



SIXTH FORM SCHOLARSHIPS 2026



SIXTH FORM SCHOLARSHIPS

Gresham's has much to offer pupils who have outstanding talents and potential. Accordingly, a range of scholarships are available to exceptional pupils who will benefit from the experiences and opportunities our scholar programmes offer.

Scholarships are available in the following subject areas:

- Academic
- Art and Design
- Drama
- Music
- Sport

All scholarships are worth up to 20% of the fee.

A combination of scholarships can be applied for; however, the combined value of scholarships awarded will not exceed 40% of the fee.

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

If you wish to apply for a scholarship, please request an application form from Mrs. Lucy Arole, Head of Admissions via telephone on 01263 714614 or via email admissions@greshams.com

DATES AND DEADLINES FOR SIXTH FORM SCHOLARSHIP AND ASSESSMENTS

Deadline for Sixth Form scholarship application: **Friday 17th October 2025**

Internal candidates to arrange interviews with
Heads of Department:

These must take place between: **Monday 10th November –
Friday 14th November 2025**

Sixth Form interview and scholarship assessment
morning*:

Saturday 15th November 2025

Sport scholarship assessment day:

Monday 10th November 2025

(*For external candidates in all scholarship categories except Sport and internal Drama scholarship candidates)

HOW ARE THE RESULTS ANNOUNCED?

Communication of the outcome of applications will be communicated no later than Saturday 29th November 2025.

SIXTH FORM SCHOLARSHIP ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

The assessment process for all scholarships will look to evaluate how well candidates can perform within their chosen field, and whether they can demonstrate the potential to develop further in the Sixth Form. There will be an expectation candidates are more than comfortable handling material and skills they have already been exposed to at school by Year 11. 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, leadership and dependability at school and in their activities.

Candidates must submit a scholarship CV when applying for Art, Drama, Music and Sport scholarships. For external candidates, we will contact the candidates school for the necessary references prior to the assessment.

WHAT YOU SHOULD PUT IN YOUR CV

You should complete the Gresham's scholarship CV template 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
- Predicted GCSE grades
- Other relevant information

ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

All candidates will be assessed in their chosen preferred subjects for A level, IB Diploma (Higher Level) and BTEC.

All candidates will be interviewed by the Heads of Department in their chosen subjects in the style of a university entrance interview. Candidates will be asked questions about what they have studied and be introduced to new ideas. Their ability to draw connections, follow prompts and to solve problems will be explored so that they can demonstrate their levels of understanding and relevant skills. Additionally, they will also have a general academic interview with the Deputy Head (Academic).

On the day of the Sixth Form scholarship assessments all external candidates will also have an interview with the Headmaster.

Internal candidates must arrange interviews directly with the relevant Heads of Department, and the Deputy Head (Academic) after the submission of their application. Internal interviews should be arranged between Monday 10th November and Friday 14th November 2025.

All the assessments will explore intellectual curiosity and therefore preparation for the academic scholarship should focus on reading and exploring around areas of interest beyond the GCSE curriculum. 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 all interviews.

For external candidates the school will request an academic reference and a copy of a recent academic report from the candidate's current school.

All candidates are expected to be predicted high (9s or 8s) GCSE grades.

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.

ART AND DESIGN SCHOLARSHIPS

The selection of Art and Design scholars will be by an individual interview with the Head of Art and/or Head of Design, and through an inspection of the candidate's portfolio. Portfolios should show evidence of ability, commitment, enthusiasm and interest in one or more art disciplines, such as sculpture, photography, graphic design, textiles, illustration, animation, ceramics, product design, printmaking and painting.

Successful candidates are likely to include evidence of experimentation and investigation with a wide range of materials within their portfolio, as well as demonstrating strong drawing skills. Three-dimensional or very large-scale work can be represented digitally or through photography. Personal sketchbooks that show evidence of work undertaken independently will be of particular interest. As part of the interview process, the candidates will have the opportunity to discuss the artwork that inspires and informs their own art-making practice, this should include work by at least one contemporary artist.

All candidates must supply a scholarship CV. For external candidates, a reference from the Head of the candidate's school and Director of Art/ Design will also be taken into consideration.

Internal candidates must arrange interviews directly with the Head of Art or Head of Design, after the submission of their application. The interview should be arranged between Monday 10th November and Friday 14th November 2025.

Art scholars will be expected to take A level 3D Design, Graphic Communication, Fine Art, Photography or IB Visual Arts and make a whole-hearted contribution to the visual arts at Gresham's.

DRAMA SCHOLARSHIPS

All candidates will be assessed in three areas:

- A group workshop
- A performance of a monologue lasting approximately two minutes.
- An interview

On Saturday 15th November 2025 both external and internal candidates will participate in a group workshop. Candidates will be assessed on their co-operative, theatrical and improvisation skills through a series of games, exercises and tasks.

All candidates will then be required to perform individually in a performance of a monologue lasting approximately two minutes. These must be presented as a performance and demonstrate a clear understanding of the play and the theatrical moment, the style of the piece and the role of the character within it. 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.

After the performances, external candidates will be interviewed by a member of the Drama department, interviews may be recorded.

In the interview, candidates will have the opportunity to discuss their choice of monologue, share their theatrical interests and discuss performances they have seen or participated in.

All candidates must supply a scholarship CV which clearly states the name of the play from which the audition material is taken and the chosen role. The CV should list productions the candidate has taken part in including the role(s) played and other drama experiences e.g. LAMDA, membership of a drama club or society. References from the Head of the external candidate's school, Director of Drama and any drama clubs (where relevant) will also be taken into consideration.

Internal candidates must arrange interviews directly with the Director of Drama, after the submission of their application. The interview should be arranged between Monday 10th November and Friday 14th November 2025.

Sixth Form scholars are ambassadors for Drama and will be expected to actively work with the Department on their creative development and their contribution to Drama within Gresham's. Scholars are expected to participate fully in Drama either taking BTEC Performing Arts and/or commit fully to the opportunities within extra-curricular productions on stage or behind the scenes.

MUSIC SCHOLARSHIPS

Music at Gresham's offers an incredible breadth of opportunities for all musicians. From Chapel Choir to the Strathmore Studio, our program is designed to inspire and challenge. Unique to Gresham's, we offer scholarships in both performing and creating, recognising the evolving landscape of the music industry and the diverse skills musicians need to thrive.

Music scholarships are awarded based on merit and potential, through an audition and an interview with a panel of music staff. For Sixth Form entry, we seek candidates who can fully engage with Gresham's music program, both academically and through extracurricular activities.

We welcome applications from musicians in classical and contemporary styles. This is an opportunity to showcase your skills, discuss your musical identity, and share your aspirations. Consider this a portfolio presentation where we can get to know you as an individual and a musician.

Successful scholars will play an active role in the co-curricular and academic life of the school, enrolling in the Scholars program for further development of their musical skills.

Scholars are expected to study Music at the appropriate level; A level, BTEC, or IB Diploma and participate in at least two co-curricular ensembles or activities, including Chapel Choir.

These decisions are at the discretion of the Director of Music.

There are two categories for consideration

MUSICIAN AS A PERFORMER	MUSICIAN AS A CREATOR
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Instrumental• Vocal	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Composing and Songwriting• Music Production

These categories are not mutually exclusive, and we expect candidates to have overlapping skill sets. If a candidate does not meet the Grade VII standard for performance in their principal instrument but excels in creating, they can present their creative work as their principal study.

MUSICIAN AS A PERFORMER:

For instrumental and vocal performance scholarship applicants, candidates will be asked to perform two contrasting pieces on their principal instrument or voice, and one piece on any secondary instruments or voice, if applicable. This is an opportunity to demonstrate technical ability, breadth of repertoire, and knowledge and understanding of the pieces presented.

The music for the principal instrument should be of Grade VII standard. It is not necessary to have taken the practical examination. An experienced accompanist will be available where appropriate, and backing tracks may also be used. These must be with the music department at least 2 working days before the audition. All candidates should present program notes for their performance, detailing the music they are playing or the influence it has had on them. This will serve as a starting point for discussion with the panel.

A second study (instrument or voice) is expected. Performances on any second instrument or voice should be of at least Grade V standard. We are also very keen to receive applications from orchestral instrumentalists, whether as a principal or secondary study.

When selecting music for performance, the panel is interested in seeing a contrasting program that reflects the candidate's own interests and style. Candidates must provide music for the accompanist (if required) and one copy for the audition panel.

All performance candidates will be given sight-reading tests, a short series of aural tests from the Grade VII syllabus, and a singing assessment. Candidates are expected to have a working knowledge of Grade V+ music theory.

All tests will be appropriate to the instrument and style presented by the candidate. Please also prepare any information regarding notable ensembles, residential courses, or concerts in which the candidate has participated.

If the candidate has evidence as a creator, such as compositions, songwriting, or DAW applications, these can contribute to the application as a second or third study presentation.

MUSICIAN AS A CREATOR:

For Musician as a Creator scholarship applicants, candidates will be asked to present at least two contrasting pieces. These pieces should be at least one minute in length and demonstrate a secure knowledge and understanding of form, texture, instrumentation, harmony, style, and effects.

The presentation will reflect the style of the music:

- **Songwriters:** A performance or recording of the piece with a score or lead sheet detailing chords and lyrics.
- **Composers:** A score with a recording or MIDI realization. If the composition is set to film footage, visuals, or meets a specific brief, please prepare this for presentation.
- **Music Producers using DAW:** Evidence of understanding of recording audio, applying effects, MIDI, automation, and any plugins used. Annotated screenshots of the work created or the music project on the candidate's own device can be presented.

If the candidate deems it appropriate, presenting a performance as a second instrument can contribute to the audition. DJ-ing, rap, spoken word, and original song lyrics will also be accepted for presentation.

All creator candidates will be given a composition/creating brief and asked to discuss initial ideas on how they might meet it, along with a short series of aural tests. Candidates are expected to have a working knowledge of Music Theory.

S P O R T S C H O L A R S H I P S

Sport scholarships are awarded to:

- candidates we believe have the potential to reach an elite level in one of our major sports.
- candidates who would make a significant impact across one of our major sports.

Our major sports are cricket, hockey, netball and rugby.

If awarded a Sport scholarship, candidates have a place on our Talented Athlete Development programme (TAD), for more details about the programme please visit our website - <https://www.greshams.com/senior-school/co-curricular/sport/talented-athlete-development-programme/>

Candidates will be assessed in their major sport or sports and undertake a physical assessment. Candidates will also take part in an interview with the Director of Sport.

A CV outlining the candidate's sporting achievements should be provided. References from coaches, Head of Sport and sports clubs (where relevant) will also be taken into consideration. For internal candidates, references should be sought from coaches external to Gresham's. References from members of Gresham's staff will not be accepted.

Sport scholars will be expected to be fully committed to sport in a leading role within the school and to represent Gresham's in sport throughout the school year.

THE ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR EXTERNAL CANDIDATES

ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP ASSESSMENTS

Candidates and parents will be invited to meet for refreshments in the Britten Building at the start of the day. An interview timetable will be provided. Times will be confirmed prior to the day; the day is likely to start at 9am and finish at 1pm.

ART AND DESIGN SCHOLARSHIP ASSESSMENTS

On the assessment day, candidates will be given an appointment time to arrive with their portfolios and the Head of Art or Head of Design will interview them in the Dyson Building.

DRAMA SCHOLARSHIP ASSESSMENTS

On the assessment day, candidates will meet at the Britten Building before attending their audition in the Auden Theatre.

MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP ASSESSMENTS

The Music scholarship auditions and assessments will take approximately 1 hour. Candidates will be given a time to arrive at the Britten Building on the assessment day.

Time is allocated accordingly:

15 Minutes	Warm Up Independently	Practice Room
15 Minutes	Practice with accompanist	Practice Room
30 Minutes	Presentation of performance pieces	Fishmongers' Recital Hall
	▫ 1 st Study – candidates will introduce themselves and their pieces	
	▫ 2 nd Study – candidates will introduce themselves and their pieces	
	▫ Sight Reading on first study instrument	
	▫ Grade V Trinity Aural assessment	
	▫ Sing through Folk Song with guidance	
	▫ Discussion with Panel	

If presenting a 3rd Study, more time may be allocated

Pianists will perform on a Steinway Grand Piano Model C.

The Director of Music actively encourages discussing the application with potential candidates and their parents informally prior to the audition to provide advice about musical standards and the opportunities for musicians at Gresham's.

SPORT SCHOLARSHIP ASSESSMENTS MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2025

Candidates will meet at the Senior School reception on the day of the assessment.

A programme for the day will be sent out to all candidates 2 weeks prior to the assessments with a form to select chosen sports. The day will conclude at approximately 4:30pm.

N O T E S

- 1) Current Gresham's pupils who currently hold a scholarship do not have to reapply for a Sixth Form scholarship.
- 2) 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 pupils are not required to register.
- 3) As part of the usual application process for Sixth Form entry, the school will seek a confidential reference and predicted GCSE grades from the candidate's current head. Sixth Form applicants will attend an informal interview with the Headmaster.
- 4) 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.
- 5) Sixth Form scholarships are awarded for the duration of a pupil's time in the Sixth Form. As part of the scholarship process, we review annually the achievements and prospects of scholars.
- 6) All scholarship awards are made at the discretion of the Headmaster. 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.
- 7) Pupils who are awarded a scholarship at Sixth Form are expected, under normal circumstances, to continue at Gresham's and to complete A Levels, the IB Diploma or a BTEC course. 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.
- 8) 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.
- 9) Bursary applications are assessed by an external organisation who must receive the application by the date stated on the School website. A bursary application cannot be made prior to a child registering with the school. Bursary application forms are available from Admissions. Please email admissions@greshams.com or call 01263 714614.