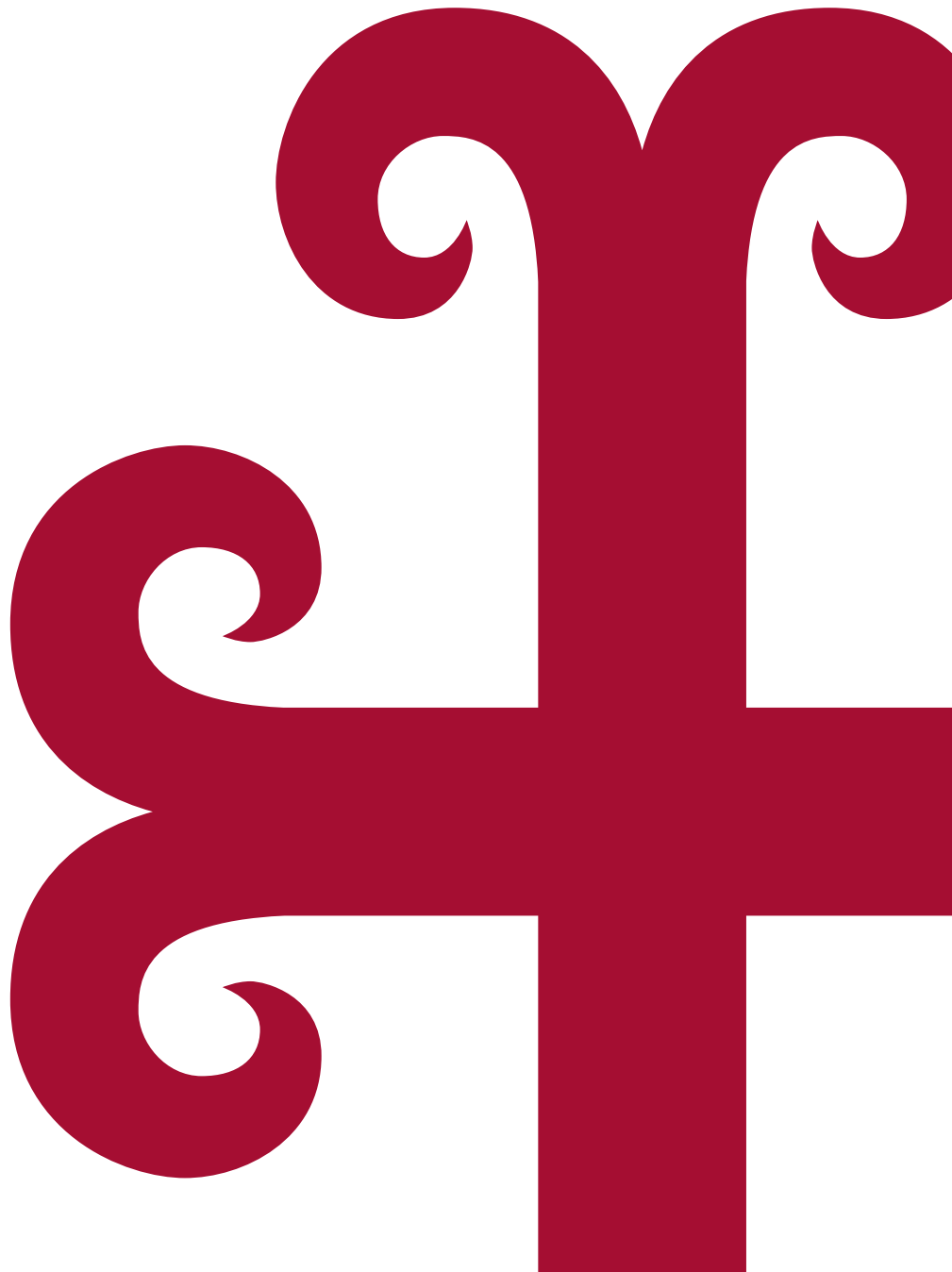


 DOWNSIDE SCHOOL

SCHOLARSHIPS

2020





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GENERAL INFORMATION



Downside School offers Major Scholarships, and Scholarships, (referred to throughout as ‘scholarships’) for pupils at the ages of 11+, 13+ and 16+. The number and size of awards in any particular year are at the discretion of the Head Master. A scholarship is a recognition of exceptional ability and promise and may be accompanied by a financial reward. In cases of need, the Awards Committee will consider applications to supplement a scholarship award with a means-tested bursary. Bursaries are increasingly used to support a scholarship application, where necessary.

The bestowal of any award carries with it privilege and responsibility. Every scholar is expected to set an example to other pupils in their approach to academic study and participation in the fuller life of the School. Awards at 11+ and 13+ will continue until the holder enters the Sixth Form when awards will be fully reviewed, though it is anticipated that good scholars will continue to be award holders throughout their time in the School. The review will consider whether the holder’s academic progress and general conduct remain satisfactory and if the holder continues enthusiastically to fulfil the obligations associated with the award. The progress of award holders is monitored annually.

Application forms and further details of the awards available can be obtained from the Admissions Office. The Head of an applicant’s current school will be asked to submit a reference. The Director of Studies, the Director of Sport, the Director of Music, the Head of Art, the Head of Design and the Head of Drama & Theatre are very happy to speak informally to applicants and their parents at any stage.

AWARDS AT 11+

There are a number of scholarships available to pupils hoping to enter Downside in the First Form (Year 7), who must be under 12 on 1st September in the year of their admission to the School. On rare occasions awards may also be made available to outstanding candidates joining the Second Form (Year 8). Awards are based upon an assessment of potential as well as achievement. Parents will be expected to respond within two weeks of receiving a letter offering a scholarship, confirming whether they wish to accept the award on behalf of their child or else the School reserves the right to withdraw the scholarship.

The following scholarship categories are available for First Form (Year 7) entry:

- academic
- music
- choral
- sport

ACADEMIC AWARDS

Awards are made on the basis of examinations and interviews. Applicants are invited to visit the School on the assessment date in January prior to entry. They sit papers in English and Mathematics. Past papers are available from the Admissions Office upon request.





MUSIC AWARDS

Music scholarships are offered following auditions and interviews held in the January of the year of entry to the School. Successful applicants receive free instrumental/vocal tuition.

Applicants are normally required to have achieved at least Grade 3 in the Associated Board or equivalent examinations on one instrument. It is an advantage if the applicant also has the ability to sing or can play more than one instrument. Composition is not required, but evidence of ability in composition will be viewed favourably. The audition lasts about twenty minutes and tests musical ability as well as assessing the applicant's potential as a musician. It includes prepared performance(s), scales, aural and sight-reading tests, and questions on general musical knowledge.

Music scholars are expected to take an active and enthusiastic lead with regard to Music at Downside, and to support all School ensembles and choirs, as required, throughout their school career.

CHORAL AWARDS

Choral scholarships are offered following auditions and interviews held in the January of the year of entry to the School. Auditions consist of aural tests, sight-reading and the performance of a prepared piece to be chosen by the applicant. Successful applicants may also receive free instrumental/vocal tuition.

Choral scholars have the same duties and obligations as music scholars.

SPORT AWARDS

Downside School makes available awards to Year 6 pupils of exceptional sporting ability and promise, following interviews and assessments held in the January of the year of entry to the School.

Successful applicants, whilst also being academically ambitious, are expected to make a significant contribution to the sporting life of the School, in particular to the major games offered. The major sports for boys are rugby, hockey and cricket; the major sports for girls are hockey, netball and tennis. Applicants are invited to visit Downside to look around the School and its facilities and to meet and be interviewed by various members of the Games staff. Applicants take part in an assessment of their sporting ability as part of the interview process. The opportunity to assess applicants playing for their current schools or clubs is particularly welcomed.

It is likely that successful applicants will already be playing a major sport at school and club level or above. They will have made a significant contribution to the life of the school in which they are currently studying, and will show the same commitment to Downside throughout their School career. Scholars are expected to take an active and enthusiastic lead with regard to all sports at Downside and to be pupils who demonstrate the core values of Downside Sport – Discipline, Humility and Stewardship.



AWARDS AT 13+

A number of scholarships are available to pupils prior to entering the Third Form (Year 9) at Downside School. Applicants for all awards must be under 14 on 1st September in the year of their admission to the Third Form. Awards are based upon an assessment of potential as well as achievement. Parents will be expected to respond within two weeks of receiving a letter offering a scholarship, confirming whether they wish to accept the award on behalf of their child, or else the School reserves the right to withdraw the scholarship.

The following scholarship categories are available for Third Form (Year 9) entry:

- academic
- music
- choral
- sport
- art
- product design
- drama
- all rounder

ACADEMIC AWARDS

Academic awards are made on the basis of performance in the School's own scholarship examinations, which are held before the half term holiday in the Lent Term in the year of entry to the School. Applicants sit the papers at Downside and stay at the School for the period of the examination process, unless they live close to the School.

All applicants are normally expected to sit papers in English, Mathematics, Religious Studies, the three Sciences, French/Spanish, Latin, Geography and History, unless there are extenuating circumstances



for waiving the need to sit a particular subject. The Religious Studies exam will contain questions for Common Entrance and non-Common Entrance candidates. Applicants who have been studying other modern or classical languages may request to sit an additional paper.

Academic scholars are expected to take a lead in setting high standards with regard to academic achievement. They will have enquiring minds and be assiduous readers, and will actively seek opportunities to broaden their minds, increase their knowledge and hone their powers of reasoning.

MUSIC AWARDS

Music scholarships are offered following auditions and interviews held in the Lent Term in the year of entry to the School. Successful applicants receive free instrumental/vocal tuition, and may also receive a remission on fees.

Applicants are normally required to have achieved at least Grade 5 in the Associated Board or similar examinations on one instrument.

It is an advantage if the applicant also has the ability to sing or can play more than one instrument. A pass in the Grade 5 Theory Examination is a desirable qualification. Composition is not required, but evidence of ability in composition will be viewed favourably. Auditions consist of the performance on the first instrument of two prepared pieces chosen by the candidate, together with one piece on any subsequent instrument (and/or voice), aural tests and sight-reading. The audition typically lasts about 40 minutes and tests musical ability as well as potential.

Music scholars are expected to take an active and enthusiastic lead with regard to Music at Downside, and to support all School ensembles and choirs, as required, throughout their school career. Music scholars are expected to achieve at least one Grade 8 pass, and to study Music as an academic subject to GCSE.



CHORAL AWARDS

Choral scholarships are offered following auditions, consisting of aural tests, sight reading and the performance of a prepared piece to be chosen by the applicant, held in Lent Term in the year of entry to the School. Special consideration will be given to cathedral choristers. Successful applicants receive free instrumental/vocal tuition, and may also receive a remission on fees.

Choral scholars have the same duties and obligations as music scholars, except that they are not required to study music as an academic subject to GCSE, though most choose to do so.

SPORT AWARDS

Each year Downside makes available awards to pupils of exceptional sporting ability and promise, following interviews and assessments held in the Lent Term of the year of entry to the School. Successful applicants, whilst also being academically ambitious, are expected to make a significant contribution to the sporting life of the School, in particular to the major games offered. The major sports for boys are rugby, hockey and cricket; the major sports for girls are hockey, netball and tennis. Applicants are invited to visit Downside to look around the School and its facilities and to meet and be interviewed by various members of the Games staff. Applicants take part in an assessment of their sporting ability as part of the interview process. The opportunity to assess applicants playing for their current schools or clubs is particularly welcomed.

It is likely that successful applicants will already be playing a major sport at county level or above, or can show demonstrable potential to do so in the near future. They will have made a significant contribution to the life of the school in which they are currently studying, and will show the same commitment to Downside throughout their School career. Scholars are expected to take an active and enthusiastic lead with regard to all sports at Downside, and to be pupils who demonstrate the core values of Downside Sport – Discipline, Humility and Stewardship.

ART AWARDS

Art Scholarships are available for applicants who show significant artistic promise. An award is offered following interviews and a set task, involving observational drawing, held in the Lent Term in the year of entry to the School.

Applicants are required to submit a portfolio of work, which will demonstrate their natural ability and enthusiasm. It is expected that applicants are able to draw well and have a good understanding of three-dimensional form. Whilst there is no specific requirement for applicants to have worked in any particular medium, each portfolio must show evidence of creativity and imagination and could include:

- drawing, painting or modelling from observation;
- work using a variety of materials that might include charcoal, pencil, inks, watercolours, oils, acrylics, clay, plaster, papier-mâché and
- computer art and film

Applicants are asked to submit a minimum of eight pieces of work and to bring their recent sketch books to the interview. Photographic or digital evidence of 3D work is acceptable in circumstances where it is impractical to submit the actual artefact. Work produced digitally can be submitted as a



digital file in advance or brought to the interview on a USB stick. Candidates must also have visited at least two exhibitions at museums or galleries and be prepared to discuss their visits with the Head of Art at the interview.

Art scholars will be enthusiastic about their work in the sphere of art and design and will naturally spend additional time, beyond their curricular commitment, in the art studios. They will be willing to experiment with a wide range of media, and be keen to familiarise themselves with the work of other artists through visits to galleries and workshops. Art scholars are expected to study art as an academic subject to GCSE and also to A level as appropriate.



PRODUCT DESIGN AWARDS

Product Design Scholarships are available annually following interview and assessment in the Lent Term. A Design Scholar will be required to study Product Design to GCSE level and typically will proceed to an A level in the subject and, while no specific undertaking is required with regard to this, it is understood that work within the School's Design Department will be an important focus throughout their time as a Product Design Scholar in the School. Continued tenure of the award will be conditional upon the fulfilment of this requirement, as well as upon the maintenance of excellent general progress.

Applicants are asked to produce a digital portfolio which gives evidence of the development process behind the key pieces of project work they have developed in school or elsewhere in the recent past. Project work should be presented through photographs showing a clear and accurate indication of the work's quality and its various stages of development, including evidence of prototypes, if appropriate. The digital component could be a PowerPoint presentation, a PDF or a hosted webpage. This will need to be sent to admissions@downside.co.uk a week prior to the interview date.

One piece of three-dimensional work may be brought to the interview and this piece should have been described during at least part of the digital portfolio. Work brought to School must be marked with the candidate's name and school. The 3D piece may be left at the School Reception in advance of the interview day or brought to School on the day of the interview.

Candidates will be asked to undertake a product analysis exercise during their assessment. They will also have an interview with the Head of Design Technology, providing each candidate with an opportunity to talk about the practical work that they have undertaken and to expand on the material included in their portfolio. Candidates will also be encouraged to discuss some of their favourite products or designers whose work interests them. Design scholars are expected to study design technology as an academic subject to GCSE and also to A level as appropriate.

DRAMA AWARDS

Downside School invites talented performers to audition for a Drama Award. Drama scholars are expected to make a commitment to all aspects of theatre at Downside, both on and off the stage. The interview will assess a pupil's understanding of theatre practices, involvement in productions and performances, as well as being able to talk about the live theatre they have seen. The audition will consist of a short extract which must be memorised, rehearsed and performed, together with an interview and participation in an improvisation either as part of a group or as an individual. Previous experience of and achievement in LAMDA could be an advantage.

ALL ROUNDER AWARDS

Candidates who apply for two or more awards will be automatically considered for an All Rounder Award. There is no separate application process for an All Rounder Award. Pupils from All Hallows will be considered for the Francis Dix Award, which will be assessed in the same way as other scholars for the All Rounder Awards.

ENTRANCE AWARDS AT 16+

Downside makes available a number of scholarships to pupils applying to enter the Lower Sixth Form (Year 12). Applicants for all awards must be under 17 on 1st September in the year of their admission to the Sixth Form. Awards are based upon an assessment of potential as well as achievement. Parents will be expected to respond within two weeks of receiving a letter offering a scholarship, confirming whether they wish to accept the award on behalf of their child, or else the School reserves the right to withdraw the scholarship.

The following scholarship categories are available for Lower Sixth Form (Year 12) entry:

- academic
- music
- choral
- sport
- art
- product design
- drama & theatre

ACADEMIC AWARDS

Awards are made to pupils of outstanding academic ability and promise, on the basis of examinations and interviews.

Applicants are invited to visit the School in November in the year before the proposed entry to the School. Applicants sit three examination papers, each lasting 60 minutes; two from the academic subjects which they propose to study for A level and a General Paper. Applicants are also interviewed by the Director of Studies or a senior member of the academic staff. The standard of the papers is at least as demanding as GCSE, with elements aimed to stretch the more able, and the content is such as to enable applicants to demonstrate flair as well as academic potential. Account is taken of the fact that applicants may not have finished the relevant GCSE course and of the demands made by different specifications.

Academic scholars are expected to take a lead in setting the highest standards with regard to academic achievement and investigation. Successful applicants for academic awards would normally be expected to achieve grade A or A* (Levels 7 to 9) in all of their GCSE subjects prior to taking up their place in the Sixth Form at Downside. Academic scholars are expected to participate in the School's Academic Enrichment Programme which focusses on raising pupils' academic horizons and prepares them for undergraduate study at high-level universities.

MUSIC AWARDS

Music scholarships are offered following auditions and interviews held in November prior to entry. Successful applicants receive free instrumental/vocal tuition. Applicants at 16+ are normally required to have achieved Grade 8 in Associated Board or similar examinations in at least one instrument. It is an advantage if the applicant also has the ability to sing or can play more than one instrument. Applications from versatile, committed musicians of more modest attainment in terms of grades are also encouraged. Composition is not required, but evidence of ability in composition will be viewed favourably.



The audition typically lasts about an hour and tests musical ability and potential. It includes prepared performance(s), scales, aural and sight-reading tests, and questions on general musical knowledge.

A pass in the Grade 5 Theory Examination is a desirable qualification and will have been a pre-requisite for those who have progressed to the higher grades within the ABRSM examination suite. Music scholars are expected to take an active and enthusiastic lead with regard to Music at Downside and to support all School ensembles and choirs, as required, throughout their school career. They usually study music as an academic subject at A level, but are not required to do so.

CHORAL AWARDS

Choral scholarships are made following auditions and interviews to be held in November prior to entry. Successful applicants receive free instrumental/vocal tuition and, and may also receive a remission in fees. Choral scholars have the same duties and obligations as Sixth Form music scholars.

SPORT AWARDS

Awards are available to pupils who show exceptional sporting ability and potential, following interviews and assessments held in the November prior to entry. Successful applicants, whilst also being academically ambitious, are expected to make a significant contribution to the sporting life of the School, in particular to the major games offered. The major sports for boys are rugby, hockey and cricket; the major sports for girls are hockey, netball and tennis.



Applicants are invited to visit Downside to look around the School and its facilities and to meet and be interviewed by various members of the Games staff. Applicants take part in an assessment of their sporting ability as part of the interview process. The opportunity to assess applicants playing for their current schools or clubs is particularly welcomed.

It is likely that successful applicants will already be playing a major sport at county level or above. They will have made a significant contribution to the life of the school in which they are currently studying, and will show the same commitment to Downside throughout their School career. They will be expected to take an active and enthusiastic lead with regard to all sports at Downside and to be pupils who have strong personal qualities of fairness, loyalty and leadership. Scholars are expected to take an active and enthusiastic lead with regard to all sports at Downside, and to be pupils who demonstrate the core values of Downside Sport – Discipline, Humility and Stewardship.

ART AWARDS

Awards are made available to pupils showing exceptional artistic promise. The award is offered following interviews and a set task which involves observational drawing held in November prior to entry.

Applicants are required to submit a portfolio of work, which will demonstrate their natural ability and enthusiasm. It is expected that applicants are able to draw well and have a good understanding of three-dimensional form. Whilst there is no specific requirement for applicants to have worked in any particular medium, each portfolio must show evidence of creativity and imagination and include:

- drawing, painting or modelling from observation;
- work using a variety of materials that might include charcoal, pencil, inks, watercolours, oils
- acrylics, clay, plaster, papier-mâché and
- computer art and film

Applicants are asked to submit a minimum of eight pieces of work, and to bring their recent sketch books to the interview. Photographic evidence of 3D work is acceptable in circumstances where it is impractical to submit the actual artefact. Work produced digitally can be submitted as a digital file in advance or brought to the interview on a USB stick. They must also have visited at least two exhibitions at museums or galleries, and be prepared to discuss their visit with the Head of Art at the interview.

Art scholars will be enthusiastic about their work in the sphere of art and design and will naturally spend additional time, beyond their curricular commitment, in the art studios supporting the department. They will be expected to act as an ambassador for art in the school, including by studying Art A level.

PRODUCT DESIGN AWARDS

A Product Design Scholarship is available annually following interview and assessment in the Lent Term. A Design Scholar will be required to study Product Design to A level and should be predicted at least a Grade 7 at GCSE. It is understood that work within the School's Design Department will be an important focus throughout their time as a Product Design Scholar in the School. Continued tenure of the award will be conditional upon the fulfilment of this requirement, as well as upon the maintenance of excellent general progress.

Applicants are asked to produce a digital portfolio which gives evidence of the development process behind the key pieces of project work they have developed in school or elsewhere in the recent past.



AWARDS AT 16+

Project work should be presented through photographs showing a clear and accurate indication of the work's quality and its various stages of development, including evidence of prototypes, if appropriate. The digital component could be a PowerPoint presentation, a PDF or a hosted webpage. This will need to be sent to admissions@downside.co.uk a week prior to the interview date.

One piece of three-dimensional work may be brought to the interview (or photographic evidence of it if not readily portable) and this piece should have been described during at least part of the digital portfolio. Work brought to School must be marked with the candidate's name and school. The 3D piece may be left at the School Reception in advance of the interview day or brought to School on the day of the interview.

Candidates will be asked to undertake a product analysis exercise during their assessment. They will also have an interview with the Head of Design Technology, providing each candidate with an opportunity to talk about the practical work that they have undertaken and to expand on the material included in their portfolio. Candidates will also be encouraged to discuss some of their favourite products or designers whose work interests them.

DRAMA & THEATRE AWARDS

Downside School invites talented performers to audition for a drama award. Drama & Theatre scholars are expected to make a commitment to all aspects of theatre at Downside, both on and off the stage. The interview will assess a pupil's understanding of theatre practices, involvement in productions and performances and it is expected candidates will demonstrate significant contribution and commitment to theatre arts, as well as to be able to talk about the live theatre they have seen. The audition will consist of a short extract which must be memorised, rehearsed and performed and participation in an improvisation either as part of a group or as an individual. Previous experience of and achievement in LAMDA could be an advantage. On-site assessment at the pupil's school may also be considered if they are involved in a current production.



2020 ENTRY

SCHOLARSHIP AND ENTRY EXAMINATION DATES

16+ SCHOLARSHIP ENTRIES – Deadline for all 16+ categories: Thursday 17th October 2019

16+ Academic Scholarship Examinations

Thursday 7th November 2019

16+ Music/Choral Scholarship Auditions

Thursday 7th November 2019

16+ Sport Scholarship Assessment

Friday 8th November 2019

16+ Art Scholarship Assessment

Monday 11th November 2019

16+ Product Design Scholarship Assessment

Monday 11th November 2019

16+ Drama & Theatre Scholarship Assessment

Tuesday 12th November 2019

11+ SCHOLARSHIP ENTRIES – Deadline for all 11+ categories: Friday 6th December 2019

11+ Academic Scholarship and Entrance Examinations

Wednesday 22nd January 2020

11+ Music and Choral Scholarship Auditions

Wednesday 22nd January 2020

11+ Sport Scholarship Assessments

Wednesday 22nd January 2020

13+ SCHOLARSHIP ENTRIES – Deadline for all 13+ categories: Friday 6th December 2019

13+ Academic Scholarship Examinations

Monday 27th & Tuesday 28th January 2020

13+ Drama Scholarship Assessment

Wednesday 29th January 2020

13+ Music and Choral Scholarship Auditions

Thursday 30th January 2020

13+ Art Scholarship Assessment

Thursday 30th January 2020

13+ Product Design Scholarship Assessment

Thursday 30th January 2020

13+ Sport Scholarship Assessment

Friday 31st January 2020

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