



Portsmouth High School

GDST
GIRLS' DAY SCHOOL TRUST



Sixth Form Scholarships

Sixth Form Scholarships and Bursaries

We are delighted to be able to offer a number of scholarships and bursaries for entry into the sixth form at Portsmouth High School.

Scholarships are awarded following application and a selection procedure. Candidates should submit a written letter or email to Mrs Parker with supporting information due by Friday 28 November 2025. Sixth Form Scholarship Day is on Thursday 4 December 2025 except for students wishing to apply for a music scholarship. Music candidates should complete this [Music Scholarship Form](#) and ensure that their letter of application has been received by Friday 28 November 2025, as auditions will be held on Monday 8 December 2025.

If your child has any questions regarding scholarship applications, please do not hesitate to get in touch.



Academic scholarship

Qualities

We are looking for a gifted student who shows:

- exceptional academic ability
- an excellent work ethic
- confidence in working independently
- passion and commitment to the academic life of the school.

Criteria

A candidate should:

- have achieved outstanding results at GCSE
- be on course to achieve excellent results at A Level.
- provide evidence of commitment to school life.

Selection

The selection process includes the following:

- written application - personal statement
- scholarship examination - questions to suit all candidates; the examination will require general understanding and thinking skills rather than subject-specific knowledge
- if shortlisted, interviews with the Head, Deputy Head and Head of Sixth Form
- reference from current staff/school.

Expectations

Successful candidates will be expected to play a full part in the life of the sixth form and have

- high academic success at A Level.
- willingness to contribute practically to the academic life of the school
- commitment to personal academic goals beyond the classroom, through competitions, masterclasses, seminar group sessions and such like.

Art scholarship

Qualities

We are looking for a talented creative student who has:

- an excellent work ethic
- excellent independent research skills
- tenacity to work through problems within their work
- ability to produce an abundance of ideas.

Criteria

Within their portfolio of existing work, applicants should have evidence of:

- good drawing skills and an ability to interpret from observation
- excellent research skills that significantly contribute to practical work
- an ability to control processes, materials and techniques skilfully
- a sustained exploration and development of ideas should be evident in the sketchbooks
- a perceptive understanding of artists' work which has helped to inform their own work
- an ability to realise ideas in a strong and personal way.

Selection

Applicants will need to submit the following:

- written application
- the submission of a portfolio of work containing: Two GCSE projects and sketchbooks showing how the work has been developed
- interview with Head of Faculty and Head.

Expectations

Successful applicants will possess the following:

- potential to achieve an A grade at A Level Art
- willingness to extend drawing skills
- a willingness to specialise and extend practical skills through experimentation with chosen materials and techniques
- a willingness to visit galleries, museums and other venues for visual research
- ability to mount an exhibition of own work for assessment at A Level
- a willingness to produce work for display in school or for use in school publications.

Drama scholarship

Qualities

A Drama Scholar will be a talented student who has:

- excellent physical and vocal skills when interpreting drama texts and ideas
- excellent ability to work as part of a group /company, and develop ideas collaboratively
- reliability in performance and studies
- interest in pursuing a career in the performing arts industry.

Criteria

A successful candidate will display high levels of ability in:

- interpretation and delivery of text with imagination and sensitivity
- vocal and physical skills well chosen to enhance performance of pieces
- discussion of own experience of drama as actor and critic with knowledge and understanding
- candidate will have taken part in productions in and out of school.

Selection

Application is via

- written application
- audition including one prepared audition piece of 2 minutes, contrasting prepared piece of 2 minutes, an unprepared piece of prose or poetry
- interview with member of Drama and Theatre Studies department staff and Head.

Expectations

- Potential to achieve an A grade in A Level Drama and Theatre Studies
- participation in the cast of school productions involving sixth form
- development of one other stage skill in productions not involving sixth form eg lighting, stage management, directing, choreography
- support of department in managing drama activities and/or resources.

Music scholarship

Qualities

We are looking for a talented musician who has

- developed technical skill in one or more instruments (including voice)
- a high level of musicianship
- a passion for music and is able to communicate this to others.

Criteria

A Music Scholar candidate should:

- have achieved a high level of proficiency on her instrument or voice
- meet the academic standard for entry to the sixth form.

Selection

Selection for music scholarships will take the form of:

- application form
- the audition includes: a performance of two short contrasting pieces of your own choice on your first instrument, a performance of a piece of your own choice on your second instrument (if any), playing scales and arpeggios appropriate to your standard, tests in sight reading, sight singing and a viva voce
- candidates may bring their own accompanist or one will be provided by the school.

Expectations

Potential to achieve an A grade in A Level Music

- participation in school productions involving sixth form
- scholars will be expected to play a full part in the musical life of the school.

Further information

For further information or guidance, please contact our Admissions Registrar, Charlotte Thomson, who will be pleased to help.

Sport scholarship

Qualities

A Sport Scholar will be a talented student who shows:

- excellent skills in a range of sporting activities
- the ability to work in a team
- very good leadership skills and the ability to motivate others
- passion and commitment to the subject.

Criteria

Candidates should demonstrate: ■ a wide range of sporting interest and involvement
■ the ability to reach county standard or equivalent in at least one of the sports offered in school
■ commitment to school teams through regular attendance at practices and matches
■ knowledge of rules and tactics for their sports
■ a good level of personal fitness
■ willingness to develop ability through membership of external clubs, training schemes etc.
■ interest in current topics of debate in the world of sport.

Selection

- Written application
- record of achievement since 11 years of age and supported by evidence such as certificates, medals, colours etc
- interview with Head of Department and Head.

Expectations

The Sports Scholar will show:

- 100% commitment to school sporting activities
- a willingness to participate in at least one school sport each season
- an interest in pursuing a degree in sports science or similar after school or an intention to continue to develop their sporting ability through participation in external clubs and teams
- a willingness to strive to improve their sports skills and level of performance whilst in the sixth form
- a willingness to help with team practices and matches
- a willingness to coach younger pupils.