

Date: August 2024

Review date: August 2025

Responsibility: MW, DR

Bishop Challoner School



Scholarship Policy



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Scholarships Policy

Bursary awards are made to families experiencing financial hardship and are means tested. Scholarship awards, by contrast, are awarded on behalf of pupils who exhibit outstanding academic achievement or who exhibit outstanding musical, sporting or artistic talent. Bishop Challoner is committed to recognising and rewarding talent and giftedness amongst pupils at 7+, 11+, 13+, 16+ entry. Bishop Challoner School recognises that promotion of gifted pupils is beneficial to the School's profile, and is committed to making funds available for such awards.

7+ Scholarships

Our 7+ Scholarships are awarded to pupils at the beginning of KS2 (Year 3). Each applicant must be 7 years of age on or before 31st August in the year of entry to Year 3. Scholarships are awarded on academic merit following a series of assessments in writing, reading comprehension and maths. Scholarships are open to both pupils currently at Bishop Challoner and to outside applicants. The deadline for applications is mid-December and applicants are invited to complete assessments in January.

11+ Scholarships

Scholarships are awarded to pupils joining the Senior School in Year 7 each year. Each applicant must be 11 years of age on or before 31 August in the year of entry to Year 7. Academic scholarships are awarded on merit using specific criteria from the 11+ assessment.

All external pupils who sit the Entrance Examination in January will automatically be considered for Academic Scholarships so there is no need to apply for these.

Academic, art, music, sporting and performing arts scholarships are available.

Music scholarships should demonstrate a love for and a keen interest in the music which challenges them beyond the classroom.

13+ Scholarships

In addition, the School may consider the option of offering Scholarships to those pupils aged 13 years of age and over in exceptional circumstances and at the discretion of the Headteacher.

For an academic scholarship application, pupils sit papers in Maths, English and Science. Each pupil has an interview with the Headteacher following the assessments.

Art, music, performing arts and sports scholarships are also available. The subject teacher will arrange to meet with any applicant and for music, sport and performing arts they have an audition and interview. In art, the subject teacher will interview any applicant and look at a selection of their art work.

Should a Scholar's performance fall below the required standard, their Scholarship can be rescinded and this will be reviewed termly. If notice is given to withdraw a pupil from the school, the Scholarship will be withdrawn.

The Application Process

Applicants for scholarships must attain a set level of performance. This is tested by past performance, examination and interview. The Award of Music Scholarship will only be considered for candidates who have already attained a minimum of Grade IV.

Application Forms are available from the Marketing and Communications Executive.

Scholarship applications must be submitted in writing to the Headteacher. Documentary evidence of past achievements should be provided at this stage. The Headteacher will invite suitable candidates for assessment by examination and interview. The music interviews for Music Scholarship applications will be conducted by a member of the music department, who will provide their recommendations to the Headteacher. The school aims to advise parents/guardians whether their child is to be offered a Scholarship and the size of any such award, by February half term. Parents/guardians are required to sign the Terms and Conditions relating to the Scholarship award.

Those receiving scholarships may also apply to be means-tested for further financial assistance.

All scholarships, other than the Byrne Scholarship, will be offered as a percentage of fees, not as a fixed amount.

Sixth Form Scholarships

All current Year 11 pupils and external applicants to the school are welcome to apply.

These include academic, music, art and sport along with the 1950 Byrne Scholarship to celebrate the founding of our School.

A candidate who is already in receipt of a Bursary will need to re-apply for the Sixth Form and this will be dependent on continuing assessment of need, effort and good behaviour. It should be noted that any award of a scholarship would not be affected by this except insofar that the sum total of monies received will not be more than the total tuition fees payable.

Pupils may hold a scholarship and a bursary on condition that the total value does not exceed that of the full tuition fees.

All pupils wishing to apply for a Sixth Form Scholarship need to complete the scholarship application form and written application.

Attendance, punctuality, attitude and behaviour will be expected to be excellent.

Offers of places and scholarships will also be conditional on pupils gaining at least 5 grade 9-5 GCSEs including at least Grade **6 or above** for the subjects that you wish to study at A-level. A minimum grade 4 is also required in Maths and English Language.

Pupils currently receiving scholarships will need to re-apply for the sixth form scholarship for the two years in our sixth form.

The number of scholarships awarded and the value of the awards will be determined by the number and calibre of applicants. They are awarded for academic excellence and potential.

Music Scholarships are open to internal and external candidates and who will be expected to play a full part in the music department and life of the school. Music scholars will have an audition in addition to providing their written application. Candidates will be asked to prepare and perform two contrasting pieces demonstrating quality and skill to a high level on their first instrument. They will also be asked to perform on their second instrument with another piece if applicable. Aural tests and a short piece of sight-reading will also form part of the audition. At the interview candidates will be asked to discuss their music performance, interests, achievements and goals.

Sports Scholarships are awarded to pupils already at Bishop Challoner School. Pupils applying for a Sports Scholarship should demonstrate excellence in at least one sport and be competing at representative, regional or national level. They will have achieved at least a “6” grade at GCSE and have shown an aptitude for both theoretical and practical components. Successful applicants will be expected to play a leading role in the sporting life of the School. They should possess the personal qualities of sportsmanship, commitment and be passionate about fulfilling their potential. Applicants will be interviewed by the Director of Sport and a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

Art scholarships are awarded to pupils already at Bishop Challoner School who show a high level of commitment and show passion and skill beyond conventional expectations, being creative and experimental and demonstrating a high standard of performance. Applicants will be expected to present a portfolio of their work and a sketchbook at the interview with the Head of Art. The portfolio of work and sketchbook must be submitted a week before the interview and will be returned at the end of the interview.

Performing Arts Scholarships are available in the subject of Drama for internal and external candidates. Applicants will have an opportunity to demonstrate their skills at an audition and to discuss their commitment to performing arts in an interview.

Byrne Scholarship the School also offers the 1950 Byrne Scholarship which is awarded on academic merit, commitment and wider contribution to school life at Bishop Challoner. This Scholarship will carry an award of fees to the value of £1,950 per annum for the candidate's two years in the Sixth Form. It carries with it a particular Bishop Challoner honour since it commemorates when the school opened in 1950.

Evidence Required

The documentary evidence required in support of a scholarship application are any examination/grade certificates, school reports and referee statements regarding the ability of the applicant.

Conditions

Any Scholarship award to existing pupils is conditional on the clearance of any existing debts.

Academic Scholarships have a requirement for academic levels to be maintained.

Music Scholarships have an additional requirement that recipients must perform at public events presented by the School.

Review

All Scholarship awards are subject to a termly review based on continued achievement. In addition to a performance review, the Terms and Conditions relating to the Scholarship award allow the Headteacher to reduce or withdraw an award where it is felt the award is no longer appropriate due to a pupil's lack of progress, or a pupil's attitude or behaviour has been unsatisfactory, or where the parents/guardians have failed to support the school, for example by the late payment of any contribution they are making to the fees.

Appendix 2b: Terms and Conditions Form – Academic Scholarship

Appendix 2c: Terms and Conditions Form – Music Scholarship

Appendix 2d: Terms and Conditions Form – Art Scholarship

Appendix 2e: Terms and Conditions Form – Sport Scholarship

Appendix 2f: Terms and Conditions Form – Performing Arts Scholarship

Reviewed by: David Rolls / Mark Wallace

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Next Review Date: August 2025