

Entrance Procedures

Year 7 Entry

2025

LEARNING FOR LIFE



Wellington
SCHOOL





Entrance for Year 7

Thank you for your interest in Wellington School; we very much hope to welcome you to join our vibrant and friendly community.

The entry procedures are designed to provide every prospective student with more opportunities to show themselves in the best light possible.

We are committed to removing the stress and anxiety from our admissions process and we believe that this will provide us with a fuller, more nuanced understanding of each child's strengths, interests and abilities.

It would be our pleasure to welcome you to Wellington School for a tour, a meeting with the Headmaster and one of our group Taster Days.



Entry Requirements

Our admissions process for September 2025 will see each candidate being asked to:

1. Provide their most recent set of reports or a reference for each applicant. Schools will be welcome to provide further evidence of each candidate's interests, abilities and achievement.
2. Hand write a short piece of no more than 100 words as part of the Entrance Assessment Day in School
3. Complete an online assessment which assesses a range of a skills including English proficiency and non-verbal and quantitative reasoning. It will not be possible to prepare for this test and it will be completed at Wellington School on our assessment day. We use an external service – GL Assessments.
4. Following the assessments, we run a lovely team-building afternoon, which is a chance to make friends and participate in some fun activities, which will be observed.

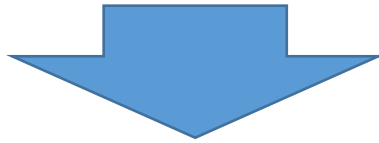
For any further information, or if you have any questions, please contact the admissions team on 01823 668803 or email at admissions@wellington-school.org.uk



Admissions Timeline

Friday 6th December 2024 – Deadline for applications to be received

This should include a completed registration form, the Year 7 Entry Form (in this booklet) and the student's most recent school report.



Saturday 18th January 2025 - Assessment Day

We aim to make this day as relaxed and fun as possible and give the children a chance to meet each other and enjoy the experience.

Assessments

We will invite all pupils in together to complete the assessments.

Lunch

All the children will have a delicious school lunch together and a chance to make friends.

Team Building

We will be running a fun team-building activity after lunch, which will give the children a chance to demonstrate their inter-personal skills, complete some team tasks and have fun. Parents will be invited back to watch the end of this.

Parents coffee and chat

Parents will be invited back at the end of the day for some of our delicious home-made cakes and a chance to hear from Mr Jason Swarbrick, our Head of Lower School.

Scholarships & Bursaries

Scholarships

Scholarships are awarded in a number of disciplines to students who show ability, potential and the passion to extend themselves and to take advantage of the first-class teaching, coaching and mentoring we provide. Our scholars will benefit from a programme that seeks to nurture and enhance their individual talents whilst also providing them with a full and rounded education. Our expectations for scholars are high and we wish them not only to develop individually, but also to act as role models for their peers and ambassadors for the School.

Scholarships are offered for those students who show outstanding ability in one of the following areas:

- **Academic**
- **Sport**
- **Music**
- **Drama**
- **Performing Arts**
- **Art**
- **DT**

At Wellington, we strive to keep our fees low whilst providing the highest calibre experience for our scholars and the best possible education for all of our students. The value of a scholarship award is typically between 5-20% of the overall fee, but a final decision lies with the Headmaster. All scholars are additionally entitled to apply for a means-tested Bursary.

It is possible to be awarded up to two scholarships – academic and one co-curricular discipline. You may apply for no more than two co-curricular scholarships and we do not award scholarships in two co-curricular disciplines.

When all the assessments and examinations have been completed, the Headmaster and relevant staff meet to discuss all applications and assessment outcomes.

Awards are made based upon performance in the overall assessment and all the supporting documentation submitted.

Bursaries

Bursaries are available in order to grant access wherever possible to a student who may benefit from a Wellington School education. These are means-tested and may be awarded independently of a scholarship to any student who meets our entrance requirements. Please ask the admissions team for further details.



Expectations of a Scholar

By word and deed, Scholars are expected to approach their studies in a manner which sets an excellent example to other students. They are expected to participate enthusiastically in the academic and co-curricular life of the School and to contribute constructively to our learning environment. They will be expected to contribute outstandingly in their scholarship discipline.

Scholars, regardless of their scholarship discipline, will be expected to maintain high academic standards. Students who do not maintain the appropriate level of academic commitment and attainment will jeopardise their Award. Scholars' performance will be monitored and those who do not meet our expectations, both in terms of effort and achievement, may have their Award terminated or decreased.

It is our expectation that parents will support and encourage their children to work hard and achieve their potential in their chosen areas.

Scholars in disciplines other than academic will be required to meet the School's usual entrance requirements.



Scholarship Timeline

If you wish to apply for a scholarship, assessments will be held the week following the admissions process.

Further details of all scholarship criteria and requirements can be found later in this document. Precise dates and timings of all assessments will be provided in good time.

Saturday 18th January 2025, Monday / Tuesday 20th /21st January 2025

Academic Scholarship Interviews

These will be a 20 minute interview, which will include questions about the pupil's interests and hobbies as well as some Maths and English comprehension questions and general knowledge.

Monday / Tuesday 20th / 21st January 2025

Sports Scholarship Assessments

Music Scholarship Assessments

Drama and Performing Art Scholarship Assessments

Art Scholarship Assessments

DT Scholarship Assessments



Academic Scholarships

We are proud of our tradition of academic excellence and are committed to providing students with opportunities to demonstrate their intellectual curiosity and ability. We seek to challenge our students and will support them achieving to the very best of their ability.

We have a high GCSE and A Level success rate each year, many Oxbridge offers and run IGCSE in many subjects including Mathematics, English and Modern Foreign Languages. Academic scholars are chosen on the basis of ability and because we believe their work ethic, intellectual curiosity and level of attainment are all strong.

Enrichment Programme

Scholars will be supported in their studies by individual tutors and will attend a variety of enrichment events, including:

- Academic Lecture programme
- STEM opportunities
- Coleridge and Raban Societies (Societies which encourage students to engage, debate, present and research)
- Careers dinners and networking events
- External & Internal competitions
- Sixth Form leadership sessions
- Oxbridge Preparation
- Interview preparation programme

Our Academic Scholars' Programme challenges academic scholars who wish to further their interests beyond the classroom. We run workshops linked to their chosen pathways (Create, Write, Research, Present and Debate), then they produce an independent project relating to a topic they found fascinating, incorporating an academic element. The projects illustrate our students' creativity and curiosity for the world around them, with a huge diversity of interests. An Academic Celebration and Awards Evening present an opportunity to showcase their projects in front of friends and family.

Expectations of Academic Scholars

A student who wins an academic scholarship will be intellectually curious and demonstrate a strong work ethic. We would expect them to be self-motivated, reflective and independent learners who are resourceful, and well-organised. Scholars will be expected to represent the School in competitions such as the Mathematics Olympiad or writing competitions.

Required Standard

Applications are invited from bright, enthusiastic individuals who are progressing well academically at their current schools. An inquiring mind and a desire to learn are essential.

Assessment

The academic interview is around 20 minutes and will include problem-solving questions in Maths and English.



Sports Scholarships

Enrichment Programme

We have a superb Sports and Wellbeing Department with excellent facilities and regularly have students competing at county, regional and national levels in many disciplines. Our coaching team has extensive qualifications and provides varied support and tuition in a range of different sports.

We can offer our sports scholars:

- Access to the Talented Athlete Pathway
- At least 4 hours of additional training per week
- Close links with professional sporting organisations in the South West
- A varied and diverse sports programme
- A structured approach to sport and fitness
- Access to strength and conditioning and skill coaching.

Expectations of Sports Scholars

We expect our sports scholars to have total commitment to School sport, be willing to work hard and determined to improve and work as a team. Sports scholars will be expected to represent the School in all sports if and when selected throughout their time at the School.

Required Standard

Scholarships will be awarded to those candidates who aspire to county level and beyond. Ability will be assessed against our own high standards and, ideally, potential sports scholars will be able to offer two sports or more.

The Assessment

The assessment will take place in our dedicated sports complex.

Part 1 – Assessing Athleticism

Agility/hand eye co-ordination
Bodyweight strength
Linear speed / running
30/15 endurance test

Part 2 – Skill Set Assessment

Our main games are rugby, hockey, cricket, netball, tennis, swimming and athletics, with other sporting endeavours encouraged and supported. Pupils will be asked to show skills in a range of different activities with multiple areas taken into consideration.

Part 3 – Assessing Teamwork

Participation in games to assess the ability to work and react as part of a team.

Please bring a drink, games kit, tracksuit and trainers if invited to trial.



Music Scholarships

The standard of music at Wellington School is consistently impressive and we believe in fostering the love of music and performing in all students. Normally, opportunities to perform are frequent with 50 concerts and musical events scheduled each year. There are 25 ensembles ranging from Big Bands and orchestras to wind groups and 7 choirs and choral groups, including the acclaimed Chapel Choir.

Enrichment Programme

Our music scholars frequently perform in the National Youth Orchestra and the National Youth Choir and many go on to perform professionally. Our impressive facilities include an iMAC suite, a recording studio and recital rooms. World class Bosendorfer and Yamaha pianos are in every teaching, practice and performance space.

All Award-holders take part in a comprehensive annual programme tailored by the Music Department. This includes the provision of frequent performance opportunities both in and out of the school, ongoing participation in our mentoring scheme, termly concert trips and regular masterclasses and workshops led by professional soloists and groups.

Expectations of Music Scholars

Music scholarships are offered to those students who show ability, commitment and potential in their chosen instrument at audition. In addition to grade achievement, a fundamental passion and musical ambition will be looked for, along with a willingness to participate and contribute to the rich musical life of the school.

Required Standard

The minimum required standard is Associated Board Grade 3 or equivalent in the candidate's first study instrument. All candidates considering Year 7 Music Scholarships are required to attend a pre-audition assessment with the Director of Music prior to the full audition. This can be arranged in the Autumn Term by contacting the Admissions Team.



Assessment / Auditions

An audition will be conducted by the Director of Music and another member of the Music team. All candidates should prepare the following;

- a) ONE piece on the chosen instrument and ONE piece on their second
- Or
- b) Where only one instrument is offered, TWO contrasting pieces

Candidates should also be prepared for;

Scales and arpeggios – of their current standard

Sight reading test – of their current standard

Aural tests

Viva Voce – a brief interview about the candidate's musical interests and experience.

Singing is considered as an instrument and can be offered within the stated criteria.

Music Exhibitions

Music Exhibitions, which consist of free tuition on one or more instruments are awarded annually both to new students and those already in the school. The minimum required standard is Associated Board Grade 3 or equivalent. The assessment process will be as above.



Drama Scholarships

An exciting and broad range of drama productions are regularly performed at Wellington School, offering many opportunities for our students to perform, design and work backstage in a dynamic and vibrant theatre environment.

Enrichment Programme

Drama scholarships enable talented individuals to make a valuable contribution to the cultural life of the School. Scholars will be expected to be fully committed to the Drama Department and be involved with productions and performance on a regular basis.

LAMDA lessons are also available and candidates will be entered for examinations as appropriate.

Drama scholars will be offered the opportunity to direct performances and to take part in theatre workshops with highly acclaimed theatre practitioners. There is the chance for scholars to work closely with our Drama Department in order to prepare for future auditions.

All Drama scholars will have personalised mentoring and unique performance opportunities.

Expectations of Drama Scholars

Drama scholars will be expected to perform regularly in productions and workshops. They should be enthusiastic, engaged and willing to experiment with new ideas, methods and genres. Scholars must be willing to get involved in the many facets of the Drama Department's work and activities, including technical elements of stage production.

Required Standard

Applications are invited from students who show excellent potential in Drama and have been involved with drama clubs or societies in previous schools. A natural enthusiasm and innate talent is essential.

The Assessment

Candidates will be invited in for an audition where you will be required to perform two pieces – ideally from memory. One will be a set piece, which will be sent prior to the audition/assessment and the other should be a piece of your choice. If you need some suggestions, please let us know. We will also ask you to take part in an interview where we can talk to you about your experience.

In addition, please send in copies of a portfolio with evidence of performance experience to date.



Performing Arts Scholarships

Performing arts scholarships are offered to individuals with all-round talents spanning music, drama and dance who do not wish to specialise in strictly music or drama. We will be looking for demonstrable talent and potential in two out of the three above disciplines. (Dance, drama, music)

Enrichment Programme

Performing arts scholarships span the Music and Drama Departments and present diverse opportunities for those with all round talents to participate in an exciting and broad range of productions.

Scholars will be expected to be fully committed to and involved with concerts, productions and performance on a regular basis. Opportunities to choreograph will be available and there will be sessions of theatre workshops with highly acclaimed theatre practitioners.

LAMDA lessons are also available and candidates will be entered for examinations as appropriate.

There are a wide range of concert and theatre trips and scholars will work closely with our Music and Drama teachers in order to prepare for future auditions.

All Performing Arts scholars will have personalised mentoring and unique performance opportunities.

Expectations of Performing Arts Scholars

Performing arts scholars will be expected to perform regularly in music and drama productions and workshops. They should be enthusiastic, engaged and willing to experiment with new ideas, methods and genres across a range of music, drama and dance activities. Scholars must be willing to work hard, get involved and be flexible.

Required Standard

Applications are invited from students who show excellent potential in Music, Drama and Dance and have been involved with performance, clubs or societies in previous schools or externally. A natural enthusiasm and innate talent is essential and students wishing to pursue Music should be Grade 2/3 music level.

The Assessment / Auditions

Candidates will be required to perform in the following disciplines:

- A drama/monologue (Compulsory)

Either;

- A dance solo **OR**
- A musical piece

In addition, please send in copies of a portfolio with evidence of performance experience to date. Please bring backing tracks along to the assessment.



Art Scholarships

Design Technology Scholarships

Enrichment Programme

Our flourishing Art Department provide an environment where creativity and talent are nurtured and developed. Excellent facilities and inspirational teachers fire the enthusiasm of our students and there are wide opportunities to experiment, develop and exhibit. General purpose studios, design rooms, workshops, a computer suite, a photography darkroom and textiles studio are housed in light buildings and a designated Gallery is frequently used for exhibitions.

The Design Technology Department has extensive workshops, state of the art equipment and technology and inspirational and creative teachers. We share and educate about sustainable issues and students gain valuable knowledge about the impact their purchasing decisions make on a global scale.

Expectations of Art and Design Technology Scholars

Art scholars will be expected to submit work for exhibitions and demonstrate creativity and commitment.

Design Technology scholars will be required to demonstrate creativity, practical application and the ability to find solutions to problems.

Required Standard

Scholarships will be awarded to students with clear ability, enquiring minds, an enthusiasm for the subject and awareness of other artists' work.



The Assessment

Portfolio

We will ask you to send in photos of your portfolio work. This should show evidence of a high level of personal creativity, an interest and passion for art or DT and be able to demonstrate a range of media that they have explored.

In addition, candidates would be expected to present work journals and sketchbooks. Within these we would expect to see drawings made from direct observation, references to artists, craftspeople and designers, including write ups of exhibitions and galleries visited or technological influencers and practical applications. Great credence is given to projects made outside of school.

All work presented should be the student's own creation and no more than two years old.

Interview

There will be short interview with the Head of Art or DT, where we would discuss the portfolio and candidates should be prepared to present and discuss an artist, designer or craftsperson that inspires their own work. We will also ask to you complete a practical task.





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YEAR 7 APPLICATION

Student's name Date of birth

Address.....
.....
.....
.....

Tel.....Email.....

Current School (state name of Headteacher and full address)...

.....
.....
.....
.....

Any additional requirements (dietary etc).....
.....

Checklist – please ensure you have included the following;

- ✓ Registration Form
- ✓ School Report or Reference

Do you want to apply for a scholarship Yes / No

If yes, please complete the form. overleaf

Scholarship Application

Student's name

Please circle the skill area that you would like to have considered for the award: (Maximum 2 excluding Music Exhibition)

Academic / Sport / Drama / Performing Arts / Art / DT / Music Scholarship / Music Exhibition

In the space provided below, please give as much detail as possible of the candidate's experience and achievements to date, (orchestras, choirs, bands, performing experience, sporting achievements, exhibitions etc.) Please include any additional information on a separate sheet.

Checklist – please ensure you have included the following;

- ✓ Copies of certificates / achievements
- ✓ For Drama and Performing Arts– A portfolio of achievements
- ✓ For Sport – A portfolio of achievements

For music scholarships and exhibitions, please indicate the following

First study instrument.....

Last Grade taken.....Date.....

(Second study instrument..... Grade*.....)

*Approximate Associated Board examination level

For Performing Arts scholarships, please indicate whether you will be performing

A dance solo.....

or a musical piece.....

Please return this form, together with your registration form and a cheque for £100 to The admissions team, Wellington School, Wellington TA21 8NT.

admissions@wellington-school.org.uk

01823 668803



