



# Scholarships

THE **Leys**  
CAMBRIDGE

# Welcome

At The Leys, to reflect and celebrate the fact that our pupils have diverse interests, passions and talents, we offer a wide variety of scholarships. Within this brochure, you will find details of some amazing opportunities for scholars at The Leys. Our scholars are able to benefit from a bespoke programme of enrichment and extension, with expert, specialist staff overseeing their development within a school famous for its nurturing pastoral care, and set in a city renowned for its ambition, opportunity and buzz.

We expect our scholars to be leading lights in their fields, acting as role models for other pupils. In return they will find themselves able to benefit from rewarding programmes designed to stretch them, so that they can be the best that they can be. Alongside what is offered within school, we are forever exploiting the benefits of our extraordinary location. The city of Cambridge is home to one of the world's finest universities, and the academic opportunities which arise from our location are innumerable. For those interested in medicine or STEM subjects, Addenbrooke's is the largest hospital in Europe, and Silicon Fen, home of many high-tech startups, is on our doorstep. The University's Engineering Department



is just a stone's throw away. For artists, the stunning Fitzwilliam Museum, which houses one of the country's greatest art collections, is just a few minutes' stroll down Trumpington Street. For sportsmen and women, The Leys has established pathways to professional sport; our pupils benefit from taking part in collegiate competitions and we share our state-of-the-art boathouse with three Cambridge colleges. For drama and music, there are few cities with a richer cultural life and we regularly sing in Cambridge college chapels and visit the Cambridge Arts Theatre and the West End. We seek constantly to challenge and nurture our scholars, to celebrate their success, and to take full advantage of our exceptional location to enrich the experience of all who study here.

*The Headmaster, Martin Priestley*



## Introduction

Through our Scholarships, we aim to encourage and reward the potential for excellence and leadership in the intellectual life of the school and in the wider curriculum. We welcome applications from those who display outstanding ability and a commitment to strive for the very highest standards.

Through our scholars' programmes, we support and nurture individuals to grow and develop in their particular field, giving them the confidence to achieve their full potential. We expect scholars to aspire to excellence in all aspects of life at The Leys, setting standards for others.

All our scholarships carry a value of 5%, but we are committed to widening participation in the school through means-tested bursaries and so larger awards are made on the basis of financial need, up to 100% of fees in exceptional cases.

I hope that these pages explain how we assess candidates for scholarship and that the Frequently Asked Questions section addresses any queries you may have, but please get in touch if you have any further questions and we will be happy to help.

*Paul Crosfield, Director of Studies*

# How to Apply for a Scholarship or Bursary

A pupil who is awarded a scholarship may, in exceptional circumstances, gain a fee concession of up to 100% of the fees payable. A maximum of 5% of this can be in the form of a non-means-tested scholarship. Any concession above this would be in the form of a means-tested Bursary. The number and value of the awards is dependent upon the calibre of the candidates, and their continuation is subject to the pupil maintaining satisfactory standards.

Detailed information about the application process along with the relevant forms can be downloaded from the website at [www.theleys.net/admissions](http://www.theleys.net/admissions)

## 11+ SCHOLARSHIPS

There are no formal applications for the 11+ scholarships. Entry tests for Year 7 are held in the January of the year of entry. Candidates who perform well in the tests, and who have a strong supporting recommendation from their current Headmaster/Headmistress, will be invited back for a series of interviews with the Headmaster, the Head of Mathematics and the Head of English in order to be considered for an 11+ Scholarship. While academic performance will be the major consideration in making these awards, the Headmaster is able to take into consideration a candidate's performance in the fields of Art, Music, Drama, Sport and Technology. All candidates invited back for this second round will be guaranteed a place in Year 7, whether or not they are awarded a Scholarship.

## 13+ SCHOLARSHIPS

The number and value of the awards made each year depends on the quality of the candidates. They are available to all applicants, including current pupils at The Leys who are within the age range. In the case of external candidates the Headmaster/Headmistress of their present school should be informed of your intention, as his/her signature is needed for the Scholarship Forms and they may be able to offer advice. All external candidates for entry to The Leys are required to undertake the standard academic tests in the January of the year of entry.

## SIXTH FORM (16+) SCHOLARSHIPS

The Leys offers a number of Sixth Form Scholarships for Academic subjects, Music, Art, Drama and Sport. They are worth 5% of the fees and are open to those entering the School, as well as to current pupils. All external candidates should be registered for entry to The Leys. The assessments will be held in early November prior to the year of entry. A general reference will be requested from the Headmaster/Headmistress of the candidate's present school once the entry has been received. All awards will be announced at the beginning of December prior to the September of entry.

More detailed information about the application process along with the relevant forms can be downloaded from the website at [www.theleys.net/admissions](http://www.theleys.net/admissions)

“ The school, and the music department in particular, has given me a unique opportunity to pursue my passion for making music; by its commitment to excellent teaching, and by giving me valuable individual support. All the countless performance opportunities also mean that I am constantly challenging myself to grow, both as a performer and also as a person ”

Rob J, Y13, Music Scholar



# 13+ Scholarships

For 13+ candidates the following awards are available: Academic, Music, Sport, Art, STEM and Drama.

Academic candidates will take papers in English, Maths and Science along with two elective papers from French, German, Spanish, Geography, History, Divinity, Latin and Greek.

Potential Music Scholars would normally be expected to reach the standard required for Associated Board Grade V in any instrument and/or voice and should be able to demonstrate practical and theoretical musicianship and potential.

Candidates for Sports Scholarship awards are expected to show a high level of proficiency (County standard or above) in at least two major sports from Rugby, Hockey, Cricket, Tennis and Netball. Candidates will be interviewed and will participate in practical tests.

Art Scholarships are awarded on the basis of a drawing test and submission of a portfolio of recent work.

STEM Scholarships are offered at 13+ for candidates showing particular promise across the academic disciplines of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths.

Drama candidates should demonstrate excellence in either Dramatic Performance or Technical Skills.

Where appropriate all candidates will either sit academic papers or demonstrate their practical abilities through performance. An interview will form part of the Scholarship process as well as the receipt of reports for candidates' current schools and teachers.

More details on all awards can be found at [www.theleys.net/admissions/scholarships](http://www.theleys.net/admissions/scholarships)

“ Being an Academic Scholar has opened up opportunities for me to stretch my knowledge, such as in Academic Extension meetings and Academic Society ”

Laura B, Y13 Academic Scholar

# Sixth Form Scholarships

Academic, Music, Art, Sport and Drama Scholarships are available at for those candidates applying for Sixth Form at The Leys.

Candidates for Academic Scholarships will sit written tests on three subjects of their own choice which are based on GCSE syllabuses.

Music Scholarships (organ, choral and/or instrumental) are awarded to those candidates who can demonstrate superb musicianship through practical performance and theoretical ability.

Art candidates should submit a portfolio of recent work and will also take a practical examination.

Sports awards are offered to pupils who can show a high level of proficiency and commitment in two major sports or one major sport and one other.

Drama Scholarships are available to those candidates who can demonstrate abilities in either Dramatic Performance or Technical Skills.

All awards are based on practical and theoretical ability along with interviews, reports from current schools and GCSE successes.

More details on all awards can be found at [www.theleys.net/admissions/scholarships](http://www.theleys.net/admissions/scholarships)



# FAQ'S

## **WHAT SCHOLARSHIPS DO YOU OFFER?**

We offer Academic, Art, Drama, Music and Sport Scholarships at both Year 9 and Sixth Form level. In addition, there is a STEM scholarship available for entry into Year 9.

## **HOW MANY SCHOLARSHIPS CAN A CANDIDATE APPLY FOR?**

There is no formal restriction on the number, but we advise against any individual applying to more than two, except in exceptional circumstances and only following discussion. Tests for different scholarships are often on the same day and applying for multiple scholarships can place a heavy burden on the individual. Those who are successful in more than one category for entry into Year 9 will be considered for The Neil White Award; preference is given to those who wish to board.

## **IS THERE A MINIMUM STANDARD FOR APPLICATION FOR A SCHOLARSHIP?**

All applicants must have already demonstrated excellence in their chosen field. Applicants for a Music Scholarship must have reached Grade 5, for example and those applying for a Sixth Form Academic Scholarship should have high GCSE predictions; 7 or higher in most of their subjects. Applicants for Sports Scholarships are expected to show a high level of proficiency (County standard or above) and, along with Drama Scholarship candidates, are required to have supporting references.

## **ARE THERE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR ENTRY INTO YEAR 7?**

Yes, we offer Academic Scholarships at this level. There is no application process; the most promising candidates are invited to interview following the entrance tests in January.

“ My Art Scholarship makes me proud and gives me momentum to maintain and surpass my own expectations ”

Ann D, Y11 Art Scholar

## **WHY IS THERE NO TECHNOLOGY SCHOLARSHIP FOR THE SIXTH FORM?**

We encourage outstanding, aspiring engineers to apply for an Arkwright Scholarship.

## **HOW MUCH IS A SCHOLARSHIP WORTH?**

All our Scholarships carry a 5% fee remission. The only exception to this is the Foundation Scholarship, available to those applying in Year 6 from St. Faith's School (which is part of the same Foundation). However, all scholarships can be supplemented by a means-tested Bursary, up to 100% in exceptional circumstances.

## **IF A CANDIDATE IS AWARDED MORE THAN ONE SCHOLARSHIP, IS THE FEE REMISSION CUMULATIVE?**

No. 5% is the value, no matter how many scholarships are held.

## **DO YOU OFFER EXHIBITIONS?**

Yes, we offer Music and Drama Exhibitions to those who fall just short of Scholarship standard. Music Exhibitioners will be offered free tuition on one or two instruments and Drama Exhibitioners will be offered free LAMDA lessons.

## **DO SCHOLARS RETAIN THEIR SCHOLARSHIP THROUGHOUT THEIR TIME AT THE SCHOOL?**

Yes, subject to satisfactory performance. There is normally no need to reapply for a scholarship for entry into Year 9/Sixth Form. However, scholarships are subject to regular review.

## **HOW DO WE APPLY FOR A SCHOLARSHIP?**

Information packs and forms are available for downloading on the website. The Admissions Office will be happy to answer any questions you may have. You will need to have the endorsement of your current school.

## **HOW DO YOU SELECT SCHOLARS?**

All candidates are invited to The Leys for a day of testing and interviews. Details of the process and deadlines for applications for each of these can be found on the website.

## **WHEN DO THE SCHOLARSHIP EXAMS AND TESTS TAKE PLACE?**

In early November for Sixth Form Scholarships, mid-January for Year 9 Scholarships. Details and exact dates can be found on the website or by contacting the Admissions Office.

#### WHEN WILL WE FIND OUT THE RESULTS?

Parents are informed at the same time as receiving the offer letter, usually early December for Sixth Form and early February for Year 9 scholarships.

“ The outstanding Strength and Conditioning and Sports Academy programmes have helped me to become the strongest version of myself and my Sport Scholarship has generated countless opportunities for me to enhance my sporting ability ”

Katie C, Y12 Sport Scholar

#### DO SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS FOR A SCHOLARSHIP ALSO HAVE TO SIT THE ENTRANCE TEST?

Yes. All scholarships are dependent on successfully meeting the academic criteria for entry to the school.

#### WHAT ARE THE EXPECTATIONS OF SCHOLARS?

All scholars are expected to take a full and active role in school life especially in the area for which they were awarded their scholarship. They should take a lead in demonstrating excellence and should set an example to others.

#### DO SCHOLARS HAVE TO TAKE GCSE/A LEVEL IN THE SUBJECT FOR WHICH THEY HOLD A SCHOLARSHIP?

Art Scholars must study Art GCSE and then A level. There is no obligation for other Scholarship holders to sit the GCSE or A level in the relevant academic subject. Music Scholars do not have to take Music GCSE or A level, for example.





## SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION TIMELINE

- Mid-October**  
Deadline for 16+ Scholarship applications
- 1st week in November**  
Interviews and Assessments for 16+ Scholarship applicants
- Mid-November**  
Deadline for 13+ Scholarship applications
- 1st Saturday in January**  
Entry Tests for 11+ and 13+ Candidates
- Mid-January**  
Interviews and Assessments for 13+ Scholarship applicants

Specific dates can be viewed at  
[www.theleys.net/admissions](http://www.theleys.net/admissions)



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