DEAN CLOSE
KINGHAM HILL SCHOOL
OXFORDSHIRE

Scholarships

Sixth Form Entry

September 2027



Please note: Although believed correct at the time of publication, the information included in this booklet may change over time. Parents wishing to place specific reliance on a statement in this booklet should seek confirmation from the school before accepting the offer of a place / scholarship.

Overview

Our mission is to provide an excellent all-round education that gives every pupil the opportunity to enjoy outstanding teaching and learning, exceptional pastoral support and a co-curricular programme that offers both breadth and quality. Supported by an ethos built on Christian principles, at Kingham Hill we aim to produce well-rounded young people of vision and character who are equipped to flourish in their adult lives.

Excellence in its many forms is at the heart of Kingham Hill's success; the kernel of this excellence is our programme of scholarships. The school recognises and rewards those who display talent and consistently strive for the highest standards through their endeavours and demonstrate servant-heartedness to the rest of the school community.

Each year, the school offers a range of scholarships for pupils joining the Sixth Form. Scholarships are awarded on merit and are not means-tested. They typically range from 5% to 20% remission of day or boarding fees. All scholarship candidates are expected to demonstrate strong communication skills in their written and oral assessments, alongside specific requirements for their chosen scholarship.

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Academic Scholarship

Academic Scholars are expected to act as leaders in the classroom, inspiring their peers with both the quality of their work and the effort they put into their studies. Once awarded, an Academic Scholarship is held until the pupil leaves the school - subject to maintaining the necessary standards. An existing scholar is not required to reapply for their scholarship at Sixth Form, unless requested to do so by the Head.

External applicants will be assessed for potential in four areas:

- Vocabulary (word fluency and understanding).
- Mathematics (logical thinking, manipulating numbers and numerical concepts).
- Non-verbal ability (recognising shapes, matching patterns, applying spatial awareness and visual intuition).
- Skills (such as proofreading, perceptual speed and accuracy).

Internal candidates will be judged on their attitude to learning, as found on their end of term reports. Scholarship applicants are expected to have had a primarily 'very productive' or 'exceptional' attitude to learning in the three key areas of school life (classwork, independent study and mindset) during the previous three reporting periods. School reports from external candidates should provide evidence of academic curiosity.

Types of Award

There are two types of Academic Scholarship award. Applicants should apply for the overall Academic Scholarship - the type awarded is at the discretion of the Head:

- **School Scholarship**
- **Head's Scholarship:** This is awarded to candidates who can demonstrate both an outstanding academic ability and an exceptional attitude to learning.

The award of a scholarship automatically enrols the Scholar in the Octagon Academic Society. All awards are reviewed annually, and are maintained subject to the pupil meeting the criteria outlined by the Head of Octagon. All awards are conditional pending the candidate's GCSE results.

Art Scholarship

Candidates for an Art Scholarship should demonstrate:

- Skill, imagination and creative flair in the field of Art and Design.
- A passion for the subject and an eagerness to progress and learn new skills.
- The ability to use a range of materials and techniques.
- The ability to discuss artists they are interested in and galleries they have visited.

The Art Scholarship Assessment may include the following:

- The presentation of a portfolio of the candidate's own work in order to demonstrate both depth and breadth of knowledge along with an understanding and ability within the bounds of art, craft and design. Portfolios should include:
  - Evidence of a two and three-dimensional understanding in a variety of media.
  - A high level of technical achievement.
  - Work that is both observational and experimental.
  - Evidence of critical and contextual investigation and thought.
- An observational drawing test in our art studio.
- A short interview with the Head of Art.

A successful Art Scholar will be expected to take A Level Art & Design and play a key participatory role in Art Department activities.

All awards are conditional pending the candidate's GCSE results.



Drama Scholarship

Candidates for a Drama Scholarship should demonstrate:

- Flair and potential in the fields of dance or drama.
- Imagination, enthusiasm and creativity.
- Confidence to perform alone and to contribute positively in a group.
- Knowledge/interest in theatre, including productions they have seen or been in.

The Drama Scholarship Assessment may include the following:

- A performance of a monolgue (taken from a play) from memory. The script will be provided at least one week before the audition.
- A workshop and performance of an extract under the direction of Kingham Hill staff.
- A short interview with members of the Kingham Hill staff Drama Department.

A successful Drama Scholar will participate in LAMDA exams and play a full role in the performing arts co-curricular programme, including Academy. Drama Scholars would usually be expected to take a BTEC in Performance (Acting), however, consideration will also be given to those not taking the qualification, but who demonstrate the ability and willingness to take a full and active role in performing arts activities.

The Drama Scholarship includes free speech and drama lessons, plus optional free dance or singing lessons.

All awards are conditional pending the candidate's GCSE results.



Music Scholarship



Candidates for a Music Scholarship should demonstrate:

- A natural aptitude and passion for all areas of music-making.
- Commitment to developing their talents and a willingness to learn.
- Involvement in music-making at their present school.
- Achievement, or work towards, at least ABRSM (or equivalent Awarding Body) Grade 6.
- The ability to read music to a level that is commensurate with their playing ability.
- Experience of music theory correlating to their practical experience.

The Music Scholarship Assessment may include the following:

- A performance on both primary and secondary instrument (if one is available).
- An interview with the Head of Music which contains a "viva voce" section where potential and commitment can be assessed. This will include activities like sight-reading, aural response and general musicianship tests.

Successful candidates will be expected to take an active role in the school's ensembles as appropriate to their instrument or voice (ideally they will be members of a minimum of two ensemble groups).

Music Scholars would usually be expected to take A Level Music, however, consideration will also be given to those not taking the qualification, but who demonstrate the ability and willingness to take a full and active role in the musical life of the school.

The Music Scholarship also includes free music tuition: single lessons for two instruments or a double lesson for one.

All awards are conditional pending the candidate's GCSE results.

Sport Scholarship

Sport at Kingham Hill is about helping every pupil play, grow and develop: to get better, to grow in character, and to keep playing long after they leave. Our Sport Scholars lead the way and take part in fortnightly strength and conditioning sessions. They also attend additional sessions throughout the year on topics such as leadership and nutrition, and hear from guest speakers.

Candidates for a Sport Scholarship should demonstrate:

- A high level of performance (at club, county or academy level), or clear potential, in at least one of the school's major sports: hockey, netball and cricket for girls; rugby, football and cricket for boys.
- A commitment to play all three major sports for the school, giving their best in each, even where one is not their strongest.
- Leadership, character and a servant-hearted attitude that sets the standard for others, on and off the field.

Scholarships may also be awarded to a pupil currently competing at national level in an Olympic sport, who will also take a full part in school sport.

The Sport Scholarship Assessment may include:

- A portfolio of sporting achievements, including testimonials from current coaches and PE teachers.
- A skills assessment during a sports session at Kingham Hill.
- A short interview with the Director of Sport.

Sport Scholars are expected to represent the school in the major sport every term. They are role models: they train and compete with commitment, support their teammates and younger pupils, and serve the sporting life of the school. They are also encouraged to play for one of our affiliated local clubs.

Sport Scholars would usually be expected to take CTEC Sport. Those not taking it will also be considered if they show the ability and willingness to take a full and active role in school sport. All awards are conditional pending the candidate's GCSE results.





Other Scholarships

A scholarship may be considered for a candidate who has shown an outstanding ability in a subject area that they intend to study in the Sixth Form, for example in Science, Languages, History or Design & Technology. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

All awards are conditional pending the candidate's GCSE results.

Review, Maintenance, and Loss of Awards

Scholars are assessed on a termly basis, to ensure that every pupil in receipt of a scholarship makes the best of the opportunity this offers. At the discretion of the Head, and advice of staff, where a pupil is not meeting the required standard, parents and guardians will be informed and given notice that improvements are required, within an agreed timeframe. In some cases, the award may be rescinded. Furthermore, the award may also be withdrawn should parents or guardians fail to pay fees in a timely manner.

Application Process

- **Applications for Scholarships for entry in September 2027 must be received by 5pm on Monday 25th January 2027.** To start the application process please contact our Admissions Manager (UK) via admissions@deanclosekingham.org.uk or on 01608 731884.*
- If required in support of a potential scholarship, applications for bursaries (including the confidential submission regarding financial circumstances for means-testing purposes) must also be received by Monday 25th January 2027.
- Scholarship Assessments for 2027 entry will be held during the week commencing Monday 1st February 2027. Candidates will be informed shortly after the closing date for applications, whether or not they wil be invited for an assessment. At that point the date of the assessment will be confirmed and candidates will be informed of what they will be required to do on the day.

***Please note that in order to be considered for a scholarship, external candidates must be registered for entry to Kingham Hill and have completed their general entrance assessment prior to participating in the Scholarship Assessment process in February.**

Further Information

Please contact us if you should have any queries about scholarships, or the application process for your child:

- Telephone: 01608 731884
- Email: admissions@deanclosekingham.org.uk

Terms and Conditions

1. Scholarships are awarded at the sole discretion of Kingham Hill School.
2. Award holders are expected to demonstrate commitment and effort in their area of scholarship; contribute positively to school life; uphold the school's values and ethos; act as positive role models for other pupils; and maintain appropriate standards of conduct, attendance and academic progress.
3. Parents or guardians are expected to support the pupil in fulfilling the expectations of their scholarship; uphold the values of the school; and comply with the School's Terms and Conditions.
4. Continuation of an award is subject to satisfactory performance and commitment in the relevant area of scholarship; satisfactory standards of conduct, attendance and academic progress; the payment of fees in accordance with the School's Terms and Conditions; and the school's continued discretion that the award should remain in place. Where concerns arise regarding a pupil's performance or commitment, the school may review the award and provide an opportunity for improvement before determining whether the award should continue. An award may also be withdrawn if a pupil is withdrawn from the school without the required period of written notice.
5. Individual Scholarship Requirements:

5.1 Academic Scholars are expected to demonstrate outstanding commitment to their studies and to serve as academic role models within the school. They should be working towards excellent A Level, BTEC and/or CTEC outcomes and normally be on track to achieve at least B grades in internal assessments, grade reports and mock examinations. Academic Scholars automatically become members of the Octagon Academic Society and are expected to participate fully in its activities.

5.2 Art Scholars are expected to demonstrate creativity, commitment and excellence in the visual arts. They should engage enthusiastically in art lessons and enrichment opportunities, maintain a high standard of work, and contribute positively to exhibitions, competitions, displays and other artistic activities within the school.

5.3 Drama Scholars are expected to play a full and active role in the Performing Arts Academy. They should participate in productions, performances, workshops and other departmental opportunities, demonstrating commitment and leadership.

5.4 Music Scholars are expected to play a full role in the musical life of the school. They must attend peripatetic music lessons, participate in performances and ensembles, and demonstrate commitment to developing their musical skills.

5.5 Sport Scholars are expected to engage fully with the school's sporting programme and represent the school with integrity. They should participate in the three termly sports to a high standard, demonstrate an excellent attitude towards training and development, and consistently strive to improve their performance.

5.6 All scholars are expected to take advantage of and participate fully in the enrichment, extension and ambassadorial opportunities associated with their scholarship and to represent the school positively at all times.

6. The value of a scholarship award shall remain confidential between the school, the award holder and their parents or guardians.

7. Where a scholarship is withdrawn for under performance, parents or guardians may be eligible to apply for means-tested financial assistance through the school's normal bursary process.

8. Parents or guardians may be required to repay all or part of the financial benefit received through a scholarship if it is withdrawn as a result of a serious disciplinary offence, or a pattern of persistent misconduct, where the sanction would ordinarily warrant expulsion.

9. No scholarship award shall apply during any period for which fees are payable in lieu of notice.

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