.mtsn.org.uk/admissions



Academic

The Scholarship Programme

All Academic Scholars – both major and minor – join a Scholarship Programme as soon as they arrive at Merchant Taylors'. They attend regular talks and seminars offered by a range of teachers, on varied topics. Recent sessions have covered the likes of vaccine trials, number theory, Sino-US relations, pre-Socratic philosophers, and Proto-Indo-European.

In addition, every scholar meets with the Director of Scholarship at least once each term, to talk over his academic interests and development.

Essay Competition

All scholars are invited to enter the annual Scholars' Essay Prize, which is judged externally (most recently by Dr Amy Russell of Brown University). The winning essay is published in the school's annual Literary Supplement.

Scholars' Dinner

An annual Scholars' Dinner provides an opportunity for scholars to come together for a formal dinner, with a guest speaker. Most recently, this was Dr John Taylor, Keeper of the Egypt Collection at the British Museum.

Academic societies and speakers

We expect our Scholars to be fully involved in the academic life of the school beyond the classroom. Numerous academic societies meet regularly and host guest speakers, and we look to our Scholars to take a lead in these.



Music

In addition to enjoying a full programme of enrichment, Music Scholars are all recipients of financial awards offered by the school. As such, there are certain expectations of music award holders that are conditional upon acceptance of the award.

There are two strands of award: Music Scholar, and Music Exhibitioner.

Fee remission and free tuition

Financially, Music Scholars receive a fee remission (up to 25%) and free tuition on two instruments, while Music Exhibitioners receive free tuition on two instruments. There are currently 25 music award holders, 13 Music Scholars and 12 Music Exhibitioners.

A commitment to Music

Music award holders are expected to make a considerable contribution to the musical life of the school. They are all expected to opt for Music in the Fourth Form, to sing in the School Choir and to play in such orchestras, bands and ensembles as the music staff think suitable. Music award holders should also demonstrate genuine progress on their instruments.

The programme offered to music award holders includes:

Tuition

Free instrumental tuition on two instruments (up to the value of the cost of such tuition at MTS – some music scholars have lessons at Junior Music College departments, e.g. Royal Academy of Music.

Specific performance opportunities, e.g. the music award holders' informal concerts, as well as workshops covering such topics as performance anxiety and Alexander Technique, are arranged to complement the Music Scholars' enrichment programme.

Trips

The opportunity to attend music award holders' trips, once each term, to see professional performances together in London (recent trips have been to the Wigmore Hall, the Barbican, and the Royal Festival Hall). All music award holders enjoy priority invitations to music tours to Europe and beyond.

Prestigious competitions

The opportunity to join a chamber music ensemble at school, as appropriate, and, as such, take part in the prestigious South East Schools' Chamber Music Festival which includes a coaching session with professional chamber musicians and the potential to perform chamber music at major London venues including St John's, Smith Square in Westminster.

Art

There are a range of opportunities for Art Scholars, which supplement the extensive range of activities in Art lessons.

Extension classes

The boys have extension classes with in which they refine their techniques.

National Competitions

Their independent work is entered into competitions such as the National Arts Exhibition and displayed around the school. The Sixth Form scholars have entered other national competitions which have included the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition in

which one pupil was accepted to feature in the final show.

Cross-curricular art

Lower School Scholars have also over the last two years worked on a range of cross curricular large-scale art pieces including the mural in the Chapel Our Scholars are ambassadors for Art within the school.

Ambassadors

As well as involvement with the Prep School and other junior schools, boys are encouraged to take every opportunity – and these occur frequently - to promote the subject.





Drama

Drama Scholars are expected to take part in all extra-curricular Drama at the school, and to do Drama up to GCSE level. A number of Drama Scholars are also currently taking Theatre Studies at A Level. There are many benefits to being a Drama Scholar:

Theatre Visits

Drama Scholars go to professional productions several times a year for free. Theatre trips in recent years have included 'Come from Away' at the Phoenix Theatre and 'The Jungle' at The Playhouse Theatre. The next theatre visit is to 'The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time' at Wembley Park Theatre. Scholars are also encouraged to sign up for trips and workshops; on a recent Field Day, boys enjoyed a day at Shakespeare's Globe and the National Theatre. Scholars also have access to Drama Online and Digital Theatre Plus and are guided towards an exciting range of online productions.

Co-Curricular Drama

Drama Scholars have numerous opportunities to participate in Co-Curricular Drama. They can audition for the Senior Play or Senior Musical, held in the Autumn in alternate years. Recent productions have included Les Misérables School Edition and Our Country's Good. The boys often have the opportunity to collaborate with girls from St Helen's on such productions. Younger scholars take part in the Junior Play in the Spring. Recent productions have included Our Day Out and The Tempest. Drama Scholars are usually also involved in other Drama events including the Duologues Competition and House Drama. Boys have the opportunity to work across the age range, with senior boys often directing and mentoring younger pupils. Drama Scholars interested in technical theatre have the opportunity to train in lighting, sound and stage management with the theatre technician. They are also encouraged to take part in workshops with visiting practitioners, most recently, with Frantic Assembly.

A great tradition

This year, three MTS Drama Scholars won places in the prestigious National Youth Theatre, completing Summer 2021 courses. Alumni include Riz Ahmed (Star Wars) and Nigel Lindsay (played Shrek on West End and Broadway).





Sport

An MTS Sports Scholarship aims to provide a support network to promote elite sporting performance at MTS as well as refine individual skills and promote all-round physical fitness. We expect our scholars to play representative sport at all opportunities, make themselves available for all Scholar sessions throughout the year and meet their mentor on a regular basis.

Scholarship Programme

Student-Player Performance Pathway

The Performance pathway allows scholars to access appropriate levels of coaching and support for their talents. The programme enables the student scholar to grow and progress with the help of advanced sport science, coaching excellence and individual support. The programme is proud to support excellence pathways of a number of the elite youth academies in our area such as Middlesex County Cricket Club, Wasps Rugby and Junior England Hockey Programmes.

Mentorship

Each scholar is assigned a mentor from within the PE Department with the target of raising individual awareness of strengths and converting them to world class strengths and exposing weaknesses.

The staff facilitate these sessions during the week and add in additional training sessions at a time that fits in around the pupil's academic pressures. These sessions also provide support for the scholar's academic work & sports balance.

Physical and mental conditioning

Over the course of each term, the scholars are tested on core fitness elements identified within their sports. Having assessed areas of strength and weakness, the scholars receive an individualised fitness programme to address them from our professional Strength and Conditioning Coach.

Scholars Kit

Scholars receive additional scholars' kit to complement the School's Games Package.

Design & Technology

After the construction of the stunning new Design Centre in 2015, Scholars can now expect the following from the D&T Scholars' Programme:

Advanced skills acquisition

Boys can see a member of the department for an afterschool session once every fortnight to learn advanced skills.

Free materials

There are free materials for GCSE and A Level projects, or for KS3 any projects they wish to undertake during open workshop time.

Regular supervision

Boys organise a meeting with the Head of Department once per term to look at ways we can further develop their skills and offerings in the subject.

Trips

D&T Scholars have priority on DT trips

Enhanced involvement

Boys are given the chance to lead events in the department for Open Days.



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