PRESTFELDE

11+ SCHOLARSHIP EXAMINATIONS

INFORMATION BOOKLET

2025 - 2026

Introduction

A Prestfelde scholarship is about celebrating, nurturing and sharing excellence. 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 1st September of the year of entry (UK pupils will currently be in Year 6).

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

Who can apply?

Prestfelde offers the opportunity for pupils in Year 6 to apply for a scholarship, on the basis of exceptional achievement or performance in their chosen scholarship area. We advise that families seek support from their current school before applying to ensure that it is in the best interest of the child to undertake the process. Depending on the scholarship area we highly recommend speaking to one of the following; Headmaster, Head of relevant area, or external coach, to ensure that entering the process is suitable for your child. Key contact details can be found here.

Academic: cwatts@prestfelde.co.uk
Art: hallen@prestfelde.co.uk
Drama: hallen@prestfelde.co.uk
Music: pjopling@prestfelde.co.uk
Sport: robnewey@prestfelde.co.uk



11+ Scholarship Categories

There are four categories of 11+ scholarship:

1. **Academic**: for outstanding academic ability.

2. **Talent**: for exceptional talent in Art, Music, Sport or Drama.

3. **Performing Arts:** for exceptional talent in two out of three disciplines – Singing / Drama / Dance.

4. **All-Rounder**: for pupils demonstrating significant academic ability and evidence of exceptional talent in an additional two talent areas.

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

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 performance. They are expected to provide 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 in top sets in all subjects and regularly performing at the highest level amongst their peers.

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 take a minimum of one music lesson per week on two instruments. They will be expected to be part of a musical group associated with their instrument, leading a musical ensemble, being part of Senior School choir, and attending external music concerts.

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 that children have picked and candidates will complete a fitness assessment on the day.

(iv) Drama Scholars:

Drama scholars will take an active role in the subject 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 to take leading and 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. Performing Art Scholars:

Performing Art Scholars will be expected to demonstrate exceptional talent in two out of three disciplines: Singing, Drama and Dance. As with a Talent Scholarship, candidates are expected to articulate why they enjoy the wider Performing Arts.

4. 11+ All-Rounder Scholars:

All-Rounder scholars will be expected to demonstrate high academic standards together with high standards in two Talent areas.

Scholarship Assessment Process

11+ Academic Examination

The test session includes the following papers:

- Mathematics paper

  The Maths exam is non-calculator; it lasts for 1 hour and consists of 37 questions. The paper is designed to test the key mathematical skills of a Year 6 pupil.

  Candidates should bring a ruler, protractor, compass, pencil and rubber with them to the exam.

  Revision resource (free to access): https://corbettmathsprimary.com/

  Alternatively, any 11+ Maths revision booklet would be appropriate (available in W H Smiths).

- English Composition and Comprehension paper
- CAT4 paper (which will be completed prior to the Assessment day)



11+ Art Practical Assessment

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 a short interview.

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.

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 one two-minute monologue. We will look 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 discussing certain acting choices they made and to explain how they feel the character feels in the piece and 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.

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).

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. 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, Drama.

In their application form, candidates should list any Drama exams undertaken, including the examining body and results obtained. 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+ Performing Arts Audition

Candidates applying for the Performing Arts Scholarship are expected to produce two pieces of work from three disciplines: Dance, Drama and Singing. For Drama pieces, please refer to the guidance listed above for audition specifics.

If a candidate wishes to enter a Singing piece for audition, they should prepare a solo of no more than 2 minutes in length. Candidates can choose to sing in any style (for example, Classical, Pop, Musical Theatre). Although not essential, it is worth noting that the Performing Arts Scholars are expected to contribute heavily to our biennial Musical Theatre productions, and much of the wider enrichment is Musical Theatre based. Candidates will be assessed on their Technical ability and Interpretive qualities. In their application form, candidates should list any Singing exams undertaken, including the examining body and results obtained.

If a candidate wishes to enter a Dance piece for audition, they should prepare a solo of no more than 2 minutes in length. Candidates can choose to perform in any style of Dance (Ballet, Tap, Jazz, Modern, Acrobatics, Contemporary, Musical Theatre Dance). Candidates will be assessed on Technical ability and Interpretive qualities. In their application form, candidates should list any Dance exams undertaken, including the examining body and results obtained.

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. Care should be taken to ensure the material is age appropriate.

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 may offer one or more instruments and singing. An accompanist can be provided, but candidates **must** bring their own instruments and music. If a candidate wishes to use CD 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, plus one on any other. A copy of the audition pieces should be provided for the panel.
2. A simple piece at sight.
3. 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.

11+ Sports Physical Assessment

Candidates for the Sports Scholarship should offer a minimum of two core sports, and a maximum of four sports. 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 successful 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, lacrosse, 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. Heads of Departments will outline areas of strength and areas that need improvement. **We do not return any academic scripts**. An offer of a place or a scholarship place will be made at this time.

Successful candidates will be offered a scholarship with a fee remission level of up to 10% off school fees. Families are able to apply for a means tested Bursary in addition to the scholarship remission where required.

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.

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

Important Dates

Monday 12th January 2026	Closing date for all 11+ applications
Thursday 22 January 2026	11+ Art Scholarship Assessment 11+ Music Scholarship Auditions 11+ Drama Scholarship Auditions 11+ Performing Arts Scholarship Auditions
Friday 23rd January 2026	11+ Sports Scholarship Assessment
Friday 23rd January 2026	11+ Academic Scholarship Examination

Completed entry forms should be returned by the closing date **Monday 12th January 2026** to:

Prestfelde School, London Road, Shrewsbury, SY2 6NZ or office@prestfelde.co.uk