

Year 9 Scholarships



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Year 9 Scholarships

Gresham's School has much to offer pupils who have outstanding talent and potential academically, as well as in music, art, drama and sport. Accordingly, a range of scholarships is available to exceptional pupils who will enhance the reputation of the School, whilst benefiting from its range of opportunities.

Year 9 Scholarship Awards

Academic

Art

Drama

Music

Sport

Scholarship from African Schools (an all-round award)

Academic Scholarships are worth *up to* 50% of the fee. All other scholarships are worth *up to* 20% of the fee.

An Art, Drama, Music, or Sport Scholarship may be awarded in addition to an Academic Scholarship. The aggregate value of scholarships awarded, where one is Academic, will not exceed 50% of the fee.

Year 9 Scholarships are open to internal candidates in Year 8 as well as to those in Year 8 at other schools.

Dates and Deadlines

Application Deadline: Thursday 1st December 2016

Assessment dates

Year 9 entrance examinations and scholarship assessments will take place during the week beginning Monday 16th January 2017 as follows.

Year 9 Entrance Exams: Tuesday 17th January 2017

External candidates (those not attending Gresham's Prep) will be required to attend entrance examinations on Tuesday 17th January, except those who are entered for an Academic Scholarship. Entrance examinations comprise the school's Maths and English entrance papers. Sample entrance papers are available on the school website: <http://www.greshams.com/Assessment-Entry-criteria>

Scholarship assessments:

Sport Scholarships:		Monday 16th January 2017
Academic Scholarships:	Interviews	Tuesday 17th January 2017
	Examinations	Wednesday 18th January 2017
Art Scholarships:		Thursday 19th January 2017
Drama Scholarships:		Thursday 19th January 2017
Music Scholarships:		Friday 20th January 2017

African Scholarship candidates will be expected to attend assessments during the week beginning 16th January 2017. Please contact Admissions to arrange assessment.

Year 9 Scholarship Assessment Criteria 2017

What are we looking for?

- Potential – evidence that students have the ability to perform at a top level in their chosen fields
- Commitment – evidence that students are disciplined, self-motivated and keen to push themselves
- Dependability – evidence that applicants can be trusted to make the most of the opportunities presented to them by scholarships and are exemplary role models in their chosen fields
- Leadership – evidence that applicants will play a leading role in the school and will be ambassadors and mentors to other pupils.

What can successful scholars expect?

Gresham's aims to develop the full potential of all of its scholars.

Scholars will be set annual goals, be encouraged to participate in scholarship evenings and enrichment events and be monitored closely in order to assist them in maximising their potential.

How do we decide who is awarded a scholarship?

Scholarships are inevitably a competitive process as the standards are high and the fields strong. At Gresham's we aim to make the process as fair, transparent and just as possible for all applicants.

The following evidence is used in order to assess students for scholarship:

- CVs written by students in support of their applications (all scholarships)
- References (provided by current schools)
- Examinations (for Academic and African scholarships)
- Interviews (for all scholarships)
- Observed performance (for all scholarships)
- Individual project (for Academic scholarships, when supplied)

Applicants are graded on the basis of all this information. Scholarships are only awarded if applicants are deemed to be of a scholarship standard.

What you should put in your CV

You should complete the standard Gresham's CV for your scholarship summarising:

- Your main achievements to date (in your scholarship area but also your achievements generally)
- Why you want to be a scholar
- What use you would make of a scholarship
- Any other information you think might be relevant

What we ask for in your school reference

- Your standard and potential in your scholarship area/s
- Evidence of your major achievements to date
- A statement about your personality and character and suitability for scholarship
- Other relevant information

Academic Scholarships – Tuesday 17th & Wednesday 18th January 2017

Academic Scholarships will be assessed in the following way:

- On **Tuesday 17th January** in the afternoon, two **interviews**, usually with the Headmaster, and the Deputy Head (Academic), one will be a general interview and one will cover the student's project.
- On **Wednesday 18th January**, **examinations**, comprising written papers in English, Mathematics and a General Paper (which will test aptitude and the ability to think 'outside of the box');
- A science lesson which will assess pupils' potential as scientists;

Sample test papers are available to download from the school website:
<http://www.greshams.com/Year-9>

When submitting an application, candidates must include a **scholarship CV**. A template is provided with the scholarship application form.

Candidates must also submit a **short project or assignment** in advance for discussion at interview. This work should demonstrate the applicant's academic strengths and interests and they should be prepared to talk about it at interview. The project should be presented in a formal and academic way and demonstrate the ability to research, problem-solve or set out and defend an argument or point of view. However, the format of the presentation can be the candidate's own choice – an extended essay or project or a short film, for example.

The project or assignment should not be a normal piece of school work, though it may be an extension of something first encountered at school. The most important thing is to demonstrate the candidate's academic flair and originality, and their willingness to discuss the implications of their findings at interview.

It is essential that the work submitted is entirely the candidate's own, though guidance may of course be provided by teachers and / or parents.

Please note that work submitted will not normally be returned.

The academic project should be submitted when returning the scholarship application form and CV. However, where extra time is needed the school will accept the project up until Monday 9th January.

Gresham's will write to the candidate's current school to request a reference which will also be taken into consideration.

External candidates please note - academic scholarship candidates are not required to sit separate entrance examinations; for external candidates the scholarship papers also serve as examinations for entry to the School.

Art Scholarships – Thursday 19th January 2017

The selection of art scholars will be by an interview with the Head of Art, an inspection of the candidates' portfolios and an observational drawing task. Portfolios should show evidence of a genuine passion for art. Successful candidates are likely to bring evidence of experimentation and investigation across a variety of media and have strong observational drawing skills. Three-dimensional or very large-scale work may be included and may be represented in photographs. Busy, personal sketchbooks that show evidence of work undertaken independently, outside of school, will be of particular interest. As part of their interview candidates will be asked about a contemporary artist whose work they admire.

Candidates must supply a scholarship CV. A reference from the head of the candidate's school and head of art will also be taken into consideration.

A pupil who is awarded a Year 9 Art Scholarship would usually be expected to take GCSE Art and to take a full part in the co-curricular art programme of the School.

Drama Scholarships – Thursday 19th January 2017

The process of audition for Drama Scholarships is in three parts

- Participation in a group workshop - during the workshop candidates are assessed on their co-operative, theatrical and improvisation skills. The games, exercises and tasks which are undertaken by the group are designed to bring out the best in the candidate and to see what he or she might bring to Drama at Gresham's.
- Individual performance of a monologue or performance of a musical theatre number lasting approximately 2 minutes. This is an opportunity for the individual student to prepare a piece in advance that plays to their strengths and demonstrates their ability to communicate with an audience.
- An interview with a member of the Drama Department (interviews may be recorded), often conducted in groups of two or three, in which each candidate has the opportunity to share his or her theatrical interests and discuss performances seen or participated in.

Candidates must supply a scholarship CV. CVs should list any productions the candidate has taken part in including the role/s played and any other drama experience (other than productions and drama lessons) e.g. LAMDA Speech, membership of a drama club or society. References from the head of the candidate's school, head of drama and any drama clubs (where relevant) will also be taken into consideration.

A pupil who is awarded a Drama Scholarship at Year 9 will be expected to take GCSE Drama (and usually A level Theatre Studies or IB Theatre) and to take a full part in the theatrical life of the School.

Music Scholarships – Friday 20th January 2017

The selection of music scholars will be by audition and interview with a panel of the full time members of the music staff. Candidates will be expected to play on two instruments (the voice may count as one) and credit will be given if a third is offered. There will be tests in musicianship skills and a viva voce will be given. The expected standard on the first study instrument is Grade 5 Associated Board for Year 9 entrants. They should prepare two contrasting pieces to present on their first study and one on each of their other instruments.

Candidates must supply a scholarship CV. A reference from the head of the candidate's school and head of music will also be taken into consideration.

Successful Music Scholars will benefit from 30 free music lessons for two instruments per year in addition to a fee reduction of up to 20%.

A pupil who is awarded a Music Scholarship at Year 9 would usually be expected to take GCSE Music and to take a full part in the co-curricular musical programme of the School.

Sport Scholarships – Monday 16th January 2017

The format of assessment for Sport Scholarships will be as follows:

- Candidates will be observed performing for their existing club or school by the Sports Development Director or the relevant member of Gresham's sports staff prior to the practical assessment date. Therefore a fixture list or calendar must be provided in advance.
- Candidates must supply a CV outlining their sporting achievements with their application.
- Practical assessment on the day will focus on general fitness, skills and co-ordination tasks.
- During the course of the practical assessment day there will be interviews conducted by the relevant heads of individual sports.
- References from coaches and your head of sport will also form part of the assessment process. Please provide these with your application.

Candidates should have all round ability in the major games played at Gresham's (rugby, hockey, cricket, netball, tennis, athletics). A successful candidate will also be expected to have played at representative county or regional level or equivalent. They will be expected to be fully committed to the sporting environment of the School and to represent Gresham's throughout the school year.

The African Scholarship – w/c Monday 16th January 2017

The African Scholarship recognises all-round ability. It is intended to identify pupils who will contribute exceptionally to the overall life of the School. Successful scholars will have major co-curricular strengths and are likely to be just below scholarship level in more than one area where the School offers a scholarship. Candidates will also be expected to demonstrate leadership qualities and potential.

In order to be eligible for this award the candidate and their immediate family must currently be resident in Africa and the candidate must be attending an African school. Only one Scholarship may be granted per year.

Candidates will sit Gresham's academic scholarship papers during the week commencing Monday 16th January 2017. Candidates must also be entered for at least one scholarship assessment from either Art, Music, Drama or Sport. Please refer to the relevant dates and criteria for Art, Music, Drama and Sport.

Candidates must supply a scholarship CV. A reference from the candidate's current school will also be taken into consideration.

How are the results announced?

In mid-February parents will receive a letter from the Headmaster to confirm their child's place and to confirm whether or not a scholarship award has been made to their child.

Every candidate will receive brief written feedback indicating their grade/s of performance and/or providing feedback on areas of strength and development.

It should be remembered that a lack of success in winning a scholarship does not mean that the applicant will not be a very successful student at Gresham's – indeed having the ambition, determination and courage to attempt a scholarship suggests you are exactly the sort of student who will thrive at Gresham's.

Notes

1. Scholarship candidates must be registered for entry to Gresham's School, and the registration fee must have been paid before the candidate is entered for a scholarship. Current Gresham's Prep School pupils do not need to register for the Senior School.
2. Pupils entered for Year 9 Scholarships must be under 14 on 1st September of the year of entry to Gresham's (unless extraordinary circumstances are agreed by the Headmaster).
3. Year 9 scholarships are awarded for the duration of a pupil's time at the Senior School. Scholars are expected to contribute to the School in a manner befitting their talents, and their conduct and general attitude to academic study is expected to be excellent. All Scholars are expected to be fully committed to the appropriate academic and/or co-curricular activities associated with their scholarship. They will be expected to set standards and demonstrate leadership to their contemporaries in their scholarship area.
4. As part of the scholarship process, we review annually the achievements and prospects of scholars.

5. All scholarship awards are made at the discretion of the Headmaster and reviewed by the Governors annually. The Headmaster's decision is final. In exceptional circumstances, the Headmaster, after consultation with the Chairman of Governors, may withdraw an award where a candidate has repeatedly fallen short of expectations.
6. Pupils who are awarded a scholarship at Year 9 or Sixth Form are expected, under normal circumstances, to continue at Gresham's and to complete A Levels or the International Baccalaureate Diploma. If a pupil is withdrawn before the completion of such a period, the School reserves the right to request repayment of all or part of the value of the scholarship for the period from the commencement of the scholarship to the date of withdrawal.
7. Scholarships may be augmented by a means-tested bursary up to 100% of the fee. Parents who apply for a bursary will have their financial position assessed and bursaries may be reassessed on an annual basis. The amount of support available is dependent on family income and assets and on the financial resources of the school. Bursary applications must be submitted at the same time as a scholarship application i.e. by 1st December 2016. Bursary application forms are available from Admissions. Please email admissions@greshams.com or call 01263 714614.
8. Candidates already holding a bursary, who gain a scholarship, will have the bursary reduced by the scholarship. Sibling discounts are replaced or reduced by a scholarship. Candidates already holding a Year 7 scholarship from Gresham's Prep, will have that scholarship replaced by a Year 9 scholarship, if successful.

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