



Haberdashers'  
Monmouth Schools

## Scholarship Policy

### 1. Introduction

Enabling bright students from all backgrounds to be educated at the Haberdashers' Monmouth Schools (HMS) is important to the spirit of openness and opportunity that is core to the school.

The Governors are committed to broadening access to the schools by offering scholarships to enable talented students to benefit from the educational opportunities offered by our two senior schools. They are committed to equal numbers and value of scholarships being available for boys and girls with an average level of fee remission for scholarships being 10% - however means-tested bursaries are also available to complement this, the means tested bursaries can increase fee remission to 100%.

We see the award of scholarships as a real achievement and a successful candidate should have a strong sense of pride as a result.

In short, we offer scholarships to students entering Years 7, 9 and 12 and these can be in academic subjects, sport, drama, dance, art and music. Students may be in receipt of more than one scholarship. In many cases a scholarship comes with a monetary value in terms of a reduction in fees however we believe that the honour of holding such an award far outweighs any financial benefit.

Accepting a scholarship creates a two-way relationship between the scholar and the school. The scholar will be asked for a greater level of study, commitment and performance whilst the school will find ways to encourage and stimulate the scholar through, for example, societies and extra opportunities. All scholarships are subject to annual review as part of a positive, supportive relationship between the scholar's family and the school.

### 2. Categories of scholarship

#### Academic

Through our Scholarship programme at Haberdashers' Monmouth Schools, we seek to recognise and nurture academic talent in students from all backgrounds, by rewarding excellence and intellectual curiosity. Academic scholars are expected to offer intellectual leadership and act in a scholastic manner. Work should be of a consistently high standard and scholars will be asked to further the academic ethos of the schools, helping to foster a climate of wonder and love of learning.

The benefits of being a scholar are:

- Through our extensive Scholars and MAT programme students will develop skills of problem-solving, critical-thinking, creativity and decision-making as well as risk-taking and entrepreneurship. These are recognised as essential skills which will widen opportunities and provide a springboard into the next stage of their academic career.

- Scholars are required to:
- Participate in scholar and MAT activities and will have the opportunity to act as ambassadors for their subjects. Through this they will raise the profile of the scholarly nature of the schools. If students do not consistently act in a manner befitting a scholar, they run the risk of their award being reviewed and possibly removed.

The school is responsible for:

- Offering opportunities to excite curiosity and engage with novel ideas and theories.
- Creating opportunities for engagement with external agencies and speakers to broaden horizons, providing entrepreneurial activities that will enhance key skills of problem-solving and critical thinking

## **Sport**

A sports scholar should show full commitment and dedication to school sport. They should be motivated, passionate, independent and act as a role model for others. They should train regularly, participating fully in the extra-curricular clubs on offer and should play an active part in Saturday fixtures. It is a requirement that sports scholars should represent the school if asked to do so. Refusal to represent the school may result in the scholarship being withdrawn.

The benefits of being a sports scholar are:

- Access to Strength and Conditioning sessions with a fully qualified coach who will design a specific programme to enhance individual development.
- Access to a mentoring programme which enables sport scholars to be supported and monitored in their sporting and academic preparation and programme.
- Full programme of sporting activities and matches offered with opportunity to access the various sporting pathways on offer for individual sports, that allow progress and development.

The school is responsible for:

- Ensuring a breadth of sporting activities, fixtures and pathways are provided for the sports scholar.
- Ensuring each scholar is assigned a mentor to monitor and support their sporting and academic commitments.

## **Drama**

Drama Scholarship is predicated upon the desire to develop and promote drama and performance across the school. The drama scholar, therefore, should be someone who is interested in acting in the first instance but also all other aspects of performance, such as stage-management, direction and scriptwriting. A drama scholar will receive specialist teaching, advice and support from highly experienced and multi-skilled staff to include all aspects of performance - acting; directing; musical theatre; role of music in drama; playwriting; circus skills and many technical aspects of theatre. They will receive specialist LAMDA tuition, professional advice and contacts especially on any outside drama schools/workshops/clubs/auditions/performances/other opportunities. There will be opportunities to join a range of subject-specific school clubs and a wide range of productions. You will be invited to a range of theatre visits and a variety of performances. We can also offer professional expertise via the Professional Acting Programme run by a Director in Residence.

The Drama Scholar will be an ambassador and role-model in the senior school with responsibilities for promoting Drama at Open Mornings. It is expected that a drama scholar participate in school productions. Refusal to do so may result in the scholarship being withdrawn.

## **Dance**

Dance scholars are nurtured to achieve their full potential: extending their breadth and depth of genres through an impressive range of classes, shows, productions, performances and other events on offer in the Haberdashers' Monmouth School of Dance: Dance 4 Life Programme. Opportunities are provided through curriculum courses and evening clubs, as part of the school fees, plus specialist lessons and Saturday Dance School, for additional fees. To assist with this Dance Scholars receive remission on fees and two free technique classes per week of their choice – Tap, Contemporary, Ballet, D4Motion. A review is completed annually with the Head of Dance; working together to set targets, achieve goals and ensure scholars feel a valued and important member of the dance community. It is expected that a dance scholar will participate in dance events. Refusal to do so may result in the scholarship being withdrawn.

## **Music**

Music scholarships, giving remission on fees and/or free tuition for up to two instruments, are offered to candidates whom we feel confident will make a strong contribution to the musical life of Haberdashers' Monmouth Schools throughout their time with us. Successful candidates are those who are proficient in more than one instrument or are instrumentalists and singers. They will not only be fine musicians and performers but they will also be proactive in promoting music in their school and inspiring their peers. Music scholars are expected to take an active part in the life of a busy department as players and singers. It is expected that a music scholar will participate in concerts and other music events. Refusal to do so may result in the scholarship being withdrawn.

The schools offer:

- A large number of ensembles rehearsing weekly, and music scholars are encouraged to take part in as many as are suitable to their age and level of skill.
- Excellent and well-resourced facilities

The benefits of being a music scholar are:

- Expert instrumental tuition from a team of visiting tutors of national standing
- An annual concert programme which includes national venues and international tours

Decisions regarding scholarships and awards are based on a candidate's musical accomplishment, previous experience and enthusiasm to make music a priority activity. Candidates awarded a Scholarship or Exhibition at **Year 7 or Year 9** are expected to study music to at least GCSE level. Music Award holders are expected to set an outstanding example as a role model to their peers.

## **Art**

Being the recipient of an Art and Design Scholarship carries both prestige and a number of other benefits. These might include being seen as a role model for other students, being able to take on additional responsibilities within the Art and Design department such as running prep school art sessions, running an art and design newspaper or demonstrating skills in lessons. There are personal benefits too, including an increase in self-esteem, being stretched and challenged in addition to the usual lesson work, and it will look great on a pupil's CV. The award promotes success, celebrates achievement, and encourages pupils to be aspirational, and there is, of course, the financial benefit. Art scholars are expected to study Art A

level and to exhibit work if asked to do so. Refusal to do so may result in the scholarship being withdrawn.

The school is responsible for:

- Ensuring that scholars are stretched and challenged above and beyond the usual expectations of pupils
- Giving scholars the additional responsibility listed above
- Making all pupils and parents aware of scholarship opportunities in art and design
- Ensuring that all pupils have an equal opportunity in the application process
- Ensuring that scholars study art and design to at least GCSE level
- Celebrating our scholars and promote their activities

### **Head's Awards**

Within overall budget funding, there may be occasions when a student merits a special scholarship – or Head's Award particularly if they offer an all round contribution to the life of the school.

### **3. Method of applying**

Scholarships will be made available to students - to both internal and external candidates - entering into Years 7, 9 and 12. The Heads of the two schools and the Bursar are responsible for the management and coordination of the process.

- Step One - parents/guardians seeking a scholarship are required to complete an application form (Annex A, B or C) and must be accompanied by full documentary evidence. The relevant completed form, together with the necessary documentary evidence, is to be submitted to the relevant Admissions Team no later than Friday 5 November each year (Year 7 and Year 12 entry) and Monday 6 December each year (Year 9 entry) for scholarships to start the following September
- Step Two - the process of testing and evaluating the specific skills of the potential scholar will take place, usually in November time for Year 7 and Year 12, and in January for Year 9. This may involve the Head and the appropriate, senior staff to ensure that the process is rigorous and fair
- Step Three - the Academic Deputy Head or specifically appointed Lead will make a recommendation which is considered by the Head (and usually a panel) and a joint recommendation is then reached
- Step Four - the parents/guardians are advised in December time for Years 7 and 12, and February for Year 9 whether their child is to be offered a scholarship
- Step Five - parents/guardians are then required to sign our acceptance form (Annex D) acknowledging and agreeing to any conditions relating to the scholarship within the offer letter. This is then returned to the school. Should a candidate already be a pupil within the school, a letter of acceptance of the award will be required and sent to the relevant Head.
  - NB: There may be funds which can help scholars with incidental expenditure such as trips which are relevant to the scholarship(s) held by a pupil. This sum will be set within budgetary constraints.
  - NB: The Bursar sets the budget for new scholarships for the schools with the Heads in line

with the five-year financial plan.

#### **4. Review of Scholarship**

We expect all scholarships to be in place for the duration of a student's time with us, but all awards are regularly reviewed at least every two years. Such a review will take place in the summer term and will be part of the ongoing relationship between student, parents and the school. Should there be concerns about the continuation of a scholarship in terms of the student's progress, subsequent subject choices, attitude or behaviour the Head will speak to the parents in the first instance and the final decision (to remove the award) will be made in conjunction with the Executive Team.

#### **5. Confidentiality**

Each scholarship is assessed on its own merits and awards are made accordingly, subject to HMS' ability to fund these within the context of what is viable within the context of its overall budget. The school respects the confidentiality of the financial level of scholarship awards made to families and recipients are expected to do likewise. A breach of confidentiality could place in jeopardy an award.