

Year 9 Scholarships

For entry in September 2021



www.greshams.com



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 an extensive range of opportunities.

Scholarships are available in the following subject areas:

Academic

Art

Drama

Music

Sport

Scholarship from African Schools (an all-round award)

All 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 will not exceed 50% of the fee.

In addition, Britten Instrumental scholarships worth up to 50% of the fee and Britten Instrumental Exhibitions worth up to 35% of the fee are available for exceptional candidates who have achieved Grade VII on their preferred instrument.

Successful music scholars will also benefit from 30 free music lessons per instrument for a maximum of two instruments per year.

Information regarding scholarship deadlines are located towards the end of this booklet.

If you wish to apply for a scholarship, please request an application form from Mrs. Lucy Arole, Admissions Manager via telephone on 012363 714614 or via email admissions@greshams.com

Dates and deadlines for scholarship and entrance assessments

Year 9 scholarship application deadline:	Friday 13th November 2020
Year 9 entrance exams:	Wednesday 20th January 2021
Academic scholarships: examinations	Monday 18th January 2021
Academic scholarship interviews (external candidates)	Monday 18th January 2021
Academic scholarship interviews (Gresham's Prep candidates)	Tuesday 19th January 2021
Drama scholarships¹ (Morning):	Thursday 21st January 2021
Art scholarships¹ (Afternoon):	Thursday 21st January 2021
Music scholarships¹:	Friday 22nd January 2021
Sport Scholarships^{1,2}:	Monday 25th January 2021

¹Pupils from outside Gresham's Prep who are not applying for an Academic Scholarship are required to take the Entrance Assessments on **Wednesday 20th January 2021**.

How are the results announced?

Communication of awards and feedback of the candidates' performances will be confirmed on Friday 12th February 2021.

Year 9 scholarship assessment criteria

The assessment process for all scholarships will enable the school to evaluate how well candidates can perform within their chosen field, and whether they can demonstrate the potential to develop further. There will be an expectation that candidates are more than comfortable handling material and skills they have already been exposed to at school by Year 8. The assessments will explore potential by exposing candidates to new concepts or processes, and offering challenging opportunities to show tenacity and leadership.

The school will also look for evidence that candidates have already demonstrated commitment and dependability at school and in their activities.

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 fair and transparent 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 **EXCEPT** the academic scholarship)
- References (provided by current schools)
- Examinations (for academic and African scholarships)
- Interviews (for some scholarships)
- Observed performance (for all scholarships)

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 – Monday 18th January 2021

Candidates will be assessed in the core subjects of English, Maths and Science.

The Science paper no longer has a practical element as part of the assessment. Students will complete a written paper, with equal weighting on Biology, Chemistry and Physics. These will be areas of Science that scholarship students should be familiar with and will assess skills and problem-solving ability, as well as content.

There will be a further assessment in the form of a general paper, which will explore logical as well as independent thinking.

The candidates will be interviewed by the Deputy Head (Academic) and the Headmaster.

Interviews for external candidates will take place on **Monday 18th January 2021**.

Interviews for Gresham's Prep School candidates will take place on **Tuesday 19th January 2021**.

Sample test papers are available to download from the school website:
<https://www.greshams.com/admissions/scholarships/admissions-year-9/>

All the assessments will explore intellectual curiosity and therefore preparation for academic scholarship should focus on reading and exploring around areas of interest rather than practising papers. An interest in general knowledge and current affairs will be an advantage. The school will be looking for strengths in at least one area backed up by a strong performance across the different assessments.

Upon the receipt of the scholarship application, Gresham's will write to the candidate's current school to request a reference, which will also be taken into consideration.

For external candidates the scholarship papers also serve as examinations for entry to Gresham's.

Award holders will be expected to participate widely in the academic life of the school and maintain very high standards in their approach to their studies.

Drama scholarships – Thursday 21st January 2021 (Morning)

Candidates will be assessed in three areas:

- The first part of the day will look at candidates' participation in a group workshop. Candidates will be assessed on their co-operative, theatrical and improvisation skills through a series of games, exercises and tasks.
- An Individual performance of a monologue or performance of a musical theatre number lasting approximately two 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 create a character and communicate with an audience. Please note: If part of your audition involves singing please advise us in advance, especially if you need live accompaniment. If you have a backing track please bring it on a USB.
- An interview with a member of the Drama Department (interviews may be recorded). These will be conducted in groups of two or three, and each candidate has the opportunity to share their theatrical interests and discuss performances seen or participated in.

Candidates must supply a scholarship CV, which lists productions the candidate has taken part in including the role(s) played and other drama experiences 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 at Gresham's.

Art scholarships – Thursday 21st January 2021 (Afternoon)

The selection of art scholars will take place upon an inspection of the candidates' portfolios by members of the Art and Design team as well as participating in a group print workshop. 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.

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.

Award holders would usually be expected to take GCSE Art and to take a full part in the co-curricular art programme of the School.

Music scholarships – Friday 22nd January 2021

Music scholarships are awarded in light of musical merit and potential.

The selection of music scholars is by audition and interview with a panel of music staff. At the audition candidates will be asked to perform two contrasting pieces on their principal instrument, which may include voice, and one other instrument. Their first instrument should be approximately Grade V, although it is not necessary to have taken the Associated Board exam. An experienced accompanist will be available. Ability on a second instrument (or voice) is usual but not mandatory. In selecting music for performance, it is worth bearing in mind that a virtuoso or ostentatious piece is not always the best way for candidates to display their skill.

The selection of Britten Instrumental Scholars and Exhibitions award holders is by audition and interview with a panel of music staff. At the audition candidates will be asked to perform two contrasting pieces on their principal instrument and one on another instrument. Their first instrument should be approximately Grade VII. This grade should be seen as a guide, but candidates will be expected to play at this level. An experienced accompanist will be available. Ability on a second instrument (or voice) is usual but not mandatory. In selecting music for performance it is worth bearing in mind that a virtuoso or ostentatious piece is not always the best way for candidates to display their skill; candidates should play pieces that they play well and confidently.

All candidates will be given sight-reading tests and a short series of aural tests. It is anticipated that applicants will have a working knowledge of music theory. Gresham's would be interested to see any compositions or special musical projects candidates may be working on and these should be brought on the day, although there is no requirement for candidates to bring these.

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.

Award holders or those awarded free music tuition are expected to play an active and positive leading role in the musical life of the School. Participation is expected in Chapel choir and ensembles as advised by the Director of Music.

The Director of Music is happy to meet potential candidates and their parents informally prior to the audition to give advice about musical standards and the opportunities for musicians at Gresham's.

Sports scholarships – Monday 25th January 2021

Candidates for sports scholarships are expected to have all-round ability in the major games played at Gresham's (rugby, hockey, cricket, netball, tennis, athletics). A successful candidate will be expected to have played at county or regional level or an equivalent and be able to perform very well in exercises which demonstrate skills and coordination. Applicants are expected to have a very good level of physical fitness.

The format of assessment for sport scholarships will be as follows:

- During the course of the proceeding term, candidates will be observed performing for their existing club or school by the Director of Sport or the relevant member of Gresham's sports staff prior to the practical assessment date. It is essential that a fixture list or calendar be provided in advance. Please contact the Director of Sport, Mr Steve Adams (sadams@greshams.com)
- Practical assessment on the day will focus on upon our major games plus an assessment on general fitness, skills and co-ordination tasks.

A CV outlining the candidate's sporting achievements should be provided, and references from coaches and Heads of Sport at the current school will also form part of the assessment process.

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 18th January 2021

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 comparable, if not equal to, scholarship standard. 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.

Candidates will sit Gresham's academic scholarship papers during the scholarship assessment week. 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.

The Assessment Process

Academic scholarship assessments

Candidates and parents will be invited to meet for refreshments in Big School at the start of the day. There will be a period of assessments prior to lunch with suitable breaks. All candidates will have lunch together and will be joined by some members of the academic staff. There will be a break period in the lunch interval, after which there will be a second assessment period.

At the end of the day, pupils will be available for collection from the Big School. Times will be confirmed prior to the day. It is likely that the day will start at 8:30am and finish at 4:30pm.

Sample papers are available to download from <https://www.greshams.com/admissions/scholarships/admissions-year-9/>

Music scholarship assessments

The music assessments will take approximately 1 ½ hours. Candidates will be given a time to arrive at the Britten Building on the assessment day. There they will be met and given time to warm up. Candidates will then have an opportunity to rehearse with the accompanist before performing their prepared pieces.

The candidates will be given a short sight-reading and aural test. The candidates will be auditioned and interviewed by a panel of music staff in light of the instruments the candidate plays. Collection of candidates will be from the Britten Building.

Drama scholarship assessments

The assessment for the drama scholarship will take place on the morning of the assessment day. Candidates will gather at the Auden Theatre. The start time will be confirmed prior to the day but is likely to be 10am.

Art scholarship assessments

On the day of the assessments candidates and parents are invited to drop portfolios off at the Cairns' Centre, the work will be collected when the candidates depart at the end of the process. While the portfolios are being assessed candidates will take part in a print workshop and the outcomes they produce can also be taken home.

Sports scholarship assessments.

Registration will take place in the School Sports Pavilion at 8:45am on the day of assessment. The process will involve six practical assessments of approximately 40 minutes each, plus a 15 minute written task. A programme for the day will be sent out to all candidates a week prior to the assessments. The day will conclude at approximately 4pm in the School Sports Pavilion.

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, Gresham's reserves the right to request repayment of all or part of the value of the scholarship for the period from the commencement of the award 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.
8. Bursary applications are assessed by an external organisation and all applications must be received by Friday 13th November 2020. A bursary application cannot be made prior to a child registering with the school. Bursary application forms are available from the Admissions team. Please email admissions@greshams.com.
9. Prep 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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