



**ST GABRIEL'S**  
NEWBURY

**16+ Scholarship Prospectus**  
**2026**



## Introduction

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St Gabriel's seeks to reward and recognise students of exceptional ability across a range of fields with scholarships at 16+. Awards are available in the following areas:

- **Academic**
- **Art**
- **Dance**
- **Drama**
- **Music**
- **Sport**

## Key Points

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Students may apply for a maximum of two scholarships.

All scholarships are based on merit and carry a fixed monetary value:

Sixth Form Major Academic Scholarship	£500
Sixth Form Minor Academic Scholarship	£200
Sixth Form Art, Dance, Drama, Music & Sport Scholarships	£200
Sixth Form Performing Arts Scholarship	£200

**Academic Scholarship Examination Morning:** Saturday, 6 December.

**Art, Dance, Drama, Music and Sport Scholarship** auditions and assessment will take place during the first half of the Spring Term (date to be confirmed). Candidates applying for more than one performing arts scholarship (Dance, Drama or Music) will be considered for a Performing Arts Scholarship.

All Sixth Form scholarship applications should be emailed to Mrs Jane Benney, [jbenney@stgabriels.co.uk](mailto:jbenney@stgabriels.co.uk), by Friday, 21 November.

Sixth Form scholarships are awarded and maintained on the understanding that the scholar will remain enthusiastic and committed to their recognised field and will maintain the standards of excellence against which the award is offered.



# Academic Scholarships

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## **What do we offer Academic Scholars at St Gabriel's?**

- Sixth Form scholars will be expected to take full advantage of our Challenge & Extension programme to enrich their A Level studies
- A fixed financial award of £500 is available for Major Sixth Form Academic Scholars.
- A fixed financial award of £200 is available for Minor Sixth Form Academic Scholars.

## **What do we look for in a potential Academic Scholar?**

- A spirit of intellectual curiosity that goes beyond the work set in the classroom;
- A sense of independence in their learning and a curiosity to extend their knowledge;
- Ability to articulate and demonstrate their thinking skills clearly.

## **What are our expectations of an Academic Scholar?**

- High level of attainment in examinations;
- High levels of attainment and engagement;
- Involvement in enriching activities both within and outside school, for example clubs and societies, competitions, summer schools and lectures.

## **What is the assessment process for Sixth Form Academic Scholarships?**

- Candidates should apply for Academic Scholarships by Friday, 21 November;
- Candidates will sit scholarship papers on the morning of Saturday, 6 December;
- The scholarship papers will involve tasks designed to assess thinking skills and intellectual curiosity;
- Candidates will have an interview with the Principal and the Head of Sixth Form.



# Art Scholarships

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## What do we offer Art Scholars at St Gabriel's?

- Art Scholars take part in the Scholarship Mentoring Programme, which forms the basis of an annual review meeting with the Head of Art and senior staff;
- Scholars will display their work at the Art Department's end of year exhibition;
- Scholars are offered opportunities to take part in after-school studio work and will receive additional art mentoring;
- Scholars are invited to art master classes, for example life drawing;
- They will be invited to attend a termly Scholars' Breakfast with the Principal;
- A fixed financial award of £200 is available for all Sixth Form Art Scholars.

## What do we look for in a potential Art Scholar?

- Art Scholars must have good drawing skills and a willingness to practise and develop these skills;
- They should have an ability to experiment with different media and a wide colour palette;
- An Art Scholar should be capable of demonstrating independence and imagination in their work.

## What are our expectations of an Art Scholar?

- Art Scholars should regularly run one of the art clubs at lunchtime or after school;
- They should enter art competitions promoted by the Art Department and seek to promote their work through exhibitions and displays;
- Art Scholars are always expected to produce high quality work, both in lessons and as homework;
- They should be available to assist the Art Department on Open Mornings and at community events.

## What is the assessment process for Art Scholarships?

- Candidates are asked to present a portfolio in an electronic format, which should be emailed to Mrs Jane Benney ([jbenney@stgabriels.co.uk](mailto:jbenney@stgabriels.co.uk));
- All candidates will undertake a short interview with the Principal and Head of Art and should expect to discuss the content of their portfolio.







# Dance Scholarships

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## **What do we offer Dance Scholars at St Gabriel's?**

- Dance Scholars build an electronic record of achievement and development, which forms the basis of an annual review meeting with the Head of Dance and senior staff;
- Once a term, Dance Scholars will be invited to take part in a Scholars' Master Class designed to help develop their technical ability;
- Dance Scholars are invited to attend a termly Scholars' Breakfast with the Head of Dance;
- A fixed financial award of £200 is available for Sixth Form Dance Scholars.

## **What do we look for in a potential Dance Scholar?**

- Dance Scholars need to show technical ability and aptitude in the following three areas: choreography, performance and appreciation. This can be in one or a variety of different dance genres/styles but successful candidates should also be adaptable and creative, as well as able to demonstrate a drive and passion for dance;
- A Dance Scholar should be an outstanding role model to their dance peers as well as taking on a lead supporting role within the Dance Department.

## **What are our expectations of a Dance Scholar?**

- Dance Scholars are expected to feature in major school productions and should be prepared to take on a range of challenging roles;
- Scholars are expected to demonstrate a passion for dance by attending live performances and taking part in a range of extra-curricular dance classes;
- All Scholars are expected to support the work of the Dance Department and to demonstrate an ability to work as part of a team;

## **What is the assessment process for Dance Scholarships?**

- The Head of Dance will invite applicants of an eligible standard to attend a practical assessment and interview;
- We will be looking for evidence of considerable technical ability in at least one dance style (performance), a demonstration of aptitude and the ability to learn set technical phrases in other genres, as well as responding to a stimulus (choreography & appreciation).
- Candidates will be asked to bring evidence of recent successes and achievements to support their applications.



Sister Act (2025)



# Drama Scholarships

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## What do we offer Drama Scholars at St Gabriel's?

- All Drama Scholars take part in the Scholarship Mentoring Programme and will build a record of achievement and development, which will form the basis of an annual review meeting with the Head of Drama and senior staff;
- Once a term, Drama Scholars will be invited to take part in a scholars' workshop designed to help develop stage skills;
- Drama Scholars will be invited to attend an annual scholars' theatre trip;
- Drama Scholars will be invited to attend a termly Scholars' Breakfast with the Head of Drama;
- A fixed financial award of £200 is available for all Sixth Form Drama Scholars.

## What do we look for in a potential Drama Scholar?

- Drama Scholars are students who demonstrate strong performance skills, creativity in shaping drama and the ability to be a highly effective member of a theatre company;
- They need to have an impressive performance record, although this can all be based on school productions;
- Ideally, they should have wide experience of live theatre and they need to demonstrate they can analyse the theatrical choices and skills required to create successful performance.

## What are our expectations of a Drama Scholar?

- Drama Scholars are expected to feature in major school productions and should be prepared to take on a range of challenging roles;
- Scholars are expected to demonstrate a passion for the theatre by attending live performances and reading plays and reviews;
- All scholars are expected to support the work of the Drama Department, be an ambassador for Drama at St Gabriel's, demonstrate an ability to work as part of a team and run Drama Clubs for younger pupils;
- They should be available to assist the Drama Department on Open Mornings and at community events.

## What is the assessment process for Drama Scholarships?

- Students are invited to attend an audition, where they will take part in an improvisation workshop, perform a prepared monologue (unless taking GCSE Drama) and be interviewed by the Principal and Head of Drama.





# Music Scholarships

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## What do we offer Music Scholars at St Gabriel's?

- Sixth Form Music Scholars play a leading role in school music making and have the opportunity to mentor and coach a variety of ensembles and activities in school as well as undertaking a personal programme of development with the Director of Music;
- They are invited to attend a termly Scholars' Breakfast featuring talks from musicians and industry professionals alongside bespoke workshops, concert visits and ensemble coaching sessions;
- Each summer, Music Scholars perform in the annual Strawberries & Cream recital, which is always a highlight of the year;
- A fixed financial award of £200 is available for all Sixth Form Music Scholars.

## What do we look for in a potential Music Scholar?

- A high level of performing or composing ability (usually Grade 6+ on first study instrument or voice);
- A strong desire to challenge and develop musical skills and understanding in performance or composition;
- Passion, enthusiasm and a willingness to engage and develop music making.

## What are our expectations of a Music Scholar?

- Music Scholars are expected to participate in a range of appropriate orchestras and choirs, and to take a lead role in musical performances throughout the school year;
- Scholars are expected to practise consistently and to aim for continuous improvement in their technical ability;
- Music Scholars are expected to maintain high academic standards at all times, and to demonstrate an ability to balance the demands of their academic studies against their involvement in music;
- They should be available to assist the Music Department on Open Mornings and at concerts and community events.

## What is the assessment process for Music Scholarships?

- Candidates are asked to prepare a contrasting programme of at least two pieces on their first instrument (or voice) and may offer additional pieces on their second (if applicable). All candidates will undertake a short interview with the Principal and Director of Music



# Sports Scholarships

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## What do we offer Sports Scholars at St Gabriel's?

- Sixth Form Sports Scholars will receive a package of performance workshops throughout the year, physical fitness profiles (tests) as well as a weekly strength and conditioning sessions;
- They will be invited to attend a termly Scholars' Breakfast with the Director of Sport;
- A fixed financial award of £200 is available for all Sixth Form Sports Scholars.

## What do we look for in a potential Sports Scholar?

- A Sports Scholar will be playing high level club sport or competing at regional, county, national or international level in one or more sport;
- Successful applicants will be expected to be fully involved in school sport and to represent the school in fixtures or in equestrian events;
- They will be a role model for other pupils in training, fixtures and as a scholar athlete.

## What are our expectations of a Sports Scholar?

- Sports Scholars should attend all Sports Scholars' Fitness sessions
- Sports Scholars need to maintain the academic standards and ethos of the school and be role models both on and off the sports pitch;
- All Scholars are expected to support the work of the PE Department, be an ambassador for sport at St Gabriel's and demonstrate an ability to work as part of a team;
- They should be available to assist the PE Department on Open Mornings and at community events.

## What is the assessment process for Sports Scholarships?

- Candidates will be invited to take part in a range of assessment activities including an interview with the Principal and Director of Sport;
- They must be performing or representing to at least county or regional level.



Please contact the Admissions Office or visit our website, [www.stgabriels.co.uk](http://www.stgabriels.co.uk), if you require any of the following:

- St Gabriel's Prospectus
- Registration Form
- Open Morning Dates
- School Visit
- Appointment with the Principal
- Further information regarding Sixth Form admissions
- Information on how to apply for a Montagu Award
- Scholarship Application Form

## ST GABRIEL'S

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