



Derby  
Grammar  
School

# SCHOLARSHIPS at DERBY GRAMMAR SCHOOL



## THE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME : ACADEMIC YEAR 2025

Derby Grammar School offers a range of Scholarships to recognise students with outstanding achievement, talent and perhaps above all, potential. They are available to pupils entering Year 7 and the Sixth Form. Scholarships recognise pupils' contribution of talent, excellence and commitment to the school in a range of disciplines.

# Our Scholarships

We offer scholarships in the following disciplines:

- Academic (Including STEAM Scholarships)
- Art and Design
- Drama
- Music
- Sport

A scholarship award will usually bring with it a fee remission. More importantly scholarships are given with a commitment from us to develop and extend each scholar's talents. In turn, our scholars are required to contribute positively to the life of the school and set a good example to others.

Scholarships awarded in the Senior School do not automatically continue to the Sixth Form and therefore a re-application must be made for the award to continue.

## Timeline for applications

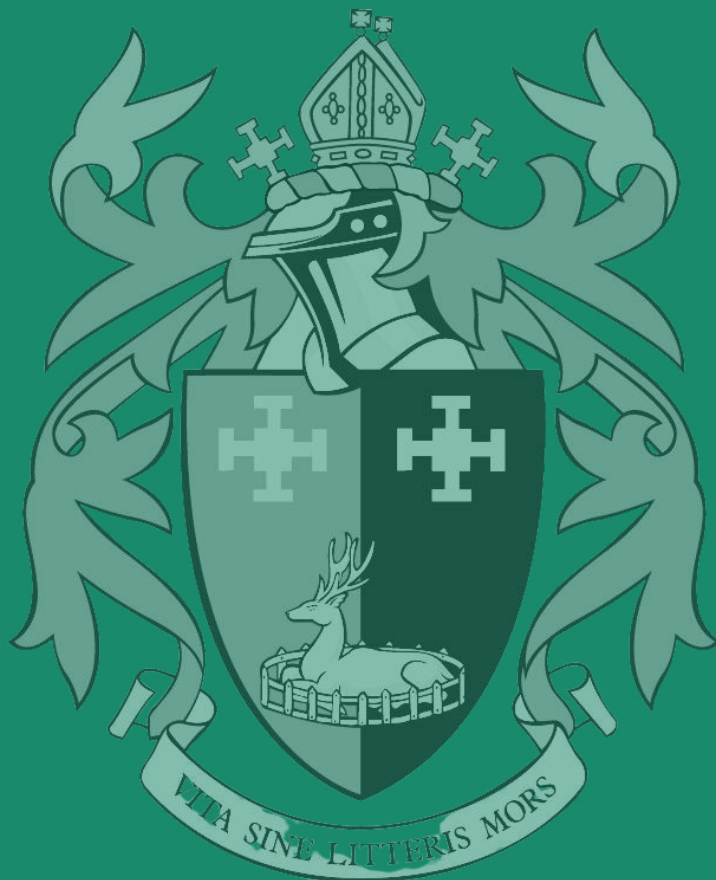
Applications open for September 2026 entry on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2025

Applications close on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2025

# Assessment Timescales

Academic, Sport and Drama Assessment  
Saturday 22nd November 2025

Art and Design and Music Assessment  
Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2025





# Academic Scholarships

We are proud of our tradition of academic excellence and strive to give all our pupils a strong basis of academic rigour. Academic scholars are chosen on their ability and because we believe their work ethic, intellectual curiosity and level of attainment are all excellent. An inquiring mind and a desire to learn are essential. In our Senior School we offer Academic Scholarships to pupils who display exceptional academic potential.



Reflective of our rich tradition of excellence in the sciences, technology, engineering, art and mathematics, and Derby being a hub of innovation, we may also offer specific STEAM Scholarships for pupils with potential across the scientific, technological, engineering, artistic and mathematical fields.

Applicants will be asked to complete an online assessment of academic potential, and shortlisted applicants will be invited to an interview with members of the school's leadership team. For external applicants, a letter of recommendation from their current Headteacher should be provided.

Whilst we understand there may be a desire to prepare for the online assessment, it is predominantly skills-based and therefore cannot be prepared for.

For STEAM scholarships, a practical task drawing upon the skills and abilities needed across the STEAM subjects will be set. Applicants will be expected to articulate their thought process when completing the task.

Sixth Form applicants should have a proven track record of academic excellence and should be predicted to achieve at least five GCSEs at grade 8 or higher. Candidates will also be asked to sit academic examination papers in up to two subjects of their choice, and to write a supporting statement outlining their suitability for scholarship, passion for their chosen subjects, and future aspirations.

## What we offer

- An invitation to Scholars' Lunches each half term
- Membership of our Scholars Society
- The opportunity to complete a mini-project in KS3 or the Higher Level Project Qualification at KS4
- The opportunity to study up to four A Levels or three A Levels and the Extended Project Qualification
- The opportunity to enter regional and national competitions including Olympiad competitions
- The opportunity to contribute to the school newsletter

## Our expectations

- To be a positive role model across the school, participating fully in school events and representing the school alongside excellence in the classroom
- To have excellent annual attendance in school
- To participate fully in the Scholar's Society and Scholars' Lunches
- To welcome and engage in opportunities offered by the school, including academic competitions.



# Art & Design Scholarships



Art Scholarships reward candidates with outstanding artistic ability and potential. We encourage Art Scholars to contribute fully to the artistic life of the school.

Applicants will be asked to bring a portfolio of work carried out at home with them to the assessment day. This should include sketchbooks and at least six pieces of work. The scholarship assessment day will also include a test piece, assessing pupils' creative skills. Candidates should be able to discuss their portfolio, creative ideas and aspirations.

Applicants for Sixth Form Art Scholarships will also be asked

to write a supporting statement outlining their suitability for scholarship, passion for their chosen subjects, and future aspirations.

## What we offer

- The opportunity to represent the school at regional and national competitions
- The chance to display original work around the school
- Co-curricular art clubs
- The opportunity to work creatively during school events, such as photography or set design for school productions

# Our Expectations

- To be a positive role model across the school, participating fully in school events such as Open Days and representing the school alongside excellence in the classroom
- The production of at least one large piece of artwork per year for a school display
- To assist in co-curricular activities within the art department
- Art Scholars must take GCSE Art and Design to meet the requirements of the scholarship in Years 10 and 11 or A Level Art and Design in the Sixth Form.
- To take part in ISA competitions





# Drama Scholarships

Drama Scholarships reward pupils with outstanding talents in performing arts and are offered to those pupils who show exceptional ability, commitment and potential. We are looking for creativity, confidence, and the joy of performance, along with a willingness to participate and contribute to the strong performance arts tradition of Derby Grammar School.

Applicants who have completed LAMDA, Trinity or other Speech and drama examinations should use Grade 3/4 as a guide to the standard for entry into Year 7. However, it is not necessary to have completed formal examinations to be eligible to apply. We would expect applicants to already be participating in and performing with a drama or theatre group either within their current school or local community.

Candidates will be asked to present two pieces at audition: a monologue chosen by the candidate, which must be taken from a published play or anthology, and a speech written by the candidate. Each piece should be no longer than four minutes in duration. Candidates will also participate in an interview with the panel, who will invite you to discuss your choices and your motivation to be a Drama Scholar.





# What we offer

- Bypassing the waiting list for access to peripatetic Speech and Drama lessons during the school day
- The opportunity to perform in the school's drama production
- Public speaking opportunities at school events
- Performance opportunities within the school
- The opportunity to represent the school in regional and national drama competitions
- Theatre trips to see performances

# Our Expectations

- To be a positive role model across the school, participating fully in school events and performances and representing the school alongside excellence in the classroom
- Participation in the school's drama production and attendance at all rehearsals
- Drama Scholars must take GCSE Drama to meet the requirements of the scholarship in Years 10 and 11.
- To have excellent annual attendance in school
- To welcome and engage in opportunities offered by the school, including representing the school in drama competitions and performances



# Music Scholarships

Music scholarships reward pupils with outstanding musical talents and we believe in fostering the love of music and performing. Music Scholarships are offered to those pupils who show ability, commitment and potential in their chosen instrument at audition. In addition to grade achievement, a fundamental passion and musical ambition will be looked for, along with a willingness to participate and contribute to the rich musical life of Derby Grammar School.

Applicants should be able to perform accurately to a high standard on their main instrument or voice and demonstrate confidence and enthusiasm. Qualifications in ABRSM/Trinity Guildhall/Rock School (or equivalent) and Theory of Music examinations are not a necessity but would be preferred. As a guide, a Grade 4 standard or better for entry into Year 7 and Grade 8 standard for entry into Sixth Form would be indicative of the pupil's ability and potential. Prospective candidates should already be involved in music-making, representing their school through an orchestra, band or choir or participating in other musical ensembles as part of a local or community setting.

Applicants should complete the Music application form and provide a letter of recommendation from their current Music or Instrumental teacher. Shortlisted applicants will be asked to attend an audition and interview with the Head of Music and a member of the Senior Leadership Team. The audition will consist of the following:

1. A solo performance on your main instrument (please note that your performance should represent Grade 4 standard for Year 7 entry and Grade 8 standard for Year 12 entry)
2. Sight reading on your main instrument. This will be a short piece at the appropriate level for your entry year, similar to what you might get in a graded examination. You will have 30 seconds to look through and try it out before performing it.
3. A performance on your second instrument (if applicable)
4. An interview with the Head of Music.



# What we offer

- Access to peripatetic lessons during the school day and after school
- A range of instrumental and vocal ensembles
- The opportunity to develop skills in music production (Music Technology)
- Performance opportunities within concerts, school events, and school productions

# Our Expectations

- To be a positive role model across the school, participating fully in school events and performances and representing the school alongside excellence in the classroom



- Participation in the school's music ensembles, as appropriate to the instrument
- Music Scholars must take GCSE Music to meet the requirements of the scholarship in Years 10 and 11 and either Music or Music Technology at A Level.
- To have excellent annual attendance in school
- To perform regularly in school assemblies
- To welcome and engage in opportunities offered by the school, including representing the school in music competitions and performances



# Sports Scholarships

We are proud of our pupils' sporting achievements. Each year we award Sports Scholarships to those individuals who demonstrate aspirations to progress and achieve high levels of success within their chosen sport. In general, potential to reach, or already be playing at club level is expected, and county or regional representation would be within the capabilities of the successful scholar.

Successful applicants will be expected to make a contribution to our main school sports but we welcome applications from candidates whose sporting achievements lie in a wide range of sporting disciplines. Applicants should complete the Sport Scholarship application form and provide a recommendation from their current PE teacher or coach.

Any additional information and references from external clubs should also be submitted.

For entry into the Senior School, shortlisted applicants will be asked to attend an assessment and interview where they will participate in a series of activities designed to evaluate their hand-eye coordination, speed, agility, game understanding, teamwork and ability.

For entry into the Sixth Form, applicants will be invited to an interview with the Director of Sport.



# What we offer

- Students will enjoy the type and quality of programme normally only available to those elite athletes and performers on a National Governing Body pathway.
- A bespoke partnership with the Derbyshire Institute of Sport that provides access to world-class, personalised support, training, and advice to help them thrive in and outside of the classroom.
- Access to our online sports performance programme that provides advice, guidance and support in a variety of sports performance topics such as nutrition, psychology and strength & conditioning.
- The opportunity to represent the school in sports fixtures and compete in local, regional and national sporting events.

# What we expect

- To be a positive role model across the school, participating fully in school events.
- Sports Scholars are expected to be fully committed to the school's sports teams throughout the academic year, unless there is a direct clash with a county or regional match.
- To respond well to guidance, work well in a team, and demonstrate good leadership skills, whether by example or captaincy.



# How to apply

To apply for a Scholarship, pupils must either already be a Year 6 or Year 11 pupil at the school or registered for entry into Year 7 or Year 12.

Please note that all external applicants must first complete the standard application process. This involves completing the registration form, paying the registration fee and sending us a recent school report. Pupils will also sit an online assessment and are invited to take part in a taster day.

Acceptance of a scholarship offer is required within 28 days of the offer being made.

## Entry into Year 7

Current Derby Grammar School pupils and prospective pupils should complete the Scholarship Application Form, indicating for which scholarships they wish to be considered. A maximum of three disciplines may be applied for, although a maximum of one scholarship may be awarded.

Applicants for Art and Design, Drama, Music or Sport Scholarships should also submit a subject-specific application form.

All application forms are available to download from our website and should be returned to Admissions ([admissions@derbygrammar.org](mailto:admissions@derbygrammar.org)) by Sunday 2 November 2025.



# Entry into the Sixth Form

Current Derby Grammar School pupils and prospective pupils should complete the Scholarship Application Form, indicating for which scholarships they wish to be considered. A maximum of three disciplines may be applied for although a maximum of one scholarship may be awarded.

Applicants for Academic, Art and Design, Drama, Music or Sport Scholarships should also submit a subject- specific application form.

All application forms are available to download from our website and should be returned to Admissions ([admissions@derbygrammar.org](mailto:admissions@derbygrammar.org)) by Sunday 2 November 2025.

