

Year 7 Scholarships, Bursaries and Awards

September 2025 Entry

Pipers students have always excelled in a wide variety of areas. In recognition of this success, the Governors are keen to encourage a child's potential and to widen access to ensure that as many talented children as possible are able to take advantage of the excellent education that the School provides.

Each year the Governors award a limited number of Scholarships and Bursaries. As the School has no endowed funds with which to support these awards, the number we are able to make is limited and will vary year-on-year depending on the quality and circumstances of the candidates and the available budget.

Year 7 Scholarships

Any family considering Pipers, as well as students moving up from the Prep Department, may apply for a Scholarship for entry into the Senior School in **one of** the following areas: Academic, Art, Drama, Music or PE.

A Year 7 Scholarship:

- is awarded to a child in recognition of their achievement and potential in a given area and will be assessed following the Entrance Assessments, interview and reference from their current school
- is highly prized and scholars' names are published on the honour's board
- is awarded irrespective of financial means
- comes with fee remission normally expressed as an annual percentage and represents 5% or 10% of the School fees, although it can be more for an exceptional scholar, up to a maximum of 50% of school fees
- can be supported by a concurrent means-tested bursary award (see page 7)
- is normally granted for as long as the student remains at the School provided they continue to demonstrate strong performance in the subject area for which the award was granted is awarded with the expectation that Scholars will remain at Pipers through to the Upper Sixth

The Scholarship process and selection criteria

All Scholarships

All Scholarship candidates will be expected to show first-class communication skills in their written and oral assessments. In addition there are specific requirements for each of the Scholarship areas.

Scholarship Assessments for all areas except Academic Scholarships will take place week commencing Monday 18 November.

Information about what is required and the deadline for the submission of any required documentation will be cited in the Year 7 Application Form or communicated to students directly.

Academic Scholarship

Successful candidates will have achieved one of the highest scores in one or more of the Entrance Assessments and will have impressed at interview. No further assessments are required.

Art Scholarship

A student applying for an Art Scholarship should demonstrate:

- excellent drawing skills
- a passion for the subject
- imagination and creativity
- the ability to use a range of materials and techniques
- the ability to discuss artists they are interested in and the galleries they have visited

Depending on the number of applicants, Scholarship candidates may be short-listed through the assessment of portfolios prior to the assessment.

The Art Scholarship Assessment is likely to consist of the following:

- The presentation of a portfolio of work by the student
- A research project around a theme
- A practical test relating to the theme of research
- An interview with the Head of Art



Drama Scholarship

A student applying for a Drama Scholarship should demonstrate:

- natural acting ability and a passion for Drama
- imagination, enthusiasm and creativity
- confidence to perform alone and to contribute positively in a group
- knowledge and interest in theatre, including productions seen or participated in

The successful candidate will be expected to actively participate in school productions and extra-curricular Drama. Students wishing to apply for a Drama Scholarship will be required to submit a one page Drama CV as part of the Year 7 application process.

Depending on the number of applicants involved, candidates may be short-listed through the review of the Drama CVs prior to the Scholarship Assessment.

The Drama Scholarship Assessment is likely to consist of the following:

- The preparation and performance of a scripted piece from a published play
- Participation in a series of workshop activities during the assessment session
- An interview with the Director of Drama



Music Scholarship

A student applying for a Music Scholarship should:

- show a natural aptitude and passion for all areas of music-making
- be fully committed to developing their talents
- be fully involved in music-making in and out of school
- have achieved at least ABRSM Grade 3 (or equivalent Awarding Body)
- be able to read music to a level that is commensurate with their playing ability
- have some experience of music theory that correlates to their practical experience
- demonstrate an awareness of how they might need to improve in their performance and technique

The successful candidate will be expected to participate fully in musical activities in School.

The Music Scholarship Assessment is likely to consist of the following:

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



PE Scholarship

Candidates are expected to display strong sporting and leadership abilities. They should also be able to offer experience and a high-level of performance, or potential, in two sports, one of which must be a Major sport.

Major Sports | Netball, Hockey and Swimming

Minor Sports | Athletics, Cricket, Cross Country, Equestrian, Football, Gymnastics, Skiing and Tennis

Athletic ability, raw talent, attitude and motivation are the key factors in identifying and selecting scholars at this age.

Successful candidates will be expected to contribute fully to the sporting life of the School. They will compete for the School and be an excellent role model for other students with their sportsmanship and sense of fair play. All students wishing to apply for a PE Scholarship will be required to indicate their experience level in our major sports and submit a reference from their current Head of PE/ Sport as part of the Year 7 application process.

Depending on the number of applicants, candidates may be short-listed through the review of each student's experience and their submitted teacher reference prior to the Scholarship assessment. The PE Scholarship assessment is likely to consist of the following:

- Participate in a training sessions for Hockey, Netball and Swimming
- Participate in fitness testing
- Complete an interview with the Director of Sport



Bursaries

Supporting Bursaries

Students applying for a scholarship can also be considered for a means-tested bursary. This option can be ticked in the Year 7 Application Form and details of eligibility and the process can be found below.

Jessie Cross Bursary Awards

These awards are means-tested awards and offer a discount of up to 100% of fees. They are available to students currently educated in a state primary school, who show promise in a number of areas. Students applying for a Jessie Cross Bursary Award would need the recommendation of their headteacher and are also asked to provide supporting evidence of their achievements and involvement in their school, church and/or community, which is reviewed by our Headmistress.

A state primary educated student can apply for both a Jessie Cross Bursary Award and a Scholarship (Academic, Art, Drama, Music or PE).

A Bursary:

- can be granted for a child who would otherwise be unable to accept a place at Pipers Corner School due to the family's financial circumstances
- is means-tested with the value of the bursary linked to the financial circumstances of the family
- is usually expressed as a percentage of fees up to a maximum of 100% (including any Scholarship or other award)*
- in exceptional circumstances, further support may be available from the school towards the cost of uniforms, travel and school trips
- is confidential and is not published
- is reviewed annually by the Headmistress and Bursar

Parents who indicate that they wish to apply for a Bursary will then be provided with a confidential form to complete and return in order to provide essential information regarding their financial circumstances for means-testing purposes.

* Maximum fee remission is only awarded in exceptional circumstances

Application Process

Year 7 Scholarship and Bursary Awards

- Registration deadline* | **18 October 2024**

An online application form will be shared with all registered students to indicate preferences for Scholarship and Bursary Awards.

- Deadline for completed Year 7 application form | **21 October 2024**
- General entry interviews | **6-12 November 2024** (*times will be allocated*).
- Scholarship Assessments† | **Week commencing 18 November 2024** (*exact session dates to be confirmed*)

Parents should note candidates for Academic Scholarships are not required to sit an additional assessment as Awards are made on the basis of their results in the Entrance Assessments, their interview with the Headmistress and a reference from their current school.

- Entrance Assessments | **14 January 2025**
- Year 7 Entrance Assessment and notification of Scholarship and Bursary Award(s) outcome communicated to parents | **February half-term 2025**
- Deadline for Acceptances | **3 March 2025**
- Parents will be expected to keep the award of any bursary confidential

* Please note that all students seeking Year 7 entry to Pipers Corner must sit the general Entrance Assessments and have an interview with a senior member of staff.

† Subject to short-listing, if relevant.

Further information

Please contact us if you have any queries:

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