



MERCHISTON
EDINBURGH



SCHOLARSHIPS



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“ Amazing facilities, loads of music, thriving drama – Merchiston offers the full package. Boys are encouraged to ‘beat their own best’ in all their efforts and there’s a heartening emphasis on building confidence ‘but certainly not arrogance’... ”

ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

ENTRY POINT	MERCHISTON YEAR GROUP	SCOTTISH YEAR GROUP	ENGLISH YEAR GROUP
13+	Fourth Form	S2	Year 9
16+	Lower Sixth Form	S5	Year 12

Your son can apply for an Academic Scholarship for entry to Merchiston at ages 13+ and 16+. Scholarship candidates will be expected to demonstrate academic excellence on entry, and throughout their school careers at Merchiston.

For entry to Fourth Form, your son’s scholarship level assessment will take the form of our own examinations. For Sixth Form entry he will sit papers at GCSE level in the subjects that he would like to follow at A Level.

During his career as a Scholar, your son will have opportunities to participate in a variety of prestigious external competitions such as the British Maths and Physics Olympiads, The Royal Society of Chemistry *Top of the Bench* competition, Arkwright Trust Scholarships for Engineering and Technology, and the Young Engineer of the Year awards. He will also be invited to join the Cecil Stagg Society, for academic stretching within school.



ALL-ROUNDER SCHOLARSHIPS

Your son will have a wealth of opportunities for academic achievement and co-curricular success at Merchiston. These will ensure he fulfils his potential in a number of areas. To be successful in an All-Rounder assessment, your son will need to demonstrate above average academic performance in his academic tests and select two of the following specialist areas for practical assessment, supported by interview and/or presentation of samples of work:

ART & DESIGN

Your son will be asked to submit and discuss a well-presented portfolio of work, and demonstrate interest in and knowledge of art and artists. He will also have a practical assessment in still-life composition.

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

Your son will be asked to present a portfolio with details of completed projects, and should show both interest and real technical aptitude. He will also have a practical assessment.

DRAMA

Your son will be asked to recite a speech from a play and give a dramatic recitation of a poem. We will take into account his prior involvement and interest in dramatic productions as part of the assessment.

MUSIC / PIPE BAND

Your son should offer 1 or 2 instruments, and / or voice. He will be assessed through the performance of two contrasting pieces of music.

SPORT

Your son's assessment for sport will be by practical display of ability, fitness, commitment and potential in one or more of Merchiston's major sports — athletics, cricket or rugby.

If your son succeeds as an All-Rounder he will be expected to play a key role as a leader in his year group. He may, therefore, be asked to take part in some activities during the assessment that are designed to bring out his leadership and team participation qualities and potential.



MUSIC SCHOLARSHIPS / PIPE BAND EXHIBITION

Your son will find that music making, and the appreciation of music play a major part in life at Merchiston. He will benefit from full-time staff and instrumental specialists who are very experienced in teaching and developing talented young musicians. Your son will be able to enjoy all the facilities of the purpose-built Music Centre and auditorium, as well as the magnificent Memorial Hall where performances to larger audiences take place. He will enjoy a wide range of performance opportunities, both as a soloist and in ensembles, such as Choral Society, Chapel Choir, Close Harmony and other singing groups, Orchestra, Junior Music Ensemble, two Pipe Bands and a number of rock groups.

In addition to satisfying the School's academic entrance requirements for his age, your son will have to attend a practical Music examination. He will be expected to perform at a standard approximately equivalent to Grade 5 of the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music on his main instrument, although his age and potential will be taken into account. For the Pipe Band Exhibition, your son will be assessed on either the bagpipes or the drums, and will be asked to perform more than one contrasting piece. If your son is successful, he will be expected to make a significant contribution to music and performance at Merchiston throughout his school career.

SPORTS' SCHOLARSHIPS

At Merchiston, your son will be joining a community with a *Sport for All* philosophy and an enviable reputation for sporting achievement. He will be able to play a wide variety of sports to a high level, benefit from excellent coaching at all levels and be able to represent the School in teams.

Athletics, cricket and rugby are the key sports your son will be offered, with additional options including basketball, football, hockey, rugby fives, tennis, swimming, squash, skiing and shooting. He will be able to enjoy the many excellent facilities, which include a state-of-the-art floodlit Astro, sports hall, swimming pool, squash and fives courts, a rifle range, indoor tennis courts, cricket, football and rugby pitches and an athletics track.

To be considered for a Sports' Scholarship, your son must be entering the Fourth or Lower Sixth Form and offer at least two sports for practical assessment, one of which must be drawn from the three key sports above. He must also satisfy the academic entrance requirements for his age. Your son must be able to demonstrate his fitness and ability and discuss his current team participation and aspirations with our Director of Sport. If successful, he will be expected to make a significant contribution to sport at Merchiston, and show commitment to training and participation, in the department, in the School and beyond.

ART & DESIGN/DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY SCHOLARSHIPS

Your son will have a stimulating environment in which to develop his creative and technical abilities in these two subject areas, thanks to our purpose-built Art & Design Centre. The department is set up in such a way that he will be able to progress both the creative and technical aspects of these disciplines whilst also feeding through into Electronics and Computing.

If your son wishes to apply to Art College or follow a career in Design, Architecture or Landscape Architecture, he may well opt for Art at GCSE and A Level. He will be encouraged and taught to develop his ability to appreciate the visual world as well as his artistic skills and knowledge. As an A Level student, he will have a wonderful opportunity to explore the many art galleries of Edinburgh.

Your son will be able to take Design & Technology as a subject from the age of 10 to A Level. The department's focus on product design and manufacture means he will select and use a wide range of materials to produce prototypes and finished projects to a very high (and often marketable) standard. He will be encouraged to enter external competitions and could join former students studying Design or Engineering at some of the UK's top universities, if that is his chosen path.

To succeed, your son will have to demonstrate artistic or technological aptitude and must be seeking entry at 13+ or 16+ to study Art & Design and/or Design & Technology at GCSE or A Level. He will be asked to submit and to discuss a well-presented portfolio of work, and show interest in and knowledge of either art and artists or design and products. Whichever subject your son is interested in, he will have to undertake a practical assessment and satisfy our academic entrance requirements for his age.

APPLICATION

If you wish to apply for a Scholarship, please complete our Scholarship Application Form and return it to us by the relevant date.

We also ask that you register your son with the Admissions Department before interview and/or assessment for a Scholarship. You can obtain a Registration Form in the prospectus pack or from the Admissions Office.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Admissions Office with any questions.

MEANS-TESTED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Scholarships at Merchiston are competitive and are awarded for the duration of your son's School career, subject to his continued progress and good conduct. Because we seek to ensure that financial assistance is used to widen access and assist the greatest number of parents who require support, your son will not automatically receive a financial concession with his Scholarship. However, you may apply for means-tested assistance up to the value of 100% of the fees alongside a Scholarship. If you require assistance, you will be asked to complete a confidential statement of financial circumstances, which is reviewed annually. We will also ask you to declare any significant changes to your financial circumstances. Forms can be obtained from the Admissions or Bursar's office.

SCHOLARSHIP DATES

MIDDLE YEARS

All Rounder, Art & Design, Music, Design & Technology and Sports' Scholarships and Pipe Band Exhibition (Prep and non-Prep Schools):
Thursday 30 January & Friday 31 January 2020

Entry to Fourth Form (i.e. 13+ years of age in September of the year of entry). Candidates will sit entrance assessments in Maths, English, a Non Verbal Reasoning Test and a Support for Learning screening test and have an interview. There will be specialist assessments for the All Rounder and Sports' Scholarships. Candidates should expect to be at School from Thursday morning until Friday lunchtime approximately. Those candidates only sitting entrance assessments will be free to go home after lunch on Thursday.

Closing date for applications:
Friday 24 January 2020

Open Academic Scholarship:
Tuesday 18 February – Thursday 20 February 2020

Entry to Fourth Form (i.e. 13+ years of age in September of the year of entry). Candidates will sit examinations (based on the Common Entrance Syllabus) and have interviews. Candidates (inc. applicants for day places) will be invited to stay at the School from the evening of Monday 17 February 2020.

Closing date for applications:
Friday 14 February 2020

SIXTH FORM

Academic, All Rounder, Art & Design, Music, Design & Technology and Sports' Scholarships:
Wednesday 4 – Friday 6 December 2019

Candidates will sit examinations, have an interview and be assessed in their chosen fields for a Scholarship.

Closing date for applications, together with selected AS/A Level subjects:
Friday 29 November 2019

Please note that where applicable, meals will be provided by Merchiston and overnight accommodation may be available for those candidates coming from a distance.

“ There is no substitute for hard work. ”

THOMAS EDISON



MERCHISTON
EDINBURGH

A BOARDING AND DAY SCHOOL FOR BOYS AGED 7-18

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Charity number: SC016580

