



SCHOLARSHIPS POLICY

Responsible person: Bursar
Policy created: May 2023
Last reviewed:
Next review: May 2026

Section 1

Scholarships are designed to recognise excellence and to celebrate exceptional talent and potential. Academic and Music scholarships are available at 11+, 13+ and 16+. Sports and Drama scholarships are available at 16+ only. Scholarships can be held alongside bursaries where candidates qualify for additional fee support.

All scholarships are normally offered as an award of a Minor (10%) or a Major (15%) award as a reduction on the annual fees charged. It is possible for a student to have two scholarship awards in different disciplines. In exceptional cases, the Headmaster has the discretion to grant a larger scholarship award.

As a last resort, after due warning, the Headmaster reserves the right to withdraw a scholarship.

In the event that a scholarship candidate should leave the College before the end of the final term for which the scholarship would normally be tenable and then continue full-time education in a fee paying establishment situated within a 25km radius of this College, then the College shall have the right to payment in full on demand, of that part of the tuition fees which would have been payable had the scholarship not been made, starting from the first term in which the scholarship is held.

1a) Academic Scholarships

Academic Scholarships are awarded to the most outstanding performers in the entrance tests. No separate application is required, and all candidates are eligible. Academic scholarships are awarded at 11+ and 13+ and entry into the Sixth Form. All current pupils will be eligible for consideration of a scholarship award at the same time.

Academic Scholarships to external students are awarded on the basis of excellent performance in the entrance tests and strong academic references from the feeder school. These awards are issued with the offer letters.

Academic Scholarships to pupils transferring internally are awarded on the basis of excellence and recommendation, which will include academic performance, attitude to learning and a positive contribution to wider school life and the College ethos. These awards are sent out at the start of the Trinity term prior to the Prep School pupils transferring to the Senior School in September.

As a guide, it is likely that applicants for Sixth Form entry will be predicted to achieve a minimum of seven GCSEs at an average grade of 8.5 or above.

Academic scholarships are reviewed at the end of each key stage, that is at the end of Form 3 (Year 9) and Form 5 (Year 11). Students will be assessed on their performance, attitude and conduct together with their contribution to school life.

1b) Music Scholarships

Music scholarships are dependent on passing the Senior School entrance examination.

Candidates should be established performers on one or more instruments or voice with strong musical skills. For 11+ they are likely to have reached Grade 4 or above (or the equivalent), for 13+ should be at Grade 5 or above (or equivalent); and for 16+ should be at Grade 7 or above. They will be asked to perform two contrasting pieces, one on their second instrument if they have one. There will not be any sight-reading or aural tests, but candidates will be asked questions about their musical skills and interests. A reference about musical aptitude will be requested from the candidate's current school.

To apply for a music scholarship, candidates will be asked to submit the application form and to attend auditions by appointment. It is preferred that they will bring their own accompanist, but one will be made available, if necessary.

The awards are reviewed annually on the basis of fulfilment of the following conditions:

- Support of College-based musical activities such as orchestras, bands, choirs and chamber groups as indicated by the Director of Music;
- Continuation of instrumental lessons at an appropriate level.
- Being an active music leader and role model across the Music Department;
- Good academic progress across the curriculum; and
- Good behaviour and conduct.

1c) Drama Scholarships (Sixth Form only)

St Columba's College Senior School offers Drama Scholarships into the Sixth Form for both internal and external applicants. Drama scholarships are dependent on the candidate satisfying the academic entry requirements to the Sixth Form.

Candidates should be established performers and be able to show genuine passion for and commitment to the subject.

To apply for a drama scholarship, candidates will be asked to submit the application form and to attend auditions by appointment.

The awards are reviewed annually on the basis of fulfilment of the following conditions:

- A committed role model and leader within the department
- Support of College-based drama activities such as theatrical productions and shows as indicated by the Director of Drama;
- Continuation of drama lessons at an appropriate level.
- Good academic progress across the curriculum; and
- Good behaviour and conduct.

1d) Sport Scholarships (Sixth Form only)

St Columba's College Senior School offers Sport Scholarships into the Sixth Form for both internal and external applicants. The award can be made to students in recognition of sporting excellence, talent, and future potential. The scholarships are dependent on the candidate satisfying the academic entry requirements to the Sixth Form.

The candidate is either expected to be on a National Governing Body 'Sporting Elite Level Pathway' or similar, and ideally have representative experience as well as provide evidence of commitment to school sport; alternatively, the College also welcomes applications from talented 'all-rounders' who will contribute significantly to a range of sports at 1st team level.

To apply for a sports scholarship, candidates will be asked to submit the application form and to attend the College for interview.

The awards are reviewed at the end of the Lower Sixth on the basis of fulfilment of the following conditions:

- Full participation in college sport, including weekend and evening fixtures;
- Appropriate academic progress across the curriculum; and
- Good behaviour and conduct.



APPLICATION FORM

MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP

St Columba's College offers music scholarships to the value of 15% and 10% of the annual fee. These are offered to external applicants at 11+, 13+, 16+ (Sixth Form) and to existing pupils at St Columba's College moving into these age groups. Music (Choral) Scholarships may also be available to applicants who hold a place in a professional organisation such as a Cathedral Choir.

The 11+ and 13+ scholarships are dependent on passing the College entrance examination and will be reviewed annually.

Requirements

Candidates should be established performers on one or more instruments, are likely to have reached Grade 4 or above (or the equivalent) at 11+; around Grade 6 at 13+; Grade 7 and beyond for the Sixth Form. They will have good musical skills which they will be able to demonstrate and discuss. Candidates will be asked to perform two contrasting pieces, one on their second instrument if they have one (or voice). They will be asked to talk about their musical skills and interests, as well as take a short aural test to assess general musicianship. We will obtain a reference from their current music/instrument teacher.

The awards are reviewed annually on the basis of fulfilment of the following conditions:

- Support of College-based musical activities such as orchestras, bands, choirs and chamber groups as indicated by the Director of Music.
- Continuation of instrumental lessons at an appropriate level.
- Good academic progress across the curriculum.
- Good behaviour and conduct.

Procedure

Candidates will be asked;

- to submit the application form for a Music Scholarship with details of a referee
- to provide a 'music CV' showing details of their musical tuition, involvement in musical groups and productions
- to provide a copy of their audition piece
- to attend the College for an audition by appointment. It is hoped that they will bring their own accompanist, but one will be made available if necessary.

The awards are made in February following the 11+ and 13+ entrance examinations and the audition process for 16+.

Candidate's surname _____

First name _____

Date of birth Day _____ Month _____ Year _____

Current school _____

Entry age group _____

Candidate's Musical Profile

Instrument 1 _____ Grade _____

Instrument 2 _____ Grade _____

Other comments _____

Candidate's Referee

Name _____

Instrument taught _____

Referee's email _____

Signature of parent _____

Date _____

Please return this form to:
Admissions Department, St Columba's College, King Harry Lane, St Albans, AL3 4AW

Email: admissions@stcolumbascollege.org



APPLICATION FORM

DRAMA SCHOLARSHIP

St Columba's College offers Drama scholarships to the value of 15% and 10% of the annual fee. These are offered to external applicants at 16+ (Sixth Form) and to existing pupils at St Columba's College moving into the Sixth Form.

The scholarships are dependent on passing the College entrance process and will be reviewed annually.

Requirements

To qualify for a Drama Scholarship the process involves an audition and interview with the Director of Drama and a Drama Teacher. The audition piece should be a monologue of roughly 3 minutes. It must be from a published and reputable text/play; the details of which should be submitted in advance.

Aim to showcase what you are good at; keep the performance 'live' by reacting to thoughts/moments as the scene unfolds. What main emotion are you showing? Is there a key moment? Is the character thinking out loud, or does he/she need to directly address the audience, as with a Shakespearean soliloquy?

The interview will last roughly 10-15 minutes and will involve questions about why you chose the audition piece and how you prepared for it. We will want to know about your commitment to Drama. What Drama you have done in or outside of School, and what shows have you been to see. What did you like and why? A genuine passion for and commitment to the subject will need to be conveyed.

The awards are reviewed annually on the basis of fulfilment of the following conditions:

- Support of College-based drama activities such as theatrical productions and shows as indicated by the Director of Drama.
- Continuation of drama lessons at an appropriate level.
- Good academic progress across the curriculum.
- Good behaviour and conduct.

Procedure

Candidates will be asked;

- to submit the application form for a Drama Scholarship with details of a referee
- to provide a 'drama CV' showing details of involvement in dramatic productions & organisations
- to provide a copy of their audition piece
- to attend the College for an audition by appointment

Candidate's surname _____

First name _____

Date of birth Day _____ Month _____ Year _____

Current school _____

Gender _____

Candidate's Referee

Name _____

Role _____

Referee's email _____

Signature of parent _____

Date _____

Details of audition piece _____

Please return this form, a Drama CV and a copy of your audition piece to:
Admissions Department, St Columba's College, King Harry Lane, St Albans, AL3 4AW

Email: admissions@stcolumbascollege.org



APPLICATION FORM

SPORTS SCHOLARSHIP

St Columba's College offers Sports scholarships to the value of 15% and 10% of the annual fee. These are offered to external applicants at 16+ (Sixth Form) and to existing pupils at St Columba's College moving into the Sixth Form.

The scholarships are dependent on passing the College entrance process and will be reviewed annually.

Requirements

Candidates are expected to be on a National Governing Body 'Sporting Elite Level Pathway' or similar, and ideally have representative experience as well as provide evidence of commitment to school sport. The College also welcomes applications from talented 'all-rounders' who will contribute significantly to a range of sports at 1st team level. The Director of Sport will invite successful applicants for an interview. Pupils are assessed on the basis of their Sport CV and will be asked to talk about their sports skills and interests. We will obtain a reference from a current sports teacher.

The awards are reviewed annually on the basis of fulfilment of the following conditions:

- Full participation in College sport, including weekend & evening fixtures.
- Continuation of sports lessons at an appropriate level.
- Good academic progress across the curriculum.
- Good behaviour and conduct.

Procedure

Candidates will be asked;

- to submit the application form for a Sports Scholarship with details of a referee
- to provide a 'sports CV' showing details of their sporting history, talents and achievements
- to attend the College for an interview by appointment

Candidate's surname _____

First name _____

Date of birth Day _____ Month _____ Year _____

Current school _____

Gender _____

Candidate's Referee

Name _____

Sport and Role _____

Referee's email _____

Signature of parent _____

Date _____

Please return this form together with the Sport CV to:
Admissions Department, St Columba's College, King Harry Lane, St Albans AL3
4AW

admissions@stcolumbascollege.org