



Scholarships & Bursaries

2025-26



Culford

Introduction

We are proud of our long standing tradition of offering scholarships in recognition and encouragement of pupils who show real talent and potential for excellence.

Academic, Music and Arts Scholarships

Culford's vibrant Scholars' and Gifted & Talented Programme provides a comprehensive calendar of events throughout the academic year. There are frequent scholars' tutorials as well as a variety of visiting speakers. Most events are open to all pupils and some also welcome parents and guests. There will also be bespoke events for scholars that will be funded by the scholars programme to enrich our scholars experience at Culford

There is monetary value to the below awards, expressed as a discount of up to 10% of tuition fees.

Academic Scholarships	11+, 13+ and 16+
Sixth Form Mathematics Scholarship	16+
Academic Scholarship (STEM, humanities or all rounder)	11+, 13+ and 16+
Music Scholarships	11+, 13+ and 16+
Art and Design Technology Scholarships	13+ and 16+
Drama Scholarships	13+ and 16+

*Academic 11+ scholarships are by invitation only and 13+ by recommendation only.

Sports Scholarships

Sports Scholars receive an Individual Sports Programme to support their aspirations by developing their athletic, sporting, and academic potential. In exceptional circumstances, a Sports Scholarship may carry a 10% remission of fees.

Sports Scholarships	11+, 13+ and 16+
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*Further information regarding Sports Scholarships can be found on page 13.

Application

All scholarship applicants are required to complete a Registration Form in order to sit Entrance and Scholarship Examinations or Assessments and attend an interview. The maintenance of any award is dependent on continuing scholarship standard performance and is subject to periodic review.

If financial assistance is required, you may also apply for a means-tested bursary; please seek further information from the Admissions team in the first instance.



Academic Scholarships

11+ Scholarships

Availability

These awards are available to pupils upon entry to Lower Third (Year 7). Pupils will be invited by the Prep Head to sit these examinations. Pupils are expected to remain at Prep School until the end of Upper Third (Year 8).

Requirements

Candidates are required to:

- Sit the School Academic Scholarship examinations
- Attend an interview with the Prep School Head
- Provide a current school reference which includes current subject and effort grades

13+ Scholarships

Availability

These awards are available to pupils upon entry to Fourth Form (Year 9). Pupils are expected to stay at Culford Senior School until the completion of GCSEs. Awards are tenable until the end of Upper Fifth (Year 11).

Requirements

Candidates are required to:

- Sit Academic Scholarship examinations related to their chosen pathway (STEM, humanities or all rounder)
- Attend an interview with the Head of Scholars
- Provide a current school reference which includes current subject and effort grades and recommendation from their current School Head

16+ Scholarships

Availability

These awards are available to pupils entering the Sixth Form (Year 12). Pupils will be required to sit exams for 16+ scholarships in November.

Application

Candidates are invited to apply based on their predicted performance in GCSE examinations or equivalent. Applicants should normally expect to achieve at least 9 grades at Level 7 or above, including English and mathematics. Applicants should receive a Level 8 or 9 in the subject to be studied at Sixth Form.

Requirements

Candidates will be required to:

- Sit an examination in three selected subjects
- Attend an interview with the Head of Scholars or the Head of Sixth Form
- Provide a current school reference which includes current subject, effort and GCSE predicted grades, together with aptitude test scores

In recognition of outstanding potential and performance students can apply for a STEM, humanities, mathematics or general scholarship. To be considered, applicants should provide a current school reference which includes subject and effort grades and a recommendation from their School Head.





Creative &
Performing Arts
Scholarships

11+, 13+ and 16+ Scholarships

Availability

These awards are available to pupils upon entry to Lower Third (Year 7), Fourth Form (Year 9) and Lower Sixth (Year 12).

Application

Candidates are invited to apply on the basis of their instrumental or vocal ability and will be assessed upon their achievement level to date and future potential. Applicants are expected to make a full and active contribution to the musical life of the school, participating in the orchestra, choirs, bands and any other musical groups within the school, according to their specialisation.

Applicants are expected to play two instruments (the voice is classed as an instrument). At 11+ candidates are expected to play one instrument to at least Grade 3 and be working towards this grade in a second instrument; at 13+ two instruments should be offered at Grade 5 or above; at 16+ one instrument should be offered at Grade 7 and candidates are expected to be approaching this grade in a second instrument.

Music Scholars are expected to study academic music throughout their school career. If a Music Scholar chooses to drop the subject they may be required to resign the scholarship, unless the Director of Music is content that their leadership of extra-curricular music meets the terms of the scholarship.

Requirements

Candidates will be required to:

- Submit an application form to be endorsed by their current School Head
- Achieve a satisfactory performance in the School entrance examinations
- Attend an interview and audition with the Director of Music

13+ and 16+ Scholarships

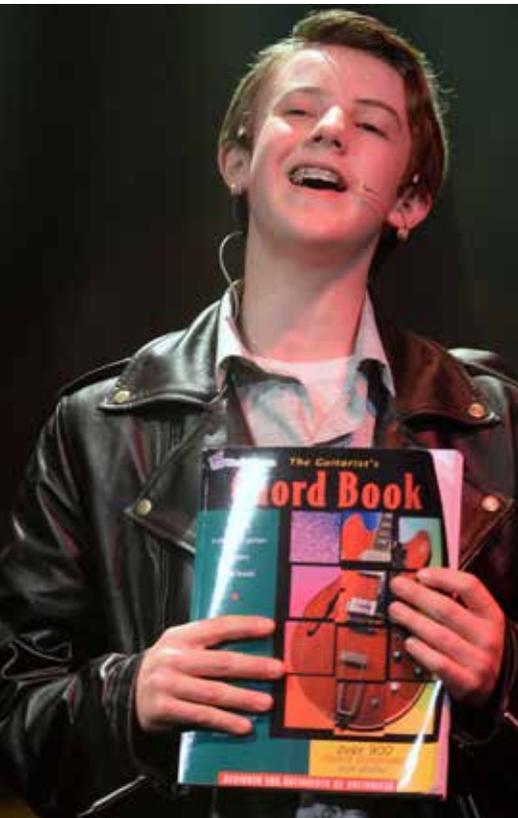
Availability

Awards are available to pupils upon entry to Fourth Form and Lower Sixth (Years 9 and 12).

Application

Candidates are invited to apply on the basis of their involvement in theatrical productions and will be assessed upon both their achievement and potential. Applicants are expected to make a full and active contribution to the dramatic life of the school, taking a leading role in theatrical productions and have a genuine interest in theatre and theatre work.

Drama Scholars are expected to study drama throughout their school career. If a Drama Scholar chooses to withdraw from studying drama, they will be required to resign the scholarship.



Requirements

Candidates will be required to:

- Submit an application form to be endorsed by their current School Head
- Achieve a satisfactory performance in the School entrance examinations
- Attend an interview and audition with the Head of Drama

13+ and 16+ Scholarships

Availability

These awards are available to pupils upon entry to Fourth Form or Lower Sixth (Years 9 and 12).

Application

Candidates are invited to apply for the scholarship based on their achievement and potential. Applicants should have the potential to study art to A Level and beyond, achieving Level 8 or 9 at GCSE and A or A* at A Level.

Art Scholars are expected to study art throughout their school career. If an Art Scholar chooses to withdraw from studying art, they will be required to resign the scholarship.

Requirements

Candidates will be required to:

- Submit an application form to be endorsed by their current School Head
- Achieve a satisfactory performance in the School entrance examinations
- Submit a portfolio of art work for discussion and assessment by the Head of Art
- Complete a practical assessment and written exam as set by the Head of Art



13+ and 16+ Scholarships

Availability

These awards are available to pupils upon entry to Fourth Form or Lower Sixth (Years 9 and 12).

Application

Candidates are invited to apply for the scholarship based on their achievement and potential. Applicants should have the potential to study Design Technology (DT) to A Level and beyond, achieving Level 8 or 9 at GCSE and A or A* at A Level.

DT Scholars are expected to study the subject throughout their school career. If a DT Scholar chooses to withdraw, they will be required to resign the scholarship.

Requirements

Candidates will be required to:

- Submit an application form to be endorsed by their current School Head
- Achieve a satisfactory performance in the School entrance examinations
- Submit a portfolio of DT work for discussion and assessment by the Head of DT
- Complete a practical assessment as set by the Head of DT

Arkwright Scholarships (16+)

The school supports the Arkwright Scholarship which is a national scheme open to those schools who achieve the necessary standards in design technology. Applications are made during the final GCSE year and candidates are encouraged to apply if they expect to achieve A grades at GCSE in mathematics, sciences, English and design technology. A financial reward is made to the pupil and the school also receives an award for the purchase of design technology equipment. Please visit www.arkwright.org.uk for more information.

Sports Scholarships



Sports Scholarships at Culford



To be a Culford Sports Scholar requires talent, commitment, determination and a real passion for your chosen sports. Sports Scholarships are offered in all major games, as well as tennis, golf and swimming. Culford will also consider exceptional applicants from other sports.

When selecting our Scholars, we take many factors into consideration, including: future potential, highest playing level reached, current playing level, overall physical conditioning, technical and tactical skills, attitude, desire and also academic ability.

Culford provides a coherent pathway to develop pupils at Foundation, Development and Performance levels and each sport is directed by highly qualified staff with experience in leading and coaching high performance athletes.

These tailored programmes are underpinned with the same cornerstones and key values:

- A variety of shared learning experiences
- An informed approach to dual career development
- An excellent talent development environment
- Access to high quality coaches and facilities

We pride ourselves in adopting an holistic and flexible approach to individual pupils. Culford's success at integrating our pupils' academic life with their sporting aspirations has seen a number of pupils achieve Sports Scholarships both in the UK and the USA, with many moving onto professional pathways.

Regular competition is healthy for development, therefore all Sports Scholars are expected to represent the school in fixtures. Training will be centred around your chosen sport, as agreed with James Yates, Assistant Head (Co-curricular).

Culford Sports Scholarships are designed to provide the recipient with an individual programme that will support their aspirations by developing their sporting and academic potential.

The core programme awarded to Scholars includes:

Major Games	2 group sessions, level 2 S&C
Tennis	1 individual, 2 group sessions, level 3 S&C
Golf	1 individual, 2 group sessions, level 2 S&C
Swimming	All squad training, level 1 S&C

The core programme can be enhanced by discussion with the Head of Sport at an additional cost outlined in the Individual Sports Programmes publication.

Each Scholar will also receive free access to the Culford Sports Scholars’ Programme, which runs throughout the year. These talks and practical workshops cover a range of topics including psychosocial development, nutritional support, motivational speakers and trips.

In exceptional circumstances, a Sports Scholarship may carry a 10% remission of school fees; and in all cases, families can apply for a means-tested bursary.

All our Individual Sports Programme prices are based on 30 weeks per year which allows for illness, excursions and exams.



Images: Tyler Weaver, England U18 National Golf Champion and Megan Knight, current Culford Sports Scholar and England U12 National Tennis Champion. 13

11+ and 13+ Scholarships

Availability

These awards are available to pupils who show a high level of ability across Culford's sports, or sometimes an exceptional ability in one. At this age, potential, attitude and determination are as important as accomplishment.

Applicants must highlight at least two of the following school sports, with the exception of tennis, which can be a single discipline scholarship:

Tennis	Golf	Swimming	Football
Hockey	Netball	Cricket	Rugby

Application

Candidates are required to:

- Achieve satisfactory performance in the School's entrance examinations
- Complete the Sports Scholarship [application form](#) detailing: honours; awards and achievements; current county; regional or national teams; targets and intended goals, plus any other supporting information.

Selection

Candidates will be invited for an assessment day, which will be held in November and will involve a welcome talk, group discussions, lunch and practical assessments in their chosen sports and athleticism. Candidates will also undergo a skills and fitness test.



16+ Scholarships

Availability

These awards are available to pupils who show a high level of ability across Culford's sports, or sometimes an exceptional ability in one. 16+ applicants are expected to be achieving at a regional level or higher.

Applicants may highlight one or more of the following school sports:

Tennis	Golf	Swimming	Football
Hockey	Netball	Cricket	Rugby

Application

Candidates are required to:

- Meet the School's entrance criteria
- Complete the Sports Scholarship [application form](#) detailing: honours; awards and achievements; current school; club; county; regional; national and development teams; targets and intended goals; plus any other supporting information.

Selection

Candidates will be invited for an assessment day in November, which will involve a welcome talk, group discussions, lunch and practical assessments in their chosen sports and athleticism. Candidates will also undergo a skills and fitness test.

11+, 13+ and 16+ Sports Scholars are expected to participate in the sport for which their scholarship has been awarded throughout the duration of their Culford education. If a Specialist Sports Scholar chooses to withdraw from participation in school teams he or she will be required to resign the scholarship.





Bursaries (Additional Fee Assistance)

Culford offers financial assistance in the form of bursaries to assist children who may not be able to attend the School without help. Bursaries are always awarded privately and may augment the value of a scholarship award. Awards are means-tested and are reviewed annually.

If you would like to apply for a bursary, please complete the financial circumstances form and return it to: Bursaries@culford.co.uk

We treat information disclosed in the Financial Circumstances form in the strictest of confidence.

The Bursary Committee will meet to consider applications and make decisions as fairly and objectively as possible.

“Culford went from being a dream to a reality because of the help the school was able to provide. I wanted to go somewhere which would give me the opportunity to pursue my furthest dreams. Culford has definitely been that place for me.”

Ellie-Jean Royden
Bursary Recipient 2017-2019

Financial specifications

Pupils in receipt of a bursary, the Continuity of Education Allowance (CEA), or any other discount, may be awarded an honorary award which confers Scholar's privileges but has no financial value. Applicants may apply for up to two scholarships but in the event of being awarded multiple scholarships, only one will be monetary; the other will be honorary.

Obligations of the Pupil

Pupils in receipt of scholarships are required to contribute significantly to the subject areas under which they were granted their awards. They are also required to work hard, contribute positively to the life of the School, set a good example to other pupils and, in general, be a credit to Culford. Failure to meet these obligations may lead to the loss of a scholarship or a reduction in its financial value. Academic Scholars are required to maintain academic excellence throughout all stages of their education and during school examinations. Failure to do so may result in the reduction or loss of a full academic award.

Obligations of the Parents

Parents of Scholars are expected to support and encourage their children to uphold their obligations. Parents are required to understand children who: choose to give up academic study of music, art, or drama if their scholarship is in one of those subjects; who do not represent the school as a Sports Scholar; or who fail to show the academic application and leadership worthy of an Academic Scholar, may lose that scholarship. Parents of scholars are expected to pay the balance of their children's school accounts by the first day of term.

Fees in lieu of Notice

The benefits payable under a scholarship do not apply to any term for which the School requires payment of fees in lieu of notice, nor to the final term of a pupil's career at Culford if they leave before the end of the Sixth Form without the School's consent.

Standard Terms and Conditions

The Conditions of a Scholarship takes precedence over any of the School's standard terms and conditions. In all other respects the standard terms and conditions as amended from time to time, shall apply and these conditions of a scholarship shall be interpreted in accordance with them.

Withdrawal of a Scholarship

Scholarships may be withdrawn by written notice if, in the opinion of the Head, acting in good faith, pupils or parents have not complied with the obligations set out above. Prior to the withdrawal of scholarships, the Head will warn pupils and parents of her intent and give them a reasonable period to rectify the situation. Withdrawal of financial awards usually takes effect from the start of the following term, but, if necessary, withdrawal of participation on the relevant scholarship programme shall be immediate. Awards may be withdrawn by written notice if accounts remain unpaid 28 days after a written reminder has been sent to parents.

If you have any questions please contact admissions@culford.co.uk or telephone 01284 385308.



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