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# FSM Scholarships Year 7 & Year 9



# A warm welcome from the Headmaster

I am delighted to share with you details of our scholarship programme.

The primary aim of this programme is to recognise, celebrate and further inspire pupils who demonstrate high levels of talent and commitment in their chosen discipline(s). In keeping with the ethos of the school, we have designed a broad range of scholarship opportunities to help to capture the huge array of talents and abilities pupils bring to our community and in this guide you will find details of scholarships which may be awarded in the following:

- Academic
- Art
- Drama
- Music
- Science & Technology
- Sport

Scholarships will commence in Year 7 or Year 9 and the application process is open to both current and potential FSM pupils. I trust the information that follows will provide a sufficient overview covering both the process of application and consideration as well as what additional opportunities will be provided to those in receipt of these prestigious awards.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Howe



Mr Mark Howe, Head





# At a Glance – The Assessment and Application Process

The process for applying for a scholarship at FSM is the same for both Year 7 and Year 9. The number of scholarship awards for the school is not fixed but is based upon performance and merit relative to the size and strength of the field. Exceptional candidates may be considered for more than one scholarship. The value of any scholarship is at the discretion of the Headmaster.

Each section of this guide contains more detailed information on the criteria, assessment and decision making process for each Scholarship, however as an overview the process will involve:

1. A completed application sent to the Registrar - [admissions@fsm.school.com](mailto:admissions@fsm.school.com). Applications may be submitted at any time and will be reviewed from November-August for the following academic year.
2. Candidates' applications will be reviewed by the relevant school leader(s) and those shortlisted will be invited for a Scholarship Assessment Day. The invitations will contain details of the timings of the day, as well as more detailed information to enable candidates to fully prepare. For those pupils applying to join FSM, this invitation will also include a request for a reference from their current teacher(s) within their chosen scholarship award area(s), along with the most recent copy of their school report.
3. Scholarship results and awards will be confirmed within 2 weeks of the assessment.

Once awarded, scholarships will be reassessed annually, and we anticipate they will continue until the end of Year 11 subject to the successful candidates exhibiting satisfactory commitment and attitude towards their own progress.



# Academic Award



## What we are most seeking in an Academic Scholar

An Academic Scholar at FSM is someone who loves learning and is prepared to work hard to achieve their considerable potential. As a school, we are passionate about developing our pupils as lifelong learners, therefore we are also keen to award Academic Scholarships to those who are able to reflect on their strengths and weaknesses as learners and who are seeking to further develop their ability to learn both independently and collaboratively.

While current schools' references and other information they supply are an important touchstone for our judgments, this is firmly balanced by an individual's ability to make an impact while they are with us. We want to find out if candidates can adopt a measured and holistic approach to their learning at FSM.

## How we will assess shortlisted candidates, including what they will need to prepare/bring with them?

Unlike our other scholarships, Academic Scholarships are awarded by the Head and you do not apply. The Head will review a variety of evidence when considering candidates, for example assessment results, recent school reports and references from school staff. For those seeking to join the school, this will include the results of assessments conducted as part of the admissions process.

# Academic Award (cont)



## **Why be an Academic Scholar at FSM? What will be available to further extend and benefit pupils chosen as scholars?**

In Years 7-8, we ensure each Academic Scholar has a mentor (assigned based on the pupils' interests and strengths), who will meet each of their mentees regularly to support and extend their love of a particular subject/field. Our primary ambition is not to burden them with extra work but to further ignite and spark interest and extend their understanding above and beyond what can be provided in the classroom.

As they progress into Years 9 and beyond, we will mentor our Academic Scholars to complete the Higher Project Qualification (HPQ), which is equivalent to half a GCSE. This exciting qualification offers pupils the opportunity to investigate a topic of their choosing, record their research, deliver a presentation and produce a written report or artefact. As well as a hugely valuable process in its own right, completing an HPQ is invaluable preparation for the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) which many pupils are encouraged to complete in Years 12-13, due to the added value it can bring to applications to top universities and employers.



# Music Award



## **What we are most seeking in a scholar, including what we will be looking for in an application**

Music Scholars at FSM will be expected to maintain high standards of musical excellence and to be ambassadors for music within the school through personal practice and enthusiastic participation. They will be expected to take part in all school concerts, participate in choirs and ensembles where appropriate, and pursue their interest ideally to GCSE and beyond. An FSM Music Scholar will be encouraged to flourish as a musician through perseverance, resilience and camaraderie, developing their music making to the highest level while having fun in the process!

## **How we will assess shortlisted candidates, including what they will need to prepare/bring with them?**

Candidates applying for a Music Scholarship at Year 7 should offer two or more instruments. One of these should be at Grade 3+ standard or above and one at any other standard (one of these may be voice). Candidates applying for a Music Scholarship at Year 9 should offer two or more instruments. One of these should be at Grade 5 standard or above, and one at Grade 3 standard or above. One of these instruments (first, or second) may be voice. Whilst it would be ideal for candidates to meet the above formal standard, gift and potential for an instrument are also important.



# Music Award (cont)



Candidates invited to audition will be expected to present two contrasting pieces on their first instrument and one piece on their second. Aural tests and sight reading will also be performed to the standard of their first instrument. There will also be a short interview with the Director of Music to assess a candidate's musical interest and promise. An accompanist can be provided (we would ask for the music in advance) but candidates must bring their own instruments and music.

## **Why be a Music Scholar at FSM? What will be available to further extend and benefit pupils chosen as scholars?**

Students chosen to be Music Scholars at FSM will be individually mentored by the Director of Music where they will be given the opportunity to meet and discuss their specialisms regularly (there is also the potential for regular Music Theory lessons on an individual basis, with the aim to take the ABRSM Grade 5 theory exam if not already completed). FSM offers the opportunity for regular (formal and informal) concerts, Christmas services, assemblies, competitions and productions, therefore they have ample opportunity to perform in front of an audience. It is hoped in the future that the Music Scholars will have their own concert at a local venue, where they can showcase their talents in a more specific 'recital' setting. Finally, Music Scholars will have their own enrichment trips to watch professional choirs and orchestras, as well as combine with Drama Scholars to watch musical productions in the West End, and closer to home.



# Sport Award



## **What we are most seeking in a scholar, including what we will be looking for in an application**

First and foremost, we are seeking talent. Being a Sports Scholar is about the ability to lead physically on the sports field. Our successful candidates can take on feedback, reflect on their own performance and make progress. Being coachable and having an outstanding attitude to your own progression and bringing on others around you is a quality that we seek out in all of our Sports Scholars. Whilst we look for scholars to excel in at least two of our major sports (Football, Hockey, Rugby, Netball, Cricket, Athletics, Tennis or Swimming), we will consider those that are exceptional in one, be it traditional or non-traditional.

## **How we will assess shortlisted candidates, including what they will need to prepare/bring with them?**

Candidates will undertake a physical screening and practical activity session. (This will include fitness, mobility and strength testing).

Candidates will meet our Director of Sport, Head of Girls' Games and GSAs.

They will take part in practical sessions; Football, Hockey, Rugby or Netball, Cricket and individual sports.



# Sport Award (cont)



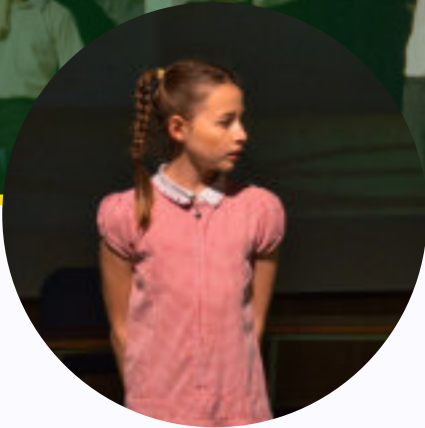
## **Why be a Sports Scholar at FSM? What will be available to further extend and benefit you as a scholar?**

The breadth of opportunity that our Sports Scholars will receive will be vast and engaging. It is not just about being an excellent athlete, it's about making sure that when it comes to sporting opportunity, it is grasped with both hands.

When Sports Scholars at FSM leave at 16, they will have received such an array of opportunities that they will never fear and will always embrace new and challenging opportunities. Our mission is to provide and promote opportunities that motivate and encourage students to be aspirational.

Scholars will receive bi-weekly Strength, Conditioning, Mobility and Flexibility training on top of Games and PE. The Sports Scholarship programme is designed to equip our students with the knowledge, understanding and ability to sustain a long, healthy, and prosperous career as an athlete in a highly demanding and competitive industry.

# Drama Award



## **What we are most seeking in a scholar, including what we will be looking for in an application**

A Drama Scholar at FSM is passionate about their subject. They will demonstrate not only their individual ability to perform a planned piece but also their willingness to collaborate and work creatively with others. They will demonstrate confidence alongside an understanding of sharing the space. The ability to take direction (including taking a risk) will be essential.

## **How we will assess shortlisted candidates, including what they will need to prepare/bring with them?**

The candidates should prepare: Two contrasting monologues (not poems). These should be between one and two minutes long each.

Successful scholars will show they understand the context of the speeches by demonstrating an understanding of the play they are taken from.

The interview (which may be grouped) will offer the candidates an opportunity to talk about their wider understanding of drama and their interest in the theatre. Candidates should be able to explain why they love drama and give examples of particular plays or theatrical experiences they have found enjoyable or inspiring. Successful scholars will be expected to demonstrate they have taken an active part in previous productions.

They will also take part in an improvisation task. Candidates will be given time to prepare a short performance on a given scenario as a group. Successful scholars will use imaginative detail to create an engaging character and situation.



# Drama Award (cont)



If candidates also have an interest in backstage, i.e. lighting and set design, they should come prepared to demonstrate how their preferred design skill could be applied to a scene in production of their choice.

Small props are allowed, along with role signifiers (rather than costumes) and candidates are best bringing loose fitting or sports clothing, suitable for the practical element of the assessment.

## **Why be a Drama Scholar at FSM? What will be available to further extend and benefit pupils chosen as scholars?**

At each stage of FSM school life, the children are involved with one of the three major performances each year. Recent senior productions have included; 'Guys and Dolls', 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory', 'Bugsy' and 'Peter Pan'. Successful scholars would not only be expected to audition for a leading role on stage but also take a leadership role behind the scenes.

Drama is part of the FSM curriculum from Year 3, so we run whole school projects including our Dramatic Reading competition, theatre trips and TED Talks. Drama sessions are part of our optional Saturday Enrichment and activity programme. An FSM Drama Scholar would be expected to take part in all aspects of drama provision at school, as well as being invited to theatre trips and dramatic experiences not open to others in their year group.

Where suitable, successful scholars may be invited to help with Junior Drama Clubs or Productions.

Our aim is to nurture each individual and facilitate the development of their talent and ability in the performing arts.

The FSM stage is set for pupils who can pair natural ability with outstanding talent and an aspiration to succeed.

# Art Award



## **What we are most seeking in a scholar, including what we will be looking for in an application**

The Art Department provides a stimulating environment where children can learn to draw, paint, print, work in textiles and three dimensions, work collaboratively, design, imagine, discuss, reflect, adapt, develop and achieve personal bests in the work that they do. We aim to offer as many opportunities as possible for children to experience different techniques and methodologies, and to be able to explore art in the classroom and beyond. The children are encouraged to express themselves freely and create high quality work enabling them to flourish and become creative inspirational artists.

We are looking for all round creative individuals who are prepared to put in hard work and effort, making the most of opportunities given to them. They need to have a genuine interest, skill, passion and enthusiasm for the subject. Candidates should be committed, flexible in their approach and have a lifelong love of art.

## **How we will assess shortlisted candidates, including what they will need to prepare/bring with them?**

The candidate will be expected to present a portfolio of work which demonstrates their versatility in a range of media. It should contain a maximum of 6 pieces of work which have been undertaken in the last 2 years at school or home.



# Art Award (cont)



Two practical assessments which will include:

Direct observational drawing to show their knowledge of form, proportion and tone and a teacher-led creative session.

Please note: All materials will be provided, pupils should arrive willing to express and stretch themselves creatively.

Interview with the Head of Art to discuss their portfolio and interests.

## **Why be an Art Scholar at FSM? What will be available to further extend and benefit pupils chosen as scholars?**

Art Scholars are mentored by the Head of Department. They are given opportunities to meet and discuss their talent and work agreeing ways to develop their skills. Students are offered the opportunity to go to exhibitions and galleries both locally and further afield. Opportunities are arranged for scholars to lead on developing the artistic skills of younger students. There are also dedicated extra study sessions available for students to attend where personalised advice and guidance is given. Students are also encouraged to contribute to the set designs for the school's drama productions.

'Art is serious play, a chance for children to glimpse their own creative power.' Grayson Perry

# Science and Technology Award



## What we are most seeking in a scholar, including what we will be looking for in an application

Scholars should display a passion for the subject and have strong academic potential - demonstrable reading around the subject or extra-curricular engagement (e.g. projects completed at home, visits to relevant activities etc.) should be evident in the application.

We are looking for Science and Technology Scholars who display the engineering Learning Habits of Mind; curiosity, creativity, open-mindedness, resilience, resourcefulness, collaboration, reflection and ethical consideration. These should be evident in the wider projects that they have completed at home or at school and should become apparent throughout the practical and interview elements of the assessment process.

Scholars should have strong practical skills as demonstrated by a practical element in the assessment process.

Strong communication, leadership and interpersonal skills to enable them to be effective leaders inside and outside the classroom. This will be demonstrated both in the interview and in the practical aspect of the assessment.

Scholars should be able to analyse, reflect and interrogate their own performance and learning and actively seek to improve their skillset.

Scholars should enthusiastically engage with the supra-curricular opportunities open to them and with the wider scholarship programme.





# Science and Technology Award (cont)

## **How we will assess shortlisted candidates, including what they will need to prepare/bring with them?**

- 2 x practical tasks, one computing/DT task and one science one in small groups – following a set of instructions to complete an unfamiliar task. Work together effectively as a team, demonstrating learning powers and interpersonal skills. Students are not required to bring anything for this part of the assessment process.
- Google Form scholarship assessment 30 minutes – we will lend the students Chromebooks if required. Students may wish to bring a pencil case to make rough jottings.
- Interview – with the Head of Digital Learning and Head of Science to discuss and reflect on the practical task and find out more about their passion for the subject.

## **Why be a Science and Technology Scholar at FSM? What will be available to further extend and benefit pupils chosen as scholars?**

- Scholars will have the opportunity to hear a series of short talks across the year from a range of internal and external speakers about a topic in science and technology that they are passionate about and experienced in. Scholars will have lunch with the speaker and have an opportunity to ask lots of questions and learn about the wider world of science and technology.
- Trips programme for scholars.
- CREST award club for scholars to achieve a nationally recognised STEM certificate, working individually or as a team, developing their own project, to gain in-depth experience of the scientific method or engineering design process. Bronze awards for KS3 scholars, silver awards for KS4 scholars.
- Termly 1-1 mentoring with the Head of Science or the Head of Digital Learning to reflect on progress and assess opportunities for supra-curricular engagement and challenge.



