



TAUNTON
SCHOOL



13+ Scholarships

Information for September 2023 entry





13+ Scholarships and Awards September 2023, year 9 entry

Recognising Potential

Scholarships recognise academic, artistic, musical, sporting and all round passion for learning in students going into Year 9. As well as the prestige of being a scholar, our Scholars' Programme offers enrichment and extension to the curriculum in weekly sessions. These include exciting external speakers, which have previously included Professor Robert Winston and in depth presentations by peers, on a wide variety of different topics. There are a number of scholarships, offering awards of up to 30% of the tuition fee for either day or boarding pupils. Candidates need to demonstrate outstanding qualities in their chosen discipline and meet the criteria and procedures for each award entered as set out below. Applicants must be under 14 years old on 1st September in the year of entry. Scholarships are awarded on merit and potential. Candidates should be able to describe their interests with enthusiasm and explain clearly how a scholarship award will help them realise their ambitions. Scholarships remain with pupils throughout their time at Taunton School (including Sixth Form) as long as the expectations of a scholar are fulfilled.

Financial Support

Consideration may also be given to Assisted Places (also known as bursaries) which can be added to a scholarship offer and are awarded at the Headmaster's discretion. If an Assisted Place is being applied for, a [Financial Circumstances](#) form should accompany the scholarship entry.

Key Dates

Monday 9th January 2023

This is the deadline to submit all 13+ scholarship entries including personal statements, supporting evidence and references for Academic and All Rounder candidates, as well as Art portfolios and Computer Science solutions to a set problem.

NB: Regrettably, entries that arrive after this date will not be included.

Thursday 19th January 2023

Art, Drama, Music, Computer Science and Design and Technology assessments.

Friday 20th January 2023

Academic and All Rounder interviews and assessments.

Saturday 21st January 2023

Sports interviews and assessments.

Sports, academic and all rounder candidates will be required for the duration of the school day. The day will include bespoke assessments, an interview with a member of the Senior Management Team, time experiencing elements of the Scholars' Programme and of course, some social time over lunch with year 9 pupils. Although we are not able to invite parents to individual assessments, refreshments will be available throughout the day and we would be delighted to offer parents accompanied tours of the school.

To Apply

The Headteacher of the candidate's present school should be advised of the application, as they will be approached for a confidential report.

The criteria and procedures for each Scholarship are set out below. It is possible for candidates to enter for a maximum of two Scholarships plus an All Rounder, however, entering for more than one category will not necessarily correspond to a greater award.

All candidates are required to complete and submit the entry form along with any other requirements shown below. As part of their application, candidates are requested to submit a description of themselves including their scholarly interests and ambitions up to a maximum of 500 words.

Applications will be acknowledged with information on timings of examinations, assessments and interviews to follow. For general scholarship enquiries, please contact the Admissions Manager. For subject specific enquiries, please contact the appropriate Head of Department.

Academic Scholarships

Candidates will sit compulsory written examinations in Mathematics, English, Science and Philosophy/Ethics. These examinations will last 45 minutes each. Candidates will choose one of these subjects in which to have a 10-minute interview. There will also be an interview with a member of the Senior Management Team.

All Rounder Scholarships

The format will be the same as for the Academic scholarships including an interview with a member of the Senior Management Team.

All Rounder candidates should show a high degree of competence in academic work, as well as showing skills in one or two of the following disciplines: Art, Drama, D&T, Music or Sport. All Rounder interviews and assessments will take place as detailed for each of the corresponding disciplines below and the same requirements will apply.

Art Scholarships

Being an Art scholar is an exciting and privileged opportunity which requires candidates to demonstrate a real passion for their chosen art form. Candidates will need to be committed to representing the school and make a positive contribution to the school community. Studying an Arts subject develops many skills such as creative thinking, self-concept, problem-solving, self-expression, risk-taking and cooperation. There are challenging workshops for Art Scholars, where students will experience visual creativity at the highest level as well as learn more about how they learn. The scholarship is aimed at students who are artistic, have spent a lot of time in school developing their artistic talents, and have the utmost ambition to progress further.

To apply:

Part 1

All applicants should submit a digital portfolio consisting of up to 11 PowerPoint slides. Portfolios in other formats will not be accepted. The first slide must include the applicant's name and a short personal statement (maximum 200 words). The statement needs to explain the nature of the work in the portfolio. On the remaining 10 slides, please present 10 pieces of work, some of which should be entire sketchbook pages. Please present the work in chronological order with the newest creations first. The digital portfolio should be emailed to the Head of Art, Dr Lotte Hammer (Lotte.Hammer@tauntonschool.co.uk) by **9th January**.

The portfolio selection should illustrate the candidate's ability to work with a wide range of materials and techniques at an advanced level (e.g. drawings from life, paintings from observation, works in three dimensions, and experiments with mixed media). It is also important to show idea development, creativity and originality.

Part 2

The applicants with the strongest portfolios will be invited to sit a practical test on **19th January** during which they will be expected to draw from life. The test will last approximately one hour. All materials will be provided, but applicants are welcome to bring their own pencils etc.

Part 3

On **19th January**, the selected candidates will also attend a short informal interview during which they will discuss their work. Applicants are expected to bring the original 10 pieces of work/sketchbook pages from their digital portfolio to the interview. Any questions relating to the Art scholarships should be directed to the Head of Art on the email address shown above.



Music Scholarships

Candidates should be at least Grade 5 standard on their first instrument (although we will consider candidates of a lower standard based on potential) and will be asked to perform two pieces in an audition; there will also be sight-reading and aural tests. Candidates should also be prepared to offer a piece on their second instrument, if applicable. In addition to the award, successful candidates will receive free tuition in school, on an orchestral instrument, of one lesson per week during term time. Singers are also encouraged to apply.

The Director of Music, Mr Toby Carden, is pleased to meet possible Music scholars at any time throughout the year to discuss their prospects informally, answer questions and show them round the Music School. If you have any questions relating to the Music Scholarship, please email toby.carden@tauntonschool.co.uk.



Drama Scholarships

Candidates will be asked to write an essay on the topic "Describe a time when you developed a role for a performance. How did you develop the character through rehearsals and research?". This should be between 500 and 700 words and candidates may research the topic in advance.

Candidates should also select and prepare two contrasting pieces of their own choice, from published plays to perform on the day. These pieces should be no longer than two minutes each and may not be material prepared for external Speech and Drama examinations. There will also be a 10-minute interview with the Head of Drama, during which the monologues will be performed. There will also be a quick improvised assessment where candidates will be required to perform an unscripted scene as part of the assessment which will be given on the day. The same procedure is applicable to All Rounder candidates who choose Drama as their support discipline. If you have any queries relating to Drama Scholarships, please contact Mrs Melanie Stamp, Head of Drama, by emailing melanie.stamp@tauntonschool.co.uk.





Design and Technology Scholarships

Being a Design & Technology scholar is an exciting, challenging and rewarding experience with numerous opportunities to work in a very well-resourced state of the art department. A successful scholar would be expected to participate in the co-curricular activities and initiatives that the department facilitates. High standards and commitment are expected from such a scholar and they should be an ambassador for both the subject and the School.

Scholars are also encouraged to take an active role in the VEX robotics, drone racing, and/or Greenpower co-curricular activities led by DT scholars.

The assessment will include a 30-minute design context exam and a 20-minute interview with the Head of Design and Technology. Candidates should bring with them a small portfolio of work from the past three years, including photographs of practical work (not the manufactured item), sketching, and any CAD work. The portfolio could include projects completed at school or elsewhere. If you have any questions relating to D&T Scholarships, please contact Mr Andrew Mason, Head of DT, andrew.mason@tauntonschool.co.uk.

Computer Science Scholarships

Being a Computer Science scholar is an exciting opportunity to develop a wider appreciation of the role computer science and technology has on the ever changing world around us. Successful candidates will be supported with the development of their interests in Computer Science, Programming and ICT. Scholars take an active part in looking at new and emerging technologies, advancements in existing technology and the impact of technology in the modern world. Scholars also have opportunities to develop their problem solving and programming skills, taking part in a wide range of competitions and challenges, including GCHQ's Cyber Discovery Program. The Computer Science scholarship is examined in two parts:

Part 1

The submission of a solution to a Computer Science problem using MIT's Graphical Programming Language Scratch <https://scratch.mit.edu/>. The candidate should demonstrate their ability to develop an efficient solution that meets the requirements laid out in the problem set, showing their understanding of a range of computer science principles. Candidates will be expected to demonstrate a clear understanding of computer science principles in their solutions and will be asked to explain their solution during their interview. The solution should be e-mailed with the project attached or as a link to their project.



Part 2

Takes the form of a 15-minute informal interview during which the candidate will be invited to discuss their work to build a wider picture of their strengths in Computer Science. Solutions should reach Taunton School by **Monday 9th January 2023**.

To receive the Computer Science problem or ask any questions relating to the Computer Science Scholarship, please contact Mr Simon Ryder, Head of Computing & ICT simon.ryder@tauntonschool.co.uk.

Sports Scholarships

Scholarships are awarded to candidates of outstanding ability or potential in the field of Sports. They presuppose a high degree of motivation and commitment on the part of the candidate. Candidates will be required to attend a practical assessment and interview. The assessment will be comprised of three parts:

Part 1

Athletic Development Assessment: this will include a series of practical activities that for example: test agility, core stability strength and hand eye coordination.

Part 2

Sports Specific Assessment: tests of skills in sports such as rugby, hockey, netball, cricket, athletics, swimming and tennis.

All female candidates will take part in: hockey, netball and tennis
All male candidates will take part in: rugby, hockey and cricket

It is expected, that not all candidates will be familiar with all of these games and therefore candidates are asked to select any additional sports that they would like to be assessed in. It is not essential, but candidates are welcome to bring their own equipment with them, e.g., cricket bat, hockey stick or tennis racket. Candidates who choose swimming as their chosen sport will undergo a trial in the pool.

Part 3

At the interview, the candidate will be asked to demonstrate a strong commitment and attitude to sport through their clubs and school teams. They will be able to discuss their own ability and experiences, and will have clear ambitions of their sporting future. Along with an application, appropriate records of success and/or references from school, club or county coaches, should be submitted if applicable.

Sports assessments and interviews will take place on **Saturday 14th January 2023**.

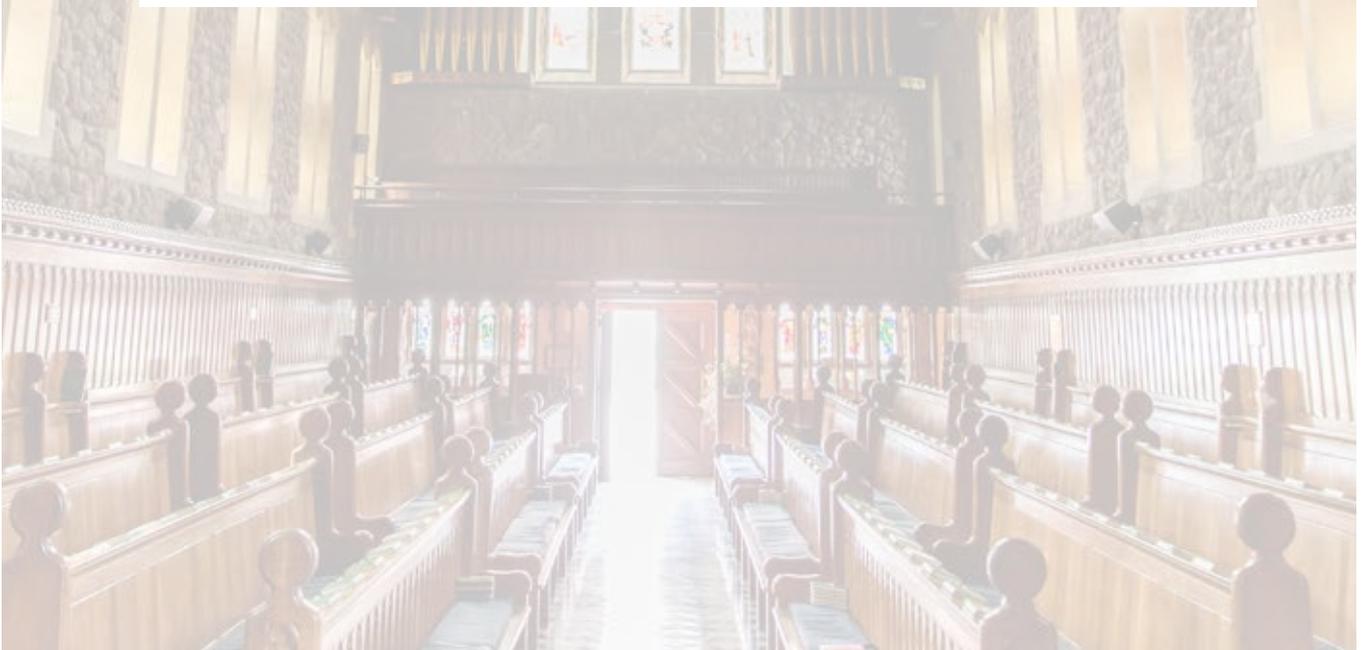
If you have any questions about your Sports Scholarship entry, please contact Director of Sport Mr Daniel Pettifer, by emailing daniel.pettifer@tauntonschool.co.uk.





Case Studies: Caleb's story

Caleb joined Taunton School in Year 9 with scholarships for his distinguished academic and musical ability. Caleb relishes the many co-curricular activities provided; not only does he enjoy rugby and athletics, as well as various music groups and social societies, but Caleb was also successful in reaching the regional finals in the debating competition, throughout which he received vast amounts of support from his teachers. 'Taunton School gives me the chance every day in every part of school life to pursue anything that is on offer.'





Expectations of Scholars

Every year Taunton School provides financial support for pupils with special artistic, intellectual or sporting gifts. This support recognises their outstanding ability, but also confers certain responsibilities to the School community on the individual.

Academic, All Rounder and IB Scholars:

- We expect a fine work ethic, which implies the capacity to produce their work on time and to a standard of presentation and content commensurate with their status as a scholar.
- Scholars should set an example of academic excellence to those around them with regard to meeting deadlines, demeanour and participation in class and integrity in all matters related to coursework and homework.
- Scholars should have an appetite for stretching their minds beyond what is available in class, through reading, research, visits and presentations.
- We expect scholars to participate in the wider academic activities that the School arranges, including societies and one off events.
- Scholars should display academic ambition beyond the norm, being ready to take the initiative in cooperation with members of staff.
- All Rounder scholars are expected to participate fully in their recognised discipline(s) in the same way as detailed in the relevant sections below.
- Scholars will be required to uphold and show leadership towards the school ethos.

Art Scholars:

- Art scholars are required to enter fully into the creative life of the Art Department, spreading their natural enthusiasm and passion for the subject.
- Art scholars should play a leading role in a wide range of artistic activities, events and lectures e.g. The Big Draw.
- Scholars must be superb ambassadors for the Art Department and encourage fellow students to participate in as many art activities, events and lectures as possible.
- They must promote a positive image of the Art Department and the work it produces at all times, including at promotional events and on films if required.
- Art scholars must practise their artistic skills regularly by attending Art Club and working in the Art Department outside of lessons. They must set an outstanding example to other students in terms of commitment, determination and progress.
- Art scholars must be available for occasions which fall outside the normal school day (e.g. evening events such as public art lectures and promotional events for Year 8/11 students and parents)
- Art scholars must study the work of artists, not just as part of school activities but also in their own time e.g. by visiting exhibitions at Art Galleries and Museums.
- Art scholars must study an academic art course throughout their time in the Senior School i.e. Year 9 Foundation, GCSE Fine Art plus A Level Fine Art, A Level Photography or IB Visual Arts.
- Art scholars must set an excellent example in terms of securing high effort and attainment grades in Art. Failure to do so will lead to an automatic review of their scholarship.
- Scholars will be required to uphold and show leadership towards the school ethos.



Music Scholars:

- Music scholarship holders are required to enter fully into the musical life of the School.
- It is expected that music scholars take part in a large number of ensembles and they must take as many opportunities as possible to play / sing as a solo performer, namely at tea-time Concerts, in Chapel and eventually possibly perform a concerto with the School's orchestra.
- They must be good ambassadors for the Music Department and encourage fellow pupils to be involved in different musical ensembles and choirs, representing the Department positively within the wider community.
- The holder must practise regularly, setting a good example.
- Music scholars must be available for occasions which fall at evenings and weekends.
- Scholars are expected to follow an academic music course throughout their time in the school to A level/IB.
- Scholars will be required to uphold and show leadership towards the school ethos.

Drama Scholars:

- Drama scholars are expected to opt for Academic Drama as a subject at all levels.
- Drama scholars should be involved in all school drama productions, either as a performer or in another area (lighting, directing, make up, set design, costume, props or stage management).
- Drama Scholars should represent the drama department at whole school events.
- Scholars should attend a compulsory drama society lecture every half term.
- Scholars should take up a second specialism alongside performance such as lighting, directing, make up, set design, costume, props or stage management.
- Scholars should promote the drama department through high standards of behaviour in lessons and around the school.
- Scholars are to support other students in their drama work.
- Scholars will be required to uphold and show leadership towards the school ethos.

Sports Scholars:

- Scholars should display exemplary commitment to the School, both as an athlete and as a member of the School community.
- Scholars will be expected to attend both the Scholars Programme and some of the Performance Programme sessions.
- Scholars must accept their position as role models within the wider School context. Therefore their behaviour and attitude in lessons and around the School should be exemplary.
- Scholars must set the highest standards of dress, behaviour and sportsmanship whenever representing any team, whether at School or elsewhere.
- Scholars must represent the school in any sport for which they are selected.
- Scholars can utilise the school Elite Sports Policy when pursuing representational sport equivalent to Regional level or above, following discussion with the Director of Sport. It is however important to recognise that Sports Scholars are expected to contribute to more than one sport in the school.
- We expect pupils to be injury free and have a clean bill of health. Any chronic illness or injury must be notified to the School in writing in advance of any offer being made.
- Scholars will be required to uphold and show leadership towards the school ethos.

**Computer Science Scholars:**

- Computer Science Scholars will be expected to take part in Computing activities such as Lego Robotics and Programming clubs.
- Scholars will be expected to opt for a KS4 or KS5 Computer Science qualification. Currently this is IGCSE in Year 10 and 11 and IGCE in Sixth Form.
- Scholars will be expected to join the Digital Leaders programme and help promote the use of technology as an aid to learning.
- Scholars will be required to uphold and show leadership towards the school ethos.

Design & Technology Scholars:

- A Design & Technology scholar will be expected to be fully involved in the life of the Department and enter into the extra curricular side of the subject e.g. Greenpower.
- A successful applicant is expected to study Design & Technology at GCSE and A Level or IB Diploma.
- Scholars will be required to uphold and show leadership towards the school ethos.

All Scholars:**Communication and Monitoring**

- A meeting will be held at the beginning of each academic year for scholars so these expectations can be explained and reinforced.
- Pupils who consistently do not perform to the standards laid down here will have their scholarship reduced or, in extremis, terminated.



CHECKLIST

- **13+ Scholarship entry form** Please complete this [form](#) for all entries
- **13+ Sports Scholarship entry form** Please also complete this [form](#) if applying for a sports award
- **Art entries** Portfolios due by 9 January 2023
- **Computer Science entries** Solution to [problem](#) due by 9 January 2023
- **Financial circumstances form** Please download this form [here](#) and submit with scholarship application if fee assistance is required in addition to any scholarship award
- **Personal Statement** Please submit with all entries
- **Registration form** Please complete if candidate is not currently attending Taunton School ([download here](#))
- **Registration fee** A registration fee of £100 should be paid by cheque or online to accompany the registration form for new pupils
- **School report** Please include a copy of the candidate's most recent school report
- **Deadline** Application deadline is 9 January 2023



TAUNTON SCHOOL

www.tauntonschool.co.uk

Staplegrove Road, Taunton, Somerset, TA2 6AE

Admissions

registrar@tauntonschool.co.uk

01823 703702

