

CLAIRES COURT SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS



2023 – 2024

Recognising outstanding achievement,
talent and potential



RESPONSIBILITY ♦ RESPECT ♦ LOYALTY ♦ INTEGRITY



“Scholarship is to be created not
by compulsion, but by awakening
a pure interest in knowledge”

Ralph Waldo Emerson

INTRODUCTION

Scholarships for entry into Year 7, 8, 9 and Sixth Form.

Claire's Court offers a range of Scholarships to recognise students with outstanding achievement, talent and perhaps above all, potential. They are available to pupils entering Years 7, 8 and 9, and Sixth Form.

The awards recognise a scholar's contribution of talent and excellence to the School. Some awards give pupils access to individual specialist instruction and coaching throughout their time at Claire's Court. Scholarships are offered across a variety of fields including:

- ◆ Academic
- ◆ Outstanding Achievement

Subject Awards

- ◆ Art
- ◆ Choral
- ◆ Drama
- ◆ English
- ◆ Music
- ◆ Sport

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS FOR PUPILS IN YEARS 7, 8 AND 9

Scholarship awards are:

- ◆ Made on the condition that the holder will pursue their academic career at Claires Court through to a minimum of GCSE completion
- ◆ Offered subject to parents signing and agreeing to the terms stated in the Scholarship Award Conditions
- ◆ Valid whilst the holder plays a full and active part in the subject area for which the award has been made, to the conclusion of GCSE study, until the end of Year 11
- ◆ Reapplied for on entry into Sixth Form
- ◆ Subject to the Principals' continuing satisfaction with the holder's performance.

TIMELINE

January - Applications close on Monday 8 January

Mid January - Examinations and auditions

Mid February - Announcement of results

Acceptance of offers required within 28 days

Final dates can be found on our website
(from mid Autumn term)



FINANCIAL AWARD VALUES

- ◆ **Academic Scholarships** are offered up to a maximum of 20% against the current school fees
- ◆ **Sports and Individual Subject Scholarships** are offered up to a maximum of 10% against the current school fees, though can be awarded in isolation or in combination with up to two other awards
- ◆ The maximum total fee relief available through scholarship is 30%, but may in exceptional circumstances, be increased through the award of an **Outstanding Scholarship** which is entirely at the Principals' discretion.



ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

All candidates participate in two sessions on the examination day. During the sessions students will be assessed on their underlying ability and academic skill set in **English and Maths**.

Successful applicants for the academic awards will have a proven track record of academic excellence. Where evidence exists outside of Claires Court that confirms this status, this should be provided to the Registrar for consideration. For example, applicants are likely to be listed on their primary school Gifted & Talented or Scholarship Register.

Whilst we understand there may be a desire to prepare for the assessments, they are predominantly skills based and therefore cannot be 'prepared' for.



SUBJECT AWARDS

Candidates may apply for one or more of the following:

ART

Art Scholarships reward those candidates with outstanding artistic ability and encourage them to contribute to the artistic life of the School.

Assessment / Test Piece

Based on the quality of a portfolio to be carried out at home and submitted on test day. The portfolio should include sketch books and at least six pieces of work. A test piece and creative skills will be assessed on the art scholarship afternoon.



MUSIC / CHORAL

Music / Choral Scholarships reward those candidates of outstanding musical or choral ability and encourage them to contribute to the life of the School as Musical Leaders.

Assessment / Test Piece

- ◆ Mainly based on performance of two prepared pieces in audition, aural tests appropriate to current grade level, and interview. In addition, candidates may offer evidence of previous Graded Assessment (by one of the recognised Examinations Boards). A second instrument may also be offered in support of an application.
- ◆ Expected standards of performance are working at, or towards, Grade 3/4 (ABRSM or equivalent), though less experienced candidates exhibiting potential in ability and exemplary attitude will also be considered
- ◆ The assessment will last approximately 15 minutes.
- ◆ Applicants may provide a backing track on CD/mp3 to be played as an accompaniment. If a pianist is required, the school should be notified and the music shared in advance wherever possible.
- ◆ **A practice room will be available to each applicant for 15 minutes as warm-up time or for rehearsal with the pianist prior to the audition.**

SUBJECT AWARDS

Candidates may apply for one or more of the following:

MATHS

Maths Scholarships reward candidates with strong mathematical knowledge and problem solving skills.

Assessment / Test Piece

Candidates will complete an exam paper consisting of questions that cover the four mathematical strands that they will have studied to date: number, algebra, shape and data. The majority of questions will be multiple choice but there is a short section of questions at the end of the paper where candidates will be asked to show how they would use written mathematics to solve more complex problems. The duration of the paper will be 1 hour.

ENGLISH

English Scholarships reward children who are able to successfully combine analytical skills based around reading and comprehension, with the ability to craft their own writing in an imaginative and engaging way.

Assessment / Test Piece

Assessment Candidates will complete an exam paper consisting of two sections.

- ◆ The first section will be reading comprehension, where candidates will have to read and then demonstrate understanding of a given extract. The questions they will answer will be stepped, meaning that the expected responses will be longer as they progress through the paper.
- ◆ The second section of the paper will be an imaginative writing task, where candidates will have to craft a narrative based on a given prompt. The duration of the paper will be 1 hour.



DRAMA

Drama Scholarships reward children of outstanding dramatic ability and encourage them to contribute to the dramatic life of the School.

Assessment

Candidates will present one poem of their own choice (preferably learnt by heart) and a second poem chosen by the examiner, as well as participating in a group improvisation.

For external candidates a strong reference from a candidate's present Head Teacher is essential. Other supporting testimonials are welcome. Expected minimum standard of performance is Grade 4 (LAMDA or equivalent), however candidates of all abilities with the right talent and potential will be considered. **The individual assessment will last 15 minutes with group work totalling one hour.**



SPORT

Sport Scholarships reward candidates of outstanding sporting ability. Successful candidates will be expected to contribute fully to the sports programme, including at least one of the major sports of hockey, netball, rugby, football or athletics.



Assessment

In addition to strong potential as demonstrated at interview and in a practical test, successful candidates will be judged on the contribution they are likely to make to sport whilst at school with us.

For external candidates, a strong reference from a candidate's present Head Teacher is essential and supporting testimonials are welcome, for example from a senior coach at their sports club. These should be provided on application. **The duration of the skills assessment will last 2.5 – 3 hours.**

SIXTH FORM SCHOLARSHIPS

There are three types of scholarships for the Sixth Form available:

1 - Continuation Scholarships - Current Scholars Only

These are available to existing Scholars to make an application for the retention of their existing awards whilst studying in Years 12 and 13. Scholars in a specific area will be expected to continue making a significant contribution in that specialism.

2 - Gifted & Talented Scholarships for Creative & Performing Arts and Sport - Current and New Students

These awards are offered in specific skill areas where the student has a known specialism in Art, Music / Choral, Drama and Sport to the value of £1,260 per annum. Candidates invited to interview are expected to converse well in the areas of excellence they have selected and provide a portfolio or supporting letter of recommendation from teachers and/or coaches. Existing Scholars at Claires Court Senior Boys and Girls are able to apply at this stage for an award in a new area.

3 - Academic Scholarships - Current and New Students

These are offered based on predicted outstanding performance at GCSE level and current school records, normally using grade 8 or higher as a benchmark. There are up to six Scholarships available to both internal and external applicants with an award value of £3,780 per annum.

To apply for the Academic Scholarship, applicants must be predicted to achieve at least five GCSEs at grade 8 or above. This therefore can be applied for before the GCSE exams have been taken.

Academic Awards for GCSE Grades Achieved

There are academic awards which are presented on actual academic outcomes where a minimum of five GCSEs at grade 8 has been achieved*.

*These are separate to the Academic Scholarships and cannot be combined.

For each grade 8, £225 per annum is awarded. For each grade 9, £450 per annum is awarded.

The minimum award based on five GCSEs at grade 8 would be £1,125 per annum, with each additional grade 8 adding £225 per annum and each additional grade 9 adding £450 per annum. The maximum award for this scholarship is £4,500.

No application is required. This means that if your son or daughter achieves the required results at GCSE, the financial discount will be applied to your fees for September.

Late applications after GCSE results for a September start may be considered subject to scholarship availability.

Please note: If an award has already been made based on interview and target grades, and the amount earned is higher as a result of actual grades awarded, the higher amount will apply. (e.g. you can only receive one award so the academic scholarship cannot be in addition to an academic award, or vice versa).

**“Aim high, believe in yourself
and make a difference”**

HOW TO APPLY

To apply for a Scholarship, pupils must either already be a pupil at the School, or registered for entry into Years 7, 8, 9 or Year 12.

Once you have completed the relevant Scholarship application form online, please send all supporting documentation to the Registrar at **registrar@clairescourt.com** or post / deliver to Claires Court, Ray Mill Road East, Maidenhead SL6 8TE.

For applications regarding the Academic Scholarship, documentation will be available on the day of GCSE results.

Please note the closing dates and assessment / interview dates in advance of application. Due to demand, we are unfortunately unable to offer candidates alternative dates.

If you have any questions, would like to discuss your child's suitability for a Scholarship or to request a printed application form, please contact the Registrar at **registrar@clairescourt.com** or **01628 327710**.



PRESENTATION OF SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS 2023

Each year, we present our Scholars with their awards at Founders Day. It is always a wonderful afternoon and all scholars for the year ahead are invited to attend with their families.





Claire's Court Founders Day 2023



Claire's Court Founders Day 2023



Claire's Court Founders Day 2023



CLAIRES COURT
MAIDENHEAD
FROM AGES 2 – 18

registrar@clairescourt.com | www.clairescourt.com

Details correct as of September 2023

