

# Entrance Procedures

## Year 9 Entry

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## Year 9 Entrance







## Entrance for Year 9

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

We hope you find the information contained in this booklet clear and informative.

We are committed to removing the stress and anxiety from our admissions process and we want to make it a pleasant and enjoyable experience for all the children and give us a thorough understanding of each child's strengths, interests and abilities.

We do hope that you will visit us, meet the Headmaster and other key staff and come on a Taster Day to get a really good idea of the ethos of Wellington School. It would be our pleasure to welcome you to Wellington School.



# Entry Requirements

## Entrance & Scholarship Examination for Entry into Year 9

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2024 OR

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2025

We do hope your child will be able to join us for our Entrance Examination, which all pupils take prior to joining Year 9 in 2025.

We run two session of assessments – November and February. You can take part in whichever is most convenient.

- Applicants will sit on-line assessments, covering 5 core areas: verbal reasoning, non-verbal reasoning, spatial reasoning, Maths and English. We use an external service – GL Assessments. These are deliberately designed to be taken without any prior practice.
- Students will also select a paper of their choice from **Science, Modern Foreign Languages, History, Geography or Latin.**

Candidates will also be required to

- Provide their most recent set of reports. We will also ask schools for a reference for each applicant. Schools will be welcome to provide further evidence of each candidate's interests, abilities and achievement.
- Write a short piece "About Me" (300 words) (to be completed on the day)

Candidates should arrive in our Cafe at 8.30 am (this will be signposted).

Parking will be available on the Quad, which is adjacent to Great Hall.

Candidates should bring their own pens and pencils, a ruler and a calculator. School uniform need not be worn. There will be breaks between the papers and we will be providing snacks and drinks. Naturally some of the children will be anxious on their arrival but we aim to make the day of the exam a happy one for all candidates.

## Scholarships

Academic scholarships are allocated following the Entrance Examination and there will be a separate academic interview by appointment.

All other scholarships will be awarded following separate assessments and details follow in this booklet.

We will be in contact with you the following week to notify you of the outcome of the examination and the scholarship allocations.

*For any further information, or if you have any questions, please contact the our Admissions Team on 01823 668803 or email [admissions@wellington-school.org.uk](mailto:admissions@wellington-school.org.uk)*

# Additional Papers

## Science

The Science paper will be in three sections, one each for Biology, Chemistry and Physics. There are some multiple choice questions and some written explanations to give.

## History

The History paper will consist of two parts. Part one tests pupils' ability to answer questions on historical sources. Part two allows pupils to demonstrate their writing skills by answering an essay style question. Pupils will be able to select from a choice of three titles, none of which will require any prior knowledge of a particular historical period.

## Geography

The Geography paper will consist of two parts. Part one will test pupils' ability to answer questions on source data, whilst the second part allows pupils to demonstrate their writing skills by answering an essay style question.

## Languages

Pupils can select to sit papers in either French, German, Spanish or Latin. Pupils will sit a reading/grammar paper which will include some multiple choice questions and some direct questions, and a writing paper, where pupils are asked to write about some pictures or themselves.





# Admissions Timeline

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2024 OR Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2025 - Applications to be received**

This should include a completed registration form, the Year 9 Entry Form (in this booklet) and the student's most recent school report.



**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2024 OR 1<sup>st</sup> February 2025 - Examination**

All candidates will gather together to take the exam simultaneously. Breaks, drinks and snacks will be provided.



**Monday / Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> November 2024 OR 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> February 2025 - Scholarship assessments**

All scholarship assessments will take place on these two days.



**Week Commencing Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2024 OR 10<sup>th</sup> February 2025**

We hope to be able to communicate the results of the process by the end of this week.

# 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**
- **Design Technology**

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. 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.





## **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.*

**Monday / Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> / 19<sup>th</sup> November 2024**

**OR**

**Monday/Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> / 4<sup>th</sup> February 2025**

**Academic Scholarship Interviews**

**Sports Scholarship Assessments**

**Music Scholarship Assessments**

**Drama and Performing Art Scholarship Assessments**

**Art Scholarship Assessments**



## **Notification**

We will notify all applicants of the outcome by the end of the week following the 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 is awarded 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

Candidates will be required to attend an academic interview with the Headmaster or Deputy Head Academic. The academic interview is around 20 minutes and will include problem-solving questions and general knowledge. The results of the examination will be taken into consideration.











# 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 one to one strength and conditioning and skill specific 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 a recital room. 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. There is also an expectation that music scholars will pursue Music at GCSE.

### Required Standard

The minimum required standard is working towards Associated Board Grade 5 or equivalent in the candidate's first study instrument. All candidates considering Year 9 Music Scholarships are required to attend a pre-audition assessment with the Director of Music prior to the full audition.





## 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.

*The Director of Music will contact you prior to your audition for an informal discussion and we will request a reference from your instrumental teacher.*

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. There is also an expectation that drama scholars will pursue Drama at GCSE.

### 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 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 a short 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 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 3 music level.

### The Assessment / Auditions

Candidates will be required to perform in two of 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 and Design & Technology Departments 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 and design 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 and design 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. Great credence is given to art work 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 craftsman that inspires their own work. We will also ask to you complete a practical task.











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## YEAR 9 APPLICATION

Student's name .....Date of birth .....

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

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

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

Any additional requirements (dietary / extra time etc).....  
.....  
.....

Checklist – please ensure you have included the following;

- ✓ Registration Form
- ✓ School Report
- ✓ Please inform you current Headteacher that we will be requesting a reference.

Which additional paper would you like to take? (Please circle)

Science / History / Geography / French / Spanish / German / Latin

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 details 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 Music – certificates
- ✓ For Drama and Performing Arts– A portfolio of achievements
- ✓ For Sport – A portfolio of achievements
- ✓ For Art/DT – photographs of your portfolio

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

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

**[admissions@wellington-school.org.uk](mailto:admissions@wellington-school.org.uk)**

**01823 668803**







