



**MUSIC AWARDS &
SCHOLARSHIPS
at 11+**

11+ Music Awards

There are three Music Awards available for pupils entering the school at 11+. Auditions are held on the same day as the 11+ Music Scholarship; it is possible to apply for both the Scholarship and an Award, but they may not be held concurrently.

Instrumental Award 1 (IA1)

This Award is to encourage girls to take up less familiar or more expensive instruments. It might also be used where, for instance, a girl who has started on the violin may now be showing potential on the viola. Whilst this is intended for beginners, girls who have already started learning the instrument at the time of audition, and who have made good progress in their studies in a relatively short period of time, are also eligible.

Number available:	2 per annum
Instruments:	Viola, Double Bass, Bassoon, French Horn, Trombone, Tuba, Euphonium, Oboe
Duration:	3 years
Award:	Free tuition (single lesson), free use of instrument (when available), free music and free examination entry up to and including Grade 8

Entry

By open competition; **either** (for a beginner) based initially on performance of aural tests and an interview with the Director of Music, followed by three trial lessons; **or**, if a girl has already started the instrument, by performance of a piece, sight-reading, aural, viva voce and teacher's report.

* * * * *

Instrumental Award 2 (IA2)

This Award is intended for girls who have been learning an orchestral or band instrument (not voice, piano or organ) for a relatively short period of time, and who have already made considerable progress. This Award enables girls to receive recognition of their achievements so far as well as their potential, and to encourage them towards higher levels of achievement.

Number available:	2 per annum
Instrument:	Any (except voice, piano or organ)
Duration:	3 years
Award:	Free tuition (single lesson), free music and free examination entry up to and including Grade 8.

Entry

By open competition on a single day annually. Candidates will need to demonstrate rapid progress over a relatively short period; Grade 3-4 in two years is a good guide, but not a definite requirement. Examination evidence is not essential.

Conditions of Instrumental Awards 1 & 2

- Holders must take an Associated Board or Trinity practical examination when considered ready by their teacher.
- Holders must take part in any ensembles judged appropriate by the Director of Music.
- Holders should be prepared to perform in concerts and/or competitions as requested by the Director of Music.

* * * * *

Organ Award (OA)

This Award is designed to encourage girls to learn the organ, and to gain experience and insight into liturgical work and accompaniment. It is also of great benefit to those who might intend to try for Organ Scholarships at universities. It should be noted that there may be Sunday duties on occasions.

Whilst this is intended for beginners, girls who have been learning the instrument for less than a year at the time of audition, and who have made good progress in their studies in a relatively short period, are also eligible.

Number available:	4 maximum
Duration:	4 years or remaining school life at St Catherine's, whichever is the shorter
Offered to:	Any year group
Award:	Free tuition (single lesson), free use of instrument, free music, free examination entries for organ and piano, provided piano is also studied at School. (NB piano tuition is not provided free.)

Entry

- Candidates must have proven ability on the piano (approximately Grade 5 standard).
- By open competition; **either** (for a beginner) based initially on performance of two contrasting piano pieces, aural tests and interview with the Director of Music followed by three trial lessons; **or**, if a girl has already started the organ, by performance of a piece, sight-reading, aural test, a short interview with the Director of Music and teacher's report.
- Where there appears to be more suitable candidates than Awards available, each will receive an agreed period of free trial lessons before the Award is finalised.

Conditions of the Organ Award

Holders must be prepared to assist at services, practices and concerts and to play occasionally for School assemblies. The assistance may consist of playing or of helping in the organ loft.

11+ Music Scholarships

St Catherine's offers an 11+ Music Scholarship annually to the value of 20% of current School fees, whether boarding or day. A second Scholarship of 10% of fees can also be awarded in years where the field of applicants is particularly strong. Music Scholarships include one weekly period of free instrumental tuition, sheet music for that instrument, and exam entries (up to and including Grade 8) on the same instrument.

The 11+ Music Scholarship is awarded to a girl entering the School at 11+ who demonstrates not only a good standard already reached in an instrument/voice (approximately Grade 5 is a reasonable expectation), but also high potential and lively interest, both in her instrument and in music generally. Ability in a second instrument/voice would also be an advantage. The holder would be expected to take a full and active part in School music, and it is expected that she would choose Music as a subject option for GCSE and A Level in due course. Offer of a Scholarship at 11+ is subject to the candidate obtaining satisfactory marks in the Entrance Examination.

Music Scholars at St. Catherine's have long enjoyed a particularly close and successful working relationship with the Music Department. They tend to be found in the Music School at regular intervals, either practising, rehearsing or taking part in activities which promote the Department and encourage other musicians. They can actively share in the success of the Music Department and take pride in it alongside the staff, with whom they have traditionally tended to form strong working relationships. This is in keeping with music-making at the highest level.

In return for this loyalty and leadership by example, the Music Department offers lots of personal support and encouragement to its Scholars, respects that they have a busy programme, and offers advice, guidance and support over time-planning whenever it is needed.

As beacons of excellence, all Music Scholars are expected to make a full, active, and willing contribution to music-making at St Catherine's. Scholars are expected to make music-making their primary extra-curricular activity and to give priority to it, leading other pupils by their example. Specifically, they are expected to take part first and foremost in appropriate core activities, those being:

- Symphony Orchestra;
- Concert Band;
- U3 Choir, Fourth Form Choir and Senior Choir (progressing through the School).

Dependent upon the specialisms (e.g. voice/instruments etc) of the individual Scholars, they will be expected to audition for, or be invited to take part in, a selection of ensembles throughout their time at St Catherine's, including (but not limited to):

- Camerata (the School's Senior String Ensemble);
- Jazz Band;
- Chapel Choir;
- Middle Chamber Choir;
- Middle Cantores;
- Senior Chamber Choir;
- Cantores;
- Specialist ensembles such as Brass Ensemble, Flute Choir and Cello Ensemble.

Scholars are also expected to be keen to take part in the Chamber Music programme with girls of similar ability and, when appropriate, age. They usually gain great musical camaraderie from this activity, often, though not exclusively, with fellow Music Scholars.

Scholars may be encouraged to take part in local Music Festivals to help them develop their performance skills, but this is not mandatory.

Scholars will be given the opportunity to perform an appropriate concerto movement once during their time at the School. Should their performance level be outstanding from a young age, it is likely that there would be other opportunities for solo work. The Music Department balances this programme of solo work in order to distribute it fairly among the Scholars at appropriate times and for appropriate venues.

Scholars will periodically meet formally with the Director of Music to discuss their extra-curricular commitments, and how they should best dovetail these with their individual music lessons, practice and academic and other commitments. The Director of Music will also liaise with the Scholars' Mentor, to whom Music Scholars also have access, to help them with balancing their academic and musical commitments.

General Conditions for Awards and Scholarships

1. All applications for Awards and Scholarships must be made through the Director of Music.
2. A girl may hold only one Award or Scholarship at any one time.
3. Occasionally, if a Scholarship applicant is not felt to have reached the required level to be awarded a Scholarship, but has shown a high level of potential on one of her instruments, the school might offer an Award, if available, even though it was not initially applied for.
4. Lessons on the instrument for which the Award has been given must ordinarily take place at St Catherine's School with one of the School's Music Teachers.
5. All continuing Awards are reviewed during each academic year, by performance to the Director of Music or his/her appointee, and by report. Good progress, attendance and regular committed practice are expected automatically.
6. Ensembles and choirs in which holders are directed to take part may take priority over any other activities, in or out of School, which may run at the same time as normal rehearsals. Also, as far as possible, priority should be given to concerts and events planned for those ensembles.
7. If it is felt that a girl is failing to live up to the expectations of an Award or Scholarship, she and her parents/guardians will be advised of this in the first instance, and strategies put in place before this is reviewed after a fixed period of time by the Director of Music. Continued failure to meet the expectations is likely to result in the Award or Scholarship being removed.
8. Awards and Scholarships are not automatically given because they happen to be available. If it is felt that the standard expected for an Award is not reached by any candidate, it will not be offered.
9. In the event of a brass or wind instrument Award Holder requiring dental treatment which will interfere significantly with the playing of her instrument (i.e. intrusive and permanently fixed braces), the Award may be suspended for the duration of such a situation. A term's notice would be required from the parents to the Director of Music or that term of the Award would have to be sacrificed. As dentistry of this kind is usually planned far in advance of the start of treatment, this should be feasible. It is advisable that parents discuss the possibility of dental treatment with the Director of Music. The School will be supportive in helping the pupil to resume her Award and her playing as soon as possible.
10. If discontinuation of an Award is required by parents before its normal date of termination, A FULL TERM'S NOTICE IN WRITING IS REQUIRED AS FOR NORMAL INSTRUMENTAL LESSONS, otherwise a term's fees at the current rate will be charged in lieu. For those Awards extending into the U6 year, they will normally be expected to cease at the end of the Spring Term; however, they can be continued into the Summer Term by agreement with the Director of Music if, for example, there is a music examination to be taken then, or the girl will be taking up a University Choral or Organ Scholarship.

11. Awards and Scholarships normally begin in September, at the start of the academic year and, with the exception of 7, 9 and 10 above, normally end in July.
12. If notice is given that a girl is to leave St. Catherine's, the Award or Scholarship will cease immediately.

Format of the Awards and Scholarships Auditions

The Audition Panel will normally consist of the Director of Music and one other person, who may be another senior member of the Music Department or an external adjudicator.

The audition will comprise the following.

- Two contrasting solo pieces on your principal instrument/voice (10 mins total)
- One solo piece on your second instrument/voice, if appropriate (5 mins maximum)
- Scales and arpeggios applicable to the standard you have reached on your principal instrument (or on the second instrument, for those offering voice as their principal instrument)
- Quick Study piece: a piece of music will be provided for you to study privately for 5 minutes prior to the audition; those offering voice as their principal instrument will prepare their Quick Study during the audition with support from a pianist
- Aural tests and sight-singing of an appropriate standard
- A short interview where the members of the Panel will chat to you to get an idea about your level of general musical knowledge and musical interests, and will discuss your future aims

It is important to remember throughout the audition that we are interested in what you know, rather than what you are unable to answer, and that we acknowledge that different applicants will have a variety of musical backgrounds. The aural tests are designed to indicate the overall ability of a candidate, rather than demonstrate specific skills required. The questions in the short interview will be designed to put you at ease and to encourage you to speak passionately about your music-making.

Good luck!