



**PRESTFELDE**

**11+ SCHOLARSHIP EXAMINATIONS**

**INFORMATION BOOKLET**

**2023 – 2024**

# Scholarship Examinations & Entrance to Prestfelde Senior School

Prestfelde Senior School is for children in Years 6 to 8 and provides a first-rate, all-round education which helps our pupils grow into well-rounded, confident young people.

It is our job to prepare our pupils for the rigors and challenges ahead and make sure that their journey is exciting, stimulating and fun. We also work hard to ensure that they secure entry to their future schools and that they are well prepared to continue their studies, whatever their destination.

We want our pupils to have a love of learning and a passion for life.

## Introduction

The purpose of this guide is to clarify the process so that pupils, parents, and teachers are fully informed. Whether you require information on applying for a scholarship or the path to follow to join the Senior School, this guide should provide details on the most appropriate route. We recommend that external candidates also consult with their current school.

## Entrance into Prestfelde Senior School

Children may join Senior Prestfelde at any year (subject to availability of places). Our aim is to fully prepare pupils for entry and possible scholarships into Senior Schools such as Shrewsbury School, Concord College, Wrekin College, Moreton Hall, and Malvern, along with many others.

Following a visit with parents to meet our Head, Mr Nick Robinson, and a tour of the school, all prospective pupils will be invited to attend a taster day to experience the school and meet fellow pupils and teachers. During the taster day they will be academically assessed to enable us to provide the appropriate level of support, encouragement, and guidance from the very beginning of their time here. We will also provide feedback on their performance and suitability for Senior School. Some candidates may choose to be considered for scholarship entry and we recommend they consult with the Head of their present school for their advice on the most appropriate entry route. The scholarship assessment process will consider a pupil's ability, attitude and work ethos. The awards are open to current and external pupils.

Candidates for 11+ Scholarships must be aged over 11 and under 12 on 1<sup>st</sup> September of the year of entry (UK pupils will currently be in Year 6).

If you have any further questions regarding the process, please contact:  
admissions@prestfelde.co.uk or 01743 245400

## What does a Scholarship mean at Prestfelde?

A Prestfelde scholarship is not just about celebrating and nurturing excellence, it's about sharing it. Our scholarship pupils are given the opportunity to engage in tailored enrichment activities and we set our expectations high so they can build on and share their talent. They are supported by staff who are experts in their field and encouraged to challenge themselves to achieve at the highest level. We have expectations that scholarship pupils act as ambassadors within the school, sharing their enthusiasm and encouraging fellow pupils to take an active interest in their subject.

Prestfelde offers the opportunity for pupils in Year 6 to apply for a scholarship, on the basis of exceptional performance in the scholarship assessment process which includes an interview with the Head. It is a competitive process, and we want to ensure children who enter are in a suitable position so we encourage parents to read through the guidance material here, but to also contact us for further information if you would like further guidance.

Candidates can enter for more than one type of award. Please note that it is not possible to combine the value of multiple awards.



## 11+ Scholarship Categories

Scholarships are open to current Prestfelde pupils and to pupils wishing to join us at Year 7.

Current pupils should speak to their Form teacher and/ or to the Head of Department relevant to their proposed entry to discuss their suitability as a scholarship candidate.

External candidates may wish to consult with the Head of their current school for advice as to their suitability for a scholarship.

All scholarship candidates will be expected to take the relevant scholarship assessment.

There are three categories of Senior Prestfelde scholarship:

1. **Academic:** for outstanding academic achievement
2. **Talent:** for exceptional talent in Art, Music, Sport or Drama.
3. **All-Rounder:** for pupils demonstrating significant intellectual potential and evidence of exceptional talent in a particular discipline.

Details of individual entry requirements for each subject can be found below. These will be held in January.

Awards for All-Rounders will be made at the discretion of the Head of Prestfelde, based on a candidate's performance in the Academic scholarship examination and at least one additional area of the Talent scholarship.

Any external candidate wishing to apply for any of the areas of a Talent scholarship must also sit an 11+ Academic Entrance examination.

It is important to note that the scholarship examinations are designed to identify potential candidates for 13+ Scholarships for future school admissions and to aid them in further developing their potential.

The following information is to help families and current schools in the preparation of candidates.



## **Our Expectations of Scholars**

### **1. 11+ Academic Scholar**

Academic scholars at Prestfelde will demonstrate exceptional intellectual potential. They are expected to be a positive role model for fellow pupils and maintain excellent standards of academic progress and conduct at all times. They will be academically stretched by their teachers and will contribute positively and significantly to the academic life of the school.

We would expect an Academic candidate to be consistently performing at the highest level. Prior to entering the scholarship we would expect children to be exceeding academic expectations and attaining highly across a range of academic subjects.

### **2. 11+ Talent Scholar**

#### **(i) Art Scholars:**

Art scholars will be selected on the basis of a portfolio of work which demonstrates their talent; they may show their artistic talents through a range of media and will be expected to have a good knowledge of artists and be able to articulate how they've been inspired.

Art scholars will be mentored and encouraged by specialist staff to develop their passion for art and be given opportunities to display their work around the school. They will be encouraged to take advantage of the School's extra-curricular art clubs or to participate in other art-related activities to develop their talents and inspire others.

We would expect an Art candidate to be creative and passionate about art and wanting to further develop their talents in the various media of art. They must demonstrate an enthusiasm for Art that goes beyond the classroom, showing work in their portfolio that has been created outside of school lessons.

### **(ii) Music Scholars:**

Music scholars will be expected to be dedicated to their progress on two instruments (this may include voice) and to demonstrate a love of music making. Candidates will be expected to play in one or more of our ensembles/bands and to sing in either the School Choir or Chamber Choir. They should also be involved in music making in an ensemble or choir outside of school.

We would expect a Music Scholarship candidate to be at least Grade 3 standard on their main instrument at the time of the scholarship audition.

### **(iii) Sports Scholars:**

Sports scholars will be expected to be ambassadors of the School's sporting values and represent the school. They will be offered the Advanced Skills Programme, specialist sports coaching and mentoring to prepare them for competition. Sports scholars will undertake a leadership role to inspire others and contribute fully to the games programme.

We would expect a sports scholar to be playing for their County/Academy in one of their two chosen core sports, or one of the strongest performers within the 'A' team at school.

The assessment will focus upon the core sports. On the day candidates will complete a fitness assessment

### **(iv) Drama Scholars:**

Drama scholars will take an active role in the subject both in their lessons, and in their participation in clubs and extra-curricular workshops and opportunities. They should be keen and willing to take on roles in school productions and be willing to take leading roles as well as ensemble roles. Successful candidates must be prepared to perform in a range of settings; from school chapels to showcases and plays.

We would expect a Drama Scholarship candidate to be able to express why they enjoy drama - to be creative and able to work well in a team and take direction. Although previous performance experience is helpful, it is not essential if the newfound commitment is there; we appreciate that a love of acting

can develop at any time and that sometimes nerves can put one off- we would encourage those who are keen to have a go and not let their nerves get the better of them!

### 3. 11+ All-Rounder Scholars:

All-Rounder Scholars will be expected to demonstrate high academic standards together plus demonstrating extremely high standards in at least **one** Talent area, i.e. either Art, Music, Sport or Drama (as described above).

## Scholarship Assessment Process

### 11+ Academic Examination

The Academic examinations will take place in January. Specific times and locations will be specified closed to the time, but the day normally starts at 08:30 and finished at 13:00.

The test session includes the following papers:

- Mathematics paper. This paper consists of 37 questions covering a very wide breadth of topics.
- Age-correlated Non-Verbal Reasoning (IQ) test
- English Composition and Comprehension paper
- Reading test
- Interview with the Head

Whilst there is no need to prepare for specific papers, as they assess potential we are aware some families do purchase materials ahead of the scholarship. If families do wish for their child to engage with revision materials we recommend that any 11+ Revision Booklet (widely available in W H Smiths or online). A very useful Maths revision resource can also be found here:

<https://corbettmathsprimary.com/content/>



### **11+ Art Practical Assessment**

Art may be taken in its widest sense: painting, drawing, printmaking, fabrics etc., or pottery, sculpture and three-dimensional work. Any form of two or three-dimensional work showing a candidate's interest and ability is acceptable. The portfolio should include examples of observational drawing, a range of media/materials and work showing creativity and imagination.

It is not expected that the work is highly finished or polished. We would like to see examples of observation, imagination, and the ability to control and appreciate materials. Some design sense should be apparent and, ideally, some originality of mind.

Successful candidates will be expected to show that they have initiative and can make an active contribution to the artistic life of the School - both in the Art School and out of it.

Candidates will have a portfolio assessment, two practical tasks (45-minutes each which will include one observational drawing task and one more open-ended, creative task) and an interview.

Candidates should complete the application form and external candidates should also include the name of their current art teacher for us to apply for a reference supporting their scholarship capabilities.

### **11+ Drama Audition**

Drama Scholarship candidates should prepare a two-minute monologue. We are looking for the candidate's ability to perform the monologue, and then to take direction and try to respond to perhaps a new or slightly different interpretation of the piece. Candidates should be open to discuss certain acting choices that they made and to be able to explain how they feel the character feels in the piece, as well as to explain why they enjoy and are committed to Drama.



Candidates will also be required to take part in a short group exercise, no preparation is needed for this, it is just a case of having a go and being able to respond to a given stimulus.

Candidates can select their own pieces or guidance can be provided. (At this stage it is not essential that they have read the whole play, though this of course can only be an advantage). Please contact: [office@prestfelde.co.uk](mailto:office@prestfelde.co.uk) if you require further guidance in selecting audition pieces.

There will be an opportunity for candidates to present supporting performances in the styles of Dance (Ballet, Tap, Jazz, Modern, Acrobatics, Contemporary), Singing (Classical, Pop, Musical Theatre) or Musical Theatre (Singing, Acting and Dance). Candidates who have supporting experience or interest in the Production side of Drama (Lighting, Sound, Costume Design, Set Design) are encouraged to bring sketches, drawings and designs with them. If a candidate wishes to use musical accompaniment, please bring the choice of music on a CD, USB or Portable music player. Phones will not be accepted. Although not an essential part of the interview process, it will benefit candidates if they are able to demonstrate their wider experience in, and passion for, Performing Arts.

Candidates should complete the application form and external candidates can also include the name and contact details of a referee who has seen them perform should they wish to do so.

### **11+ Music Audition**

In assessing candidates, musical potential is as important as actual achievement. Levels of instrumental proficiency will be considered in relation to age and length of study and difficulty of the instruments offered. Scholarships will not necessarily be awarded to the candidate who has reached the highest grade; considerable importance is attached to the candidate's responses assessing musical awareness and how they communicate through the medium of music.

Candidates for music awards should offer two instruments (this may include voice). Candidates **must** bring their own instruments, music and piano accompaniment parts. An accompanist is provided on the day. If a candidate wishes to use prerecorded accompaniment, please inform the school in advance.

Any instrument may be offered. It is hoped that candidates will demonstrate a good standard of playing on their principal instrument (ideally Grade 3 or higher), although for the purposes of the audition, potential will be as important as the standard already achieved.

Candidates will be asked to play: -

1. Two contrasting pieces on their principal instrument, A copy of the audition pieces should be provided for the panel.
2. One piece on their second instrument. A copy of the audition pieces should be provided for the panel.
3. A piece of sight-reading
4. Scales and arpeggios suitable to the instrument and standard reached. The candidate should bring a list of scales and arpeggios which they have studied for each instrument. They will be asked to play examples from this list.

The aural tests will be appropriate to the standard reached, and like those in ABRSM exams. The audition may explore ability beyond this, especially where promise is shown.

If candidates have taken examinations, copies of mark sheets should accompany the entry form. Any original compositions may be submitted in advance, but this is not a requirement. If no examination has been taken recently, it would be helpful to indicate an approximate grade.

Candidates must supply the name(s) of their current music teacher(s) so that we may request a reference from them in support of the candidate's scholarship suitability.

The auditions take place in January. Individual appointment times will be advised prior to the day.

### **11+ Sports Physical Assessment**

Candidates for the Sports Scholarship should offer a minimum of two core sports, and a maximum of four sports in total. Candidates should complete the application form and external candidates should also include the name of their current coach/sports teacher for us to apply for a reference to support their scholarship capabilities.

Scholarships are awarded not just on current ability but also potential and a positive mindset that shows dedication and commitment to develop.

The scholarship assessment will include the following:

1. Physical fitness test
2. Assessment of ability and potential in the two chosen core sports, not necessarily on the day.
3. Assessment of ability and potential in any optional, additional core/non-core sports or any other sport at elite level will be assessed by references.

**Core sports: cricket, football, hockey, netball, and rugby.**

**Non-core sports: athletics, cross-country, swimming and tennis.**

The assessment will typically last around two hours and candidates should bring with them appropriate sportswear and equipment.

## Scholarship Results Process

After the examinations, a letter will be sent to candidates with details of their performance. An offer of a place or a scholarship place will be made at this time. We aim to write to all candidates by the end of February.

Awards will commence in September of Year 7 and run to the end of Year 8, by which time the pupils will be fully prepared for future Senior School scholarship examinations.

There is no set number of awards, they will be awarded on merit to current and external pupils alike.

## Important Dates

<b>Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2024</b>	Closing date for all 11+ applications
<b>Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2024</b>	11+ Art Scholarship Assessment 11+ Music Scholarship Auditions 11+ Drama Scholarship Auditions
<b>Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2024</b>	11+ Sports Scholarship Assessment
<b>Saturday 20<sup>st</sup> January 2024</b>	11+ Academic Scholarship Examination & 11+ academic test for external Talent & Sports candidates

Completed entry forms should be returned by the closing date **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2024** to:

Prestfelde School, London Road, Shrewsbury, SY2 6NZ or [office@prestfelde.co.uk](mailto:office@prestfelde.co.uk)