



SCHOLARSHIPS

Academic, Sport, Music, Drama, Art



Wellingborough School
Founded 1595

WELLINGBOROUGH SCHOLARSHIPS

Our Scholarship Programme is designed to recognise and nurture excellence and to support pupils who demonstrate outstanding ability and potential in their chosen field. Whether your passion lies in Academic study, Art, Drama, Music, or Sport, becoming a Scholar at Wellingborough is about far more than recognition; it is a journey that will challenge you and give you opportunities and additional support in your area of expertise.

As a Scholar, you will benefit from specialist coaching, tailored support, and access to high-level experiences designed to stretch your abilities and help you grow with confidence. This is your chance to strive for excellence in the area you love most.

NEW PUPILS ATTENDING WELLINGBOROUGH (NEXT ACADEMIC YEAR)

If you are joining us next year and are interested in starting your time at Wellingborough as a Scholar, you can express your interest on the school registration form. You will then be invited to attend an assessment:

Scholarship Assessment Dates for Entry in September 2027:

- **Art*, Drama, Music and Sport:** Tuesday 12th January 2027
- **Academic:** Monday 11th January 2027

*Art portfolio deadline is Monday 4th January 2027

Decisions will be announced on Friday 29th January 2027.

CURRENT PUPILS

You don't need to apply to be recognised for a scholarship award if you are already a pupil at Wellingborough School. Throughout the academic year, pupils who demonstrate exceptional talent may be invited by teachers and staff to become scholars. If you are chosen, you will join the same enrichment journey as external applicants, which will give you access to all the support and opportunities that come with being a Wellingborough Scholar. Internal Scholars will be announced at the same time as external Scholars, the end of January 2027.

INTRODUCING THE HEADMASTER'S SCHOLARSHIP (16+)

Our Headmaster's Scholarship is exclusively for Sixth Form students. Open to both new and current students, this scholarship recognises exceptional talent and offers 10% fee remission, with means-tested support available up to 100%.

The Headmaster's Scholarship celebrates excellence in four key areas:

- Academic
- Creative Arts
- Performing Arts
- Sport

Successful students are selected personally by the Headmaster, following a careful review of applications received through our 16+ Scholarship application process, ensuring every award goes to students who demonstrate outstanding ability and potential.

Please note that while there is a 10% fee remission for Headmaster Scholars, there is no school fee reduction for our standard scholarship programme.

CRITERIA

ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP

- **11+ Entry:** Awards at this level are based on Cognitive Ability Test (CAT) results. These may be drawn either from assessments taken internally by our Year 6 pupils or from the CAT scores achieved by external candidates as part of the entrance assessment process, which ensures that scholarships are offered to pupils demonstrating consistent academic strength and strong potential for future achievement.
- **13+ Entry:** Scholarships are not currently offered at this stage; however, outstanding external applicants may be considered in exceptional cases. Where applicable, decisions are informed by performance in the Year 9 Cognitive Ability Test, allowing us to identify pupils with significant academic promise.
- **16+ Entry:** Additional Scholarships at this level are awarded following the publication of GCSE results. Candidates are assessed not only based on their achieved grades but also on their individual value-added profiles, enabling us to recognise pupils who have demonstrated exceptional progress and academic commitment. Awards are offered to the highest-performing internal applicants and to the strongest external candidates entering the Sixth Form.

ART SCHOLARSHIP

Art scholarships are awarded to pupils who demonstrate notable creative ability, whether in art or photography. We look for candidates with genuine potential and an enthusiasm for developing their artistic voice. Scholars benefit from a lively and supportive environment that encourages them to explore a wide range of techniques, engage with artistic theory and history, and take full advantage of the creative opportunities available within the school.

Applicants are required to submit a portfolio a week ahead of the admissions event. During the event, candidates present their work to a panel and take part in a formal interview, allowing us to understand their artistic approach, technical skill and wider experience.

Expectations

- Strong ability across a variety of artistic media in their specialist area
- A high level of commitment to their studies and to the department
- Willingness to lead by example and support key school events, such as Open Days and Options Evenings
- Engagement beyond the classroom, regularly producing work above expected curriculum levels
- A positive role model for younger pupils
- An active interest in the wider art world, including visiting exhibitions and exploring new artistic influences

DRAMA SCHOLARSHIP

Drama scholarships are awarded to pupils who demonstrate genuine talent, whether as performers or in backstage roles. We look for candidates with clear potential and an enthusiasm for developing their craft, offering a rich programme of opportunities to perform, design and explore both historical and contemporary theatre. Scholars are encouraged to take a prominent role in school productions and to lead by example through their commitment, creativity and professionalism.

- **11+ Entry:** Candidates are invited to perform two contrasting monologues. One prepared in advance and one delivered as a sight-read piece. This is followed by a short interview. Applicants are welcome to bring any supporting material that reflects their experience, such as performance programmes, adjudication sheets or scripts. During the interview, candidates will be encouraged to discuss their drama involvement to date and consider how they might contribute to the department as a Drama Scholar at Wellingborough School.
- **16+ Entry:** The format mirrors the 11+ process, with the expectation that candidates will demonstrate a higher level of performance skill and theatrical understanding appropriate to their stage of development.

DRAMA SCHOLARSHIP

Expectations

- Strong performance ability and dedication to developing their craft.
- Attend and contribute fully to rehearsals, productions and other drama activities.
- Lead by example and act as a positive role model for peers and younger students in lessons and drama co-curricular activities.
- Support the Drama Department at key school events, including productions, Open Days and Options Evenings.
- Developing knowledge of the performing arts by engaging with drama beyond the classroom by watching live theatre, reading plays and reviews and attending workshops.
- Maintain high standards of conduct along with excellent teamwork and collaboration skills.

MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP

Music scholarships are awarded to pupils who demonstrate exceptional musical talent, whether as instrumentalists or vocalists. We seek candidates with genuine potential and a passion for music, offering a wide range of opportunities to perform, compose, and engage with both historical and contemporary repertoire. Scholars are encouraged to take leading roles within school ensembles and to inspire others through their commitment and musicianship.

MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP

- **11+ Entry:** Candidates are asked to perform two contrasting pieces of approximately Grade 3 standard. They will also complete aural and sight-reading tests, followed by a short interview. A third piece may be offered on a second instrument or voice. Applicants are encouraged to bring any supporting materials, such as concert programmes, adjudication sheets, or original compositions. During the interview with the Director and Assistant Director of Music, candidates will discuss their musical experiences to date and reflect on how they could contribute as a Music Scholar at Wellingborough School.
- **16+ Entry:** The process mirrors the 11+ entry, with the expectation that candidates will perform at a minimum of Grade 6 standard on their principal instrument or voice, demonstrating a higher level of technical skill and musical understanding appropriate to the Sixth Form.

Expectations

- Active participation in school music groups, ensembles and choirs.
- Attendance and participation at concerts, performances and recitals.
- Positive promotion of the Music Department to peers and younger students through an ambassadorial role.
- Support the Music Department at key school events, including Open Days, performances and concerts.

SPORTS SCHOLARSHIP

Sports scholarships recognise pupils with exceptional athletic ability, particularly in the School's major games, though talent in other sports is also considered. Successful candidates will be of county or regional standard, or equivalent, in at least one major sport, preferably two, and will be committed to ongoing development, including participation in external coaching, which the School will fully support. Scholars are expected to contribute fully to the School's sporting programme across all three terms, including weekend fixtures, and to act as positive role models.

Scholarship holders benefit from tailored strength and conditioning programmes, one-to-one or small group technical and analysis sessions with Heads of Sport, mentoring for Years 7–9 by older scholars, and regular Sports Scholar meetings. They also have access to educational talks and seminars on sports nutrition, psychology, rehabilitation, and leadership, as well as an annual Scholars' Away Day to visit professional sports environments or universities.

Assessment

Candidates are evaluated through skill-based practical sessions and competitive play to test sporting ability and fitness.

Applicants also provide details of their current participation and achievements in their specialist sport. The sessions are designed to challenge candidates and allow them to demonstrate their full potential.

SPORTS SCHOLARSHIP

Expectations

- Commitment to the sporting programme throughout all three terms, including study leave and holidays if applicable.
- Lead by example and act as a positive role model for peers.
- Communicate any non-attendance or unavailability for fixtures or sessions in advance.
- Respond constructively to guidance, work effectively in a team, and demonstrate leadership.
- Maintain the highest standards of conduct in training and competition.



THE HEADMASTER'S SCHOLARSHIP

The Headmaster's Scholarship is the highest level of award offered at Wellingborough School, recognising exceptional talent and commitment across key areas of school life. This award is exclusively for Sixth Form students and reflects outstanding achievement and potential in academics, the creative or performing arts, or sport.

The award is open to both internal and external candidates entering the Sixth Form and is offered for a maximum of two years (Years 12 and 13).

Application and Assessment

External applicants apply through the standard scholarship process, while internal applications are opened following the Year 11 Options Evening. Performing Arts, and Sport applicants are assessed in line with the relevant scholarship days, with awards offered to the top-performing candidates. Academic applicants present a 5-10-minute specialist topic followed by an interview with the Headmaster and Deputy Head (Academic). Creative applicants submit a portfolio prior to a presentation and interview, which forms the focus of their assessment.

The closing date for all scholarship applications is midday on Monday 4th January 2027.