



Year 7 Bursaries & Scholarships

Information & Application



Merchant Taylors'
Schools

Ambition | Character | Excellence



CONTENTS

Bursaries at Merchant Taylors'	3
Scholarships at Merchant Taylors'	5
Academic Scholarships: All Round Scholarships	6
Sports Scholarships	7
Music Scholarships	10
Art Scholarships	12
Drama Scholarships	13
Terms & Conditions	14

Bursaries at Merchant Taylors'

Merchant Taylors' School is able to provide financial assistance with fees for pupils whose parents/guardians could not otherwise afford a place at the Senior School. The provision of means-tested bursaries is a central part of the purpose of the School's aim to assist academically able pupils, whatever their financial circumstances and to broaden access to our School.

We do not receive any Government funding for our bursary programme; instead it is funded through the generosity of donors and through the School's investments. Our donors come from many walks of life and from all over the world, yet they all have a Merchant Taylors' connection in common.

The number of bursary places available each year depends entirely on the generosity of our donors, and any amount given, large or small, contributes to creating opportunities for our pupils. Bursaries are awarded up to 100% of fees, depending on the family's financial circumstances and the availability of funds. There are bursaries available for entry into our Senior School at Year 7 and into the Sixth Form at Year 12.

All bursaries are means-tested and are underpinned by a rigorous review process. The School utilises an external company to conduct independent financial reviews of successful applications. This will involve each family having a compulsory review of financial circumstances and will result in a confidential report to the School with a recommendation on the level of award.

A bursary application will only be successful if both of these criteria are met:

- The child has strong academic ability/potential, as demonstrated by their performance in the Year 7 Entrance Assessment and interview process for entry into our Senior School or for Sixth Form entry (Year 12) based on their GSCE grades and interview process.
- The School is satisfied that the family meets the Schools' criteria for financial assistance. Given the value of bursary awards, all awards are subject to annual review to ensure continued eligibility. However, the School does have a number of awards which are offered for the duration of the child's education whether that be at Year 7 or Year 12 entry. This will be explicit within the offer made.



Applying for a Bursary at Merchant Taylors'

Applying for a Bursary

The first step in the process of applying for a bursary is to register your child for a place at Merchant Taylors' School.

The Closing date for applications for a Year 7 place for September 2026 is Monday 26th October 2026. On receipt of your application, if you have indicated interest in Financial Assistance, Bursary information will be sent to you. The closing date for bursary application is Wednesday 28th October 2026 so it is important to make your application for a place at the School as early as you can.

You will need to complete the confidential means-tested Bursary application to be considered for assistance, Gross income from all sources must be £65,000 or less per year and family income/ expenditure is taken into account. Full details can be found in our Financial Assistance Policy which is available through the website.

Following the Year 7 Entrance Assessment and interview process, applications for those children who have performed well academically, will proceed to the next stage of the process. At this point you will be invited, by the bursary company, to an independent financial review. This review

will then result in a recommendation to the School on whether you meet the financial criteria for award and the level of Bursary recommendation.

The final stage of the process involves the review of each pupils academic ranking, recommendation/report and availability of funds.

Bursary decisions are made within the offer letters which are sent to families, prior to the end of the autumn term.

The Bursary Application Form asks for information about the following:

- Income (Salary, Pension, Benefits etc.)
- Outgoings (Tax, NI, Pension contributions, Mortgage repayments etc.)
- Capital Assets (Savings, ISAs etc.)
- Capital Liabilities (Mortgage etc.)
- Net Assets

You will also be asked to provide:

- 3 months' payslips
- Mortgage statement
- Most recent P60
- Latest audited accounts (if appropriate)

[Bursary Application Form](#)

In order to complete your application you will need to enter the school code MTS108P



Scholarships at Merchant Taylors'

Scholarships are the highest awards offered by Merchant Taylors' and are granted at the discretion of the School. Scholarship awards are for pupils who have an aptitude for and excel in in a particular aspect of their education and/or curriculum provision.

The tenure of a scholarship is intended to be for the duration of the holder's education at Merchant Taylors', provided that the holder's academic progress and general conduct remain satisfactory and that the holder continues to enthusiastically fulfil the obligations associated with the scholarship, evidenced in an annual review of progress and contributions. All external scholarship candidates need to have registered for a place at Merchant Taylors'.

Awards for Scholarships are decided based on the completed application form together with assessment. The amount of scholarship awarded is decided by the School and typically up to the value of 10% of tuition fees. There is no annual means testing of scholarship awards but, if you would like to make a difference to another child, then the monetary value of the award can be donated to our Bursary fund.

Application forms for each Scholarship are provided in the link within each section. If you do need any assistance, please contact the Admissions Team:

Email: admissions@merchanttaylors.com or
Telephone: 0151 949 9366

The closing date for return of Year 7 Scholarship application forms is Wednesday 28th October 2026. Assessments will be arranged following the Year 7 Entrance Assessment.



Academic Scholarships

All candidates taking the Year 7 Entrance Assessment will be considered for an Academic Scholarship and, therefore, you do not need to complete a separate application.

Internal candidates will be selected using the attainment data gathered by Stanfield, together with recommendations from Miss Lynan and Year 6 teachers.

Candidates achieving commendable results will be invited to attend an Academic Scholarship Day which will take place on Saturday 21st November 2026 after the External Entrance Assessment which takes place on Friday 6th November 2026. Pupils will undertake further subject based assessments in both Maths and English. They will also attend an interview with a member of our Senior Academic Team during the day. A sample of the style of questions and topics for the additional assessment during the day, can be found on our website:

For more information, please visit

<http://www.merchanttaylors.com/admissions/entrance-assessments/>.

These scholarships are awarded purely on academic merit and potential.

All Round Scholarship

On occasion we will award an 'all round' scholarship to the value of 20% of tuition fees. These cannot be applied for and are awarded to a candidate who has been considered for an Academic award, Sport, Music, Art and/or Drama. These awards are very rare and are only awarded to individuals who excel in at least three individual scholarship assessments.



Sport Scholarships



As a Sports Scholar, it is expected that you will demonstrate participation in a particular sport/s at a Regional, National or International level and that you set high standards and become a role model within the School, inspiring other pupils. Scholars are expected to dedicate themselves to the Merchant Taylors' co-curricular programme throughout each academic year. They are expected to take the lead role in encouraging and motivating other pupils to participate and commit to School sport, and especially inter-house competitions.

As they develop, Scholars will be strongly encouraged to be fully involved in mentoring and coaching and support for the lower Year Groups.

Scholars will be encouraged to make the most of their talents and to explore opportunities to gain success and recognition in the wider world, with the support of the School.



All external scholarship candidates need to have registered for a place at Merchant Taylors' School and will be required to undertake the academic assessment alongside the scholarship assessment

Application for Scholarships Awards are completed electronically using the link below.

[Year 7 Sport Scholarship Application Form](#)

Sport Scholarships

Sport Scholarships Information

Sport Scholarship awards are made to candidates who demonstrate significant skill and a very high level of proficiency and prowess in two of our major sports listed below:

Boys: Rugby, Football, Cricket, Hockey, Cross-Country

Girls: Netball, Football, Cricket, Hockey, Cross-Country

Whilst we specify our main sports, if you are proficient in another sport, please do speak to us as alternative sports may be considered.

These scholarships are awarded on the basis of attainment in academic examinations and an assessment of sporting ability.

Each application is reviewed individually on its merits and due consideration is given to the contribution the candidate would make to the wider life of Merchant Taylors' School, as well as their ability or potential to perform at regional and/or national level in sport.

Assessment

Candidates will be required to take part in a Sports Scholarship assessment where they will undertake a range of tests specific to the sports they take part in.

In addition, candidates will be expected (within the application form) to provide a brief portfolio to demonstrate their sporting interests.

Candidates should provide two references from professionals who have coached the candidate through clubs and/or school programmes along with clear evidence of sporting achievements.

To qualify for a scholarship of any sort, Merchant Taylors' pupils are expected to be able to demonstrate a positive behavioural record and to be recognised by staff as having many of the attributes necessary to succeed in their academic studies.



Sport Development for Scholars



Our programme for Sport is designed to recognise those with outstanding potential and to further develop skills and talents during a pupil's time at MTS. Award holders are ambassadors for Sport, who make a full contribution to the sporting life throughout their time at MTS. We expect sport to be the priority of an award holder in terms of the co-curricular programme.

Sport is a large part of School life and this is particularly so in Seniors. Positive self-esteem and physical and mental well-being, contribute to overall success, both inside and outside of the classroom. From the very first day students will be invited to engage in sport and be ambitious in reaching their goals.

Throughout the programme we endeavour to develop the physical, moral, cultural and spiritual well-being of each student through participation in sport. Our aim is not just about developing elite sports players but also about providing the opportunity to participate and achieve the best they can.

Pathways for Sporting Excellence

In the coming months we will be introducing a new pathway for talented sports players. The 'Shape Programme', detailed below, is designed to encourage individuality and will also include after school and lunch clubs as well.

S - Skill Development

Specialist coaches will offer skill sessions for each various sports to enable students to learn, improve and develop performance.

H - Health & Wellbeing

Proper nutrition is vital for students athletes to attain proper growth and perform optimally in sports. Young athletes need to learn what foods are good for energy, when to eat certain foods, how to eat during an event, and when and what to eat to replenish after activity. As part of this programme we will provide a nutritionalist to offer diet plans for students to ensure their needs are met. As part of this section we will also offer Mindfulness coaching to provide the techniques to keep calm before a competition and pay attention during the game.

A - Athletic Development

Qualified personal trainers and fitness instructors will create training plans for students.

P - Psychological Development

Psychologists will deliver regular talks to students as well as one to one and group meetings to discuss the pressures of sport, dealing with success and also failure etc.

E - Education Development

Support will be provided to sports players to ensure they are able to keep on track academically and regular academic reviews will be undertaken.

Music Scholarships

Our programme for Music Scholars is designed to recognise those with outstanding musical potential and develop talent, teach independence, dedication and organisation. Music Scholars learn how to lead and also how to work effectively in a team; skills that serve them well whatever path they choose to follow in the future.

Music is woven into School life at MTS. Pupils are supported in their pursuit of musical excellence and relentless spirit, and from the very first days, Scholars are invited to engage in music and be ambitious in their goals. The programme is not only about developing elite musicians, but also about providing the opportunity for Scholars to develop and achieve their full potential.

Music Scholars commit to the programme through membership of appropriate ensembles/groups and choirs, music performances, their music lessons and practice. They are expected to participate enthusiastically in, and promote, the academic and co-curricular musical life at MTS. Scholars are also expected to attend talks, events and trips, or may also be awarded leadership or mentoring roles as directed by the Director of Music.

Award holders are ambassadors for music who make a full contribution to the Music Department throughout their time at Merchant Taylors'. We expect music to be the priority of an award holder both in terms of the co-curricular programme and in their study of academic music to GCSE and A Level.

Expectations of a Scholar

- A commitment to both personal musical studies and to the Music Department
- Be proactive in involving themselves in the musical life of the School
- Regular attendance at Music Department clubs
- Write about music trips, visits by musicians into the School and music events for school publication
- Assist the Music Department on Open Day and other events

Application

Music Scholarships are awarded for musical potential and ability which are demonstrated through audition and interview. Candidates should provide two references from professionals who have worked with the candidate through lessons, ensembles and/or school programmes, along with clear evidence of musical achievements.

Each scholarship application is reviewed individually on its merits and due consideration is given to the contribution that the candidate would make to the wider life of Merchant Taylors' School, as well as their ability or potential to perform at regional and/or national level in music.

To qualify for a scholarship of any sort, Merchant Taylors' pupils are expected to be able to demonstrate a positive behavioural record. Scholarship candidates need to have registered for a place at Merchant Taylors' and will be required to undertake the academic assessment alongside the scholarship assessment

Application for Scholarships Awards are completed electronically using the link below.

[Year 7 Music Scholarship Application Form](#)

Assessment

Music Scholarship application forms are reviewed and shortlisted candidates are then invited to an audition. Candidates will be required to play two contrasting pieces which best demonstrate their musicality and passion for music. This can be on one instrument. However, if they have two instruments to offer, candidates are strongly encouraged to play one piece on each instrument. They should also expect to complete a variety of tests which are designed to allow candidates to demonstrate their musical potential.

Music Scholarships



Music Pathway

Our Music Pathway programme is designed to nurture and recognise those with outstanding potential and to further develop their musical skills and talents during a pupil's time at MTS. The programme is designed to encourage individuality and will also include after school and lunch events/clubs as well.

Music Scholars will be mentored by the Director of Music, who will meet with them to set and review individual learning goals. They will attend enrichment sessions, including ensembles/choirs, as appropriate to the Music Pathway.

MUSICAL INTELLIGENCE

The ability to make and implement nuanced and highly specialised musical choices in order to create outstanding music. Areas of development include aural and listening skills, evaluative reasoning, and a musical awareness of others. It involves developing a deep understanding of how to control, create and communicate expressive performances.

TECHNICAL MASTERY

Technique and mastery of a Scholar's instrument/voice. Without technical mastery, musicians are unable to communicate their musical intelligence.

TEAMSHIP

Skills required to be a strong team member including those expected of leaders.

MENTAL SKILLS

The skills required to manage intense musical training and performances; physical and mental preparation for auditions and competitions; dealing with success and failure.

The continuation of a Music Scholarship into the next academic year depends on the Scholar engaging fully with the Music Pathway and other requirements, as discussed with the Director of Music. In practice, we anticipate that most Scholars will retain their award throughout their time at Merchant Taylors'.

Art Scholarships

Art Scholarships allow pupils to grow their knowledge and skills in a specialist creative environment. The Art Department is looking for students who are:

- Artistic leaders
- Original and inspiring
- Motivated thinkers
- Creative explorers
- Curious and resilient learners
- Committed and enthusiastic

Year 7-11

Art Scholars will experience creative workshops led by the Art Department and nationally renowned artists intending to ignite pupils interests in the creative world. They will be introduced to new media and processes to extend their knowledge and learning. Scholars are invited to take part in trips to art galleries and Universities. Being a Scholar also allows students to mix with creative pupils from other year groups across MTS, to share ideas, learn from each other and spend time with like-minded people. It is expected that Scholars will enter competitions and exhibitions run through the department to champion creative learning.

Sixth Form

Sixth Form Art Scholars are the creative pinnacle of the School. Their work should showcase an exploration of the creative processes and be confident and bold. Sixth Form Scholars have access to specialist one to one mentoring from our dedicated Art Department. They should play a leading role in Art activities at Merchant Taylors', for example by entering and encouraging others to take part in internal and external art competitions. Sixth Form art scholars have a dedicated workspace in the Art room and curate an exhibition of their work which is part of the annual school art exhibition held at the end of term. They should act as mentors to Scholars in the younger years.

Expectations of a Scholar

- Regular attendance at the Art Department clubs.
- Write about art trips, visits by artists into School and art events for school publications.
- At 16+ select art as one of their A Level choices.
- Have a meeting with the Head of Art (or appropriate mentor) at the start and end of each academic year to appraise progress and discuss future work.
- Assist the Art Department on Open Day and other events.

Application

If you are a pupil who lives for art, keeps a sketchbook and wants to drive forward your creative learning, this is the programme for you. Art Scholarships are awarded for creative ability. All external scholarship candidates need to have registered for a place at Merchant Taylors' and will be required to undertake the academic assessment alongside the scholarship assessment

Application for Scholarships Awards are completed electronically using the link below.

[Year 7 Art Scholarship Application Form](#)

Assessment

Shortlisted candidates will be invited in for an assessment.

On the day of assessment Candidates:

- Must submit a portfolio of work and a sketchbook, these should: Demonstrate a range of media, materials and processes alongside observational and expressive drawing work and also include work pursued by the candidate during their own time and not just work set during lessons.
- Sit a drawing test where the candidate will be asked to produce an observational drawing from a 'still life' set up.
- Attend a subject interview with the Head of Art. It is expected that Scholars have been to art galleries and have studied paintings by major artists of the past in whom they have a special interest.

Drama Scholarships

Our Drama Scholarship programme celebrates those with exceptional performance, design or technical potential. Scholars are ambassadors for drama within Merchant Taylors' and actively engaged with external performing arts organisations ie National Youth Theatre. Scholars should make a full contribution to the dramatic life of the School throughout their time here. Drama activities will be the priority of a Drama Scholar, in terms of the co-curricular programme, but this will not exclude them from participating in other endeavours.

Scholars will benefit from being at the forefront of the cultural life of the School. They have the opportunity to be involved as performers, designers, technicians, production or front of house for all of the major Drama Department productions throughout the year. They have access to trips and live theatrical events, broadening their dramatic experience, and regular 'challenges' encourage students to expand their knowledge base through exploration and research.

Scholars receive specialist guidance and technical instruction from the Drama Department, with opportunities to gain further experience in areas which support entry into Higher Education courses.

Expectations of a Scholar

- Regular attendance at the Drama Department clubs.
- Write about drama trips, visits from theatre companies and, drama events for school publications.
- To study Drama and Theatre Studies through to A Level.
- Have a meeting with the Head of Drama (or appropriate mentor) at the start and end of each academic year to appraise progress and discuss future work.
- Assist the Drama Department on Open Day and other events.

Application

Drama Scholarships are awarded to those who have attained the entrance criteria for Merchant Taylors'. Applicants should have a genuine interest in drama and live theatre and be willing to dedicate their time to developing their natural talent and learned skills.

All external scholarship candidates need to have registered for a place at Merchant Taylors' and will be required to undertake the academic assessment alongside the scholarship assessment

Application for Scholarships Awards are completed electronically using the link below.

[Year 7 Drama Scholarship Application Form](#)

Assessment

Shortlisted candidates will be invited in for an assessment and interview.

Performers should prepare a 2 minute monologue from a published play, learned by heart, to be presented at the audition day. The piece can be from any published play and should demonstrate an ability to create a convincing character. Applicants might also wish to provide a portfolio of evidence of exam certificates, photos or programmes of shows they have been in.

Designers should prepare a short presentation explaining either a stage or costume design. Photographic or artefact material is encouraged. Applicants might also submit a portfolio of design ideas to be discussed in an interview on the audition day.

Terms & Conditions

Terms & Conditions of Scholarship Award

The tenure of a scholarship is intended to be for the duration of the holder's education at Merchant Taylors', provided that the holder's academic progress and general conduct remain satisfactory and that the holder continues to enthusiastically fulfil the obligations associated with the scholarship, evidenced in an annual review of progress and contributions.

Merchant Taylors' reserves the right to remove the award where there are significant concerns about a pupil's progress or commitment over time, or who otherwise acts inappropriately.



'Concordia Parvae Res Crescunt'

Small things grow in harmony
Merchant Taylors' School Ethos



Merchant Taylors' Schools

Ambition | Character | Excellence

Liverpool Road, Crosby,
Liverpool, Merseyside.

www.merchanttaylors.com

