



TAUNTON  
SCHOOL



# Sixth Form Scholarships

Information for September 2023 entry





# Sixth Form Scholarships September 2023 Entry

## Recognising Potential

Scholarships recognise academic, artistic, musical, sporting and all round passion for learning in students going into the Sixth Form. They allow dedicated individuals to benefit from the exciting Sixth Form experience and first class education here at Taunton School, that will set them up for life. 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, such as Professor Robert Winston and in depth presentations by peers on a wide variety of different topics. Scholarships offer awards of up to 40% of the tuition fee for day and 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. Candidates can enter for a maximum of two awards plus an All Rounder.

Scholarships are awarded on merit and potential. They are open to applicants from any school. The successful candidates will have good predicted grades at (l)GCSE, show themselves to be aware of contemporary issues, and should be able to describe their interests with enthusiasm. They will be expected to explain clearly how a scholarship award will help them realise their ambitions.

## Financial Support

Consideration may also be given to assisted places (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

### Friday 4th November 2022

This is the deadline to submit all Sixth Form scholarship entries including personal statements, supporting evidence and references as well as Art and DT portfolios and Computer Science solutions.

### Wednesday 16th November 2022

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

### Thursday 17th November 2022

Academic and All Rounder assessments.

### Friday 18th November 2022

Sports assessments / interviews.

### Wednesday 30th November 2022

Offers for 16+ Scholarships will arrive on or after this date, in accordance with the code of practice for the Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference (HMC).

## How To Apply

The Headteacher of the candidate's present school should be advised of the scholarship application, as she/he will be approached for a confidential reference.

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 required to submit a personal statement including their scholarly interests and ambitions, up to a maximum of 500 words.

There are roles and responsibilities required of scholars and these are described in 'Expectations of Scholars' on page 20.

For scholarship enquiries, please contact the Admissions Manager. For subject specific enquiries, please contact the appropriate Head of Department.



## Academic Scholarships

High achieving young people wanting to progress to high ranking universities, conservatoires or medical schools may be attracted to an academic scholarship.

As part of our Scholarship Programme, previous academic scholars have enjoyed workshops on Shakespeare, talks on the Science Industry, and sixth form students have presented themselves on topics including 'China,' 'Habsburg Marriage: A Tale of Imperialism and Incest' and 'Iconoclasm: Then and Now.' Scholars have also benefited from talks on Why is reading important?, the Mafia, and debated the Rise of Global Angry Nationalism.

All candidates will undergo a critical reading test, an interview with a senior member of staff and write a general essay in response to one of a choice of questions.

## All Rounder Scholarships

Candidates for the All Rounder Scholarships will follow the same procedure as given above for Academic Scholarships and in addition they will also be assessed for competence in Art, Drama, Music, Computer Science, Design and Technology or Sport, as detailed below. One or two disciplines can be chosen.

### Art Scholarships

Being an Art scholar is an exciting and privileged opportunity which requires you to demonstrate a real passion for your chosen art form. Candidates will need to be committed to representing the school and making 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 a maximum of 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](mailto:Lotte.Hammer@tauntonschool.co.uk)) by **4th November 2022**.

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 **16th November 2022** 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

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.



## Design and Technology Scholarships

Design & Technology scholars benefit from an exciting, challenging and rewarding experience with boundless opportunities in a very well-resourced, state-of-the-art department.

A successful scholar will be able to become a leader in a variety of extra-curricular activities provided by the department. This includes VEX robotics which is an important club for those looking at becoming designer engineers in the future. Scholars will focus on being innovative in the design, development and manufacture of solutions to problems. Scholars are also expected to help other students in the use of CAD. A sound knowledge of Autodesk Fusion, and/or Solidworks is expected.

The D&T department is a vibrant, creative and successful environment which helps to stimulate and enthuse each pupil.

High standards and commitment are expected from scholars who must consider themselves ambassadors for both the subject and the School. Candidates will sit a one-hour examination and discuss their design portfolio (including photographs of a product or products they have made) with the Head of DT. Portfolios must be received by **4th November 2022**. The exam and interviews will take place on **16th November 2022**. Any questions relating to the Design & Technology scholarships may be directed to Mr Andrew Mason, Head of DT, [andrew.mason@tauntonschool.co.uk](mailto:andrew.mason@tauntonschool.co.uk).



## Drama Scholarships

Our Drama scholars play an integral part in the academic and co-curricular life at Taunton School. Scholars will participate fully in our co-curricular theatre programme and be excellent representatives for the Drama department. We believe that the subject plays a pivotal role in the development of pupils' social skills and confidence levels. In recent years the department has delivered a number of opportunities to work with theatre companies and see live theatre productions, such as Blood Brothers, Jane Eyre and The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time.

Auditions and interviews for Drama Scholarships will be held on the **16th November 2022**. Candidates write a timed essay on a subject relating to their own experiences of live theatre both as an actor and as an audience member. There will also be a group assessment which will be an improvisation based task set on the day. Candidates must also prepare two performances of contrasting individual monologues from published plays; one which is post 1950 and one which is either Shakespearean or from a classical Greek play- these should be prepared in advance of attending the audition, please note it is imperative that candidates do not perform pieces that they have prepared for, or are preparing for LAMDA or Speech and Drama examinations. There will also be a short interview where candidates will discuss the context of the plays they have performed and their preparation process as well as their own theatrical experiences. For questions relating to Drama Scholarships, please contact Mrs Melanie Stamp, Head of Drama [melanie.stamp@tauntonschool.co.uk](mailto:melanie.stamp@tauntonschool.co.uk).



## Computer Science Scholarships

Computer Science scholars have many opportunities to take part in an extensive range of programs, challenges and competitions offered by some of the world's biggest technology companies and world renowned organisations, including GCHQ's Cyber Discovery Program, Southampton Universities National Cipher Challenge and Amazon's Future Engineer Program. These all providing an exciting environment to develop problem solving, programming and teamwork. As a Computer Science scholar, you will be encouraged and nurtured to think outside the box and develop your problem-solving skills, applying these to design websites, create your own apps for mobile devices and even model the spread of a virus. Past Computer Science Scholars have produced websites for local community groups and apps which have been the most downloaded in their category on Apple's App Store. The department is well resourced and has strong links with the other STEM subjects.

The Computer Science scholarship is examined in two parts.



### Part 1

The submission of a solution to a Computer Science Problem set by the department using MIT's Graphical Programming Language Scratch <https://scratch.mit.edu/>. The problem set can be viewed on the following link: [Problem Set For Computer Science Scholars](#). The solution should demonstrate the candidate's ability to develop an efficient solution that meets the requirements laid out in the problem set. Candidates will be expected to demonstrate a clear understanding of computer science principles in their solutions and will be expected to be able to explain their solution during an informal interview. The work should be submitted electronically (either online or via other media). Care should be taken in terms of contextualising the submission so that it is in an appropriate form that fully demonstrates the candidate's strengths.

### Part 2

Takes the form of an informal interview during which the candidate will have the opportunity of discussing their work to build a wider picture of their strengths in Computer Science.

Solutions should reach Taunton School by **4th November 2022** and selected candidates will then be invited for an interview on **16th November 2022**. Any questions relating to the Computer Science Scholarship can be sent to Mr Simon Ryder, Head of Computing & ICT [simon.ryder@tauntonschool.co.uk](mailto:simon.ryder@tauntonschool.co.uk).

## Music Scholarships

Our Music scholars programme has involved examining music careers, performance and critique, sound recording and production, and how to improve in the most efficient way. As a Music Scholar you will show a high degree of passion when it comes to representing the school's Music department and community. Talented musicians can combine a wide range of exceptional musical opportunities with a tailored academic programme at Taunton School.



On **16th November** candidates will be required to perform on their first and second instrument, if applicable. There will also be sight-reading and aural tests. There is no absolute requirement in terms of Associated Board exams, but all Music scholars are expected to be able to perform to a high standard. 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. The Director of Music, Mr Toby Carden is pleased to meet potential Music scholars at any time to discuss their areas of interest, answer questions and invite them to see the Music School. Please email any questions relating to Music scholarships to [toby.carden@tauntonschool.co.uk](mailto:toby.carden@tauntonschool.co.uk).



## Sports Scholarships

Our Sports Scholars' Programme includes both practical and theoretical sessions developing themes around improving performance in sport. Practical sessions involve recovery, functional movement and physical literacy sessions, and theoretical sessions look at understanding pressure, elite performance, relaxation, sports psychology and developing leadership and teamwork. Sports Scholarships are awarded to candidates of outstanding ability or potential in this field. They presuppose a high degree of motivation, a positive attitude and commitment on the part of the candidate and in return, deliver professional strategies, expert coaching and inspiring guidance to enable students to be the very best they can be as they aim even higher than they expected to.

During their interview candidates will be expected to demonstrate enthusiasm, knowledge and skill. Candidates should bring along any appropriate records of success. Candidates wishing to apply for Sports Scholarships should complete the 16+ entry form as well as the sports entry form. If you have any questions about the Sports Scholarship process, please contact Mr Daniel Pettifer, Director of Sport, by email [daniel.pettifer@tauntonschool.co.uk](mailto:daniel.pettifer@tauntonschool.co.uk).

With thanks to Kukri for their generous sports sponsorship contribution.



### Notes

We will contact you after the entry deadline to provide information on timings of assessments and interviews. To avoid a situation where awards may be decreased or withdrawn please ensure you have read and understood the 'Expectations of Scholars' document on page 20.

Entry forms should be returned to the Admissions Manager, no later than **Friday 4th November 2022**. Please ensure all supporting documents, school reports and personal statements are sent before this closing date. Students not currently attending Taunton School are also required to kindly fill in a [Registration Form](#) and send this together with the registration fee, to complete their entry.

For any further information, please contact Mrs Julie Amann, Admissions Manager, by calling 01823 703702 or emailing [registrar@tauntonschool.co.uk](mailto:registrar@tauntonschool.co.uk).



## Case Studies: Charlie's story

*Charlie joined the Taunton School community in 2019 having been awarded a scholarship for his outstanding performing excellence. The school has continuously supported Charlie, who has formed strong relationships with staff and other students. Charlie praises the varied opportunities offered by the school; he not only enjoys the debating society, drama clubs and the music department, but has also taken the opportunity to speak publicly about homophobia on the English Speaking Union Platform, for which the support Charlie has received is unrivalled: 'I am completely indebted to Taunton School!'*





## 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

<b>16+ Scholarship entry form</b>	Please complete this <a href="#">form</a> for all entries
<b>16+ sports entry form</b>	Please also complete this <a href="#">form</a> if applying for a sports award
<b>Personal Statement</b>	Please submit with all entries
<b>Art entries</b>	Portfolios due by 4 November 2022
<b>Computer Science entries</b>	Solution to <a href="#">problem</a> due by 4 November 2022
<b>Financial circumstances form</b>	Please download this form <a href="#">here</a> and submit with scholarship application if (For bursary applications) fee assistance is required in addition to any scholarship award
<b>Registration form</b>	Please complete if candidate is not currently attending Taunton School ( <a href="#">download here</a> )
<b>Registration fee</b>	A registration fee of £100 should accompany the registration form
<b>School report</b>	Please include a copy of the candidate's most recent school report
<b>Deadline</b>	Application deadline is 4 November 2022



[www.tauntonschool.co.uk](http://www.tauntonschool.co.uk)

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**Admissions**

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