

#YourPlaceatCC



Claire's Court Scholarship *Awards*

2024 – 2025

Your place to *challenge*



“

Scholarships are awarded to those that show both talent and potential and who demonstrate excellent character whilst doing so.”

Mr Wilding, Academic Principal

Scholarships for Entry Into *Years 9 and Sixth Form*

A WORLD OF OPPORTUNITY

Our aim is to ignite a passion for learning that goes beyond textbooks and classrooms. We cultivate academic curiosity through a variety of stimulating experiences with a broad and varied curriculum; this sparks intellectual curiosity and opens doors to unexpected interests.

QUESTIONING MINDS PROMOTES INDEPENDENT THINKING

We foster critical thinking skills, encouraging pupils to ask questions, analyse information, and delve deeper into topics. Our core learning philosophy, the Claires Court Essentials equips students with the tools for independent learning empowering them to explore topics on their own, fostering intellectual curiosity and a thirst for knowledge.

Clares Court offers a range of scholarships to recognise students with outstanding achievement, talent and potential. They are available to pupils entering Years 9 and Year 12 (Sixth Form) recognising the scholar's contribution of talent, excellence and commitment to the school.

Scholarships offered:

- ◆ Academic (including individual Maths and English scholarships)
- ◆ Art and Design
- ◆ Drama
- ◆ Music / Choral
- ◆ Sport



Timeline

TIMELINE FOR APPLICATION FOR SEPTEMBER 2025 ENTRY

★ October 2024

Applications open for September 2025 entry

★ January 2025

Applications close on Friday 3 January 2025

★ Mid-February

Announcement of results before February half-term

ASSESSMENT TIMESCALES

★ Sports Assessment

Friday 10 January 2025 (Senior Girls)

Tuesday 14 January 2025 (Senior Boys)

★ Drama Assessment

Wednesday 15 January 2025

★ Music / Choral Assessment

Thursday 16 January 2025

★ Art Assessment

Friday 17 January 2025

★ Academic Assessment

Saturday 18 January 2025

Please note that acceptance of offers is required within 28 days of the offer being made. To apply for a scholarship the student must be registered with us and acknowledged with the registration fee paid.



Academic Scholarships

All candidates participate in two sessions on the examination day and will be assessed on their underlying ability and academic skill set in English and Maths. If a child performs highly in one subject only they could be awarded either a Maths or an English scholarship. If they perform highly in both English and Maths they will be awarded the Academic Scholarship.

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

WHAT WE OFFER:

GCSE Performance Pathway

In addition to studying the core subjects, the opportunity to study up to 12 GCSEs which could include Further Maths, Separate Science award – Biology, Chemistry and Physics and two languages.

Additional options: HPQ, Lamda and graded music

A-Level Performance Pathway

The opportunity to explore studying up to four A level options OR three A-levels and EPQ.

Other options to gain UCAS points – Lamda – Drama or public speaking, Graded music examinations, Sports Leaders Programme.

- ★ Invitation to Academic Breakfasts each half-term
- ★ KS3 Mini Topic project (Year 9)
- ★ Higher Project Qualification at KS4 (Years 10 -11)
- ★ Extended Project Qualification at KS5 (Year 12)
- ★ Olympiad competitions
- ★ In school lectures by external speakers
- ★ Sixth Form creative writing workshop
- ★ The opportunity to contribute to the student digital news site The Raven (Sixth Form), Agemo (Seniors)

Academic Scholarships *continued*

OUR EXPECTATIONS:

- ★ To be a role model across the school e.g. full participation in events and assemblies as well as in the classroom.
- ★ To be available as mentors to their peers during one lunchtime a week to assist in academic studies.
- ★ To take part in Mini Topic Projects at KS3 and The Higher Project Qualification at KS4.
- ★ Have an excellent annual attendance at school.
- ★ To attend an academic breakfast once a term and attend school lectures by external speakers throughout the year and participate in any academic competitions e.g. Maths Challenges
- ★ Full participation in the production and writing articles for the school digital news site.





METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

MATHS

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

Assessment / Test Piece

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.

If applying in Year 9, successful applicants for the academic awards will have a proven track record of academic excellence in school. If applying from outside of Claires Court, evidence should be provided to the Registrar for consideration.



Art and Design

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

WHAT WE OFFER:

- ★ The opportunity to represent Claires Court in ISA Regional and National competitions
- ★ The chance to display original work through contribution to school displays
- ★ Art trips to London
- ★ Extra curricular art clubs
- ★ The opportunity to submit articles or artwork to our Senior and Sixth Form digital news sites

OUR EXPECTATIONS:

- ★ Art scholars should produce at least one large piece of work per year for a school display.
- ★ Art scholars will be a role model to other pupils in the school and assist in lunchtime and after school clubs that offer art skill development.
- ★ Art scholars are expected to study Art at GCSE and at Sixth Form for A-level.
- ★ Art scholars are expected to take part in the ISA competitions and any school open events.



METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

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.



Drama

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

WHAT WE OFFER:

- ★ Lamda in the school day (with no charge)
- ★ The chance to perform in all our school drama productions
- ★ Theatre trips to the West End and locally
- ★ Extra curricular drama clubs
- ★ The opportunity to contribute to the student digital news site
The Raven (Sixth Form), Agemo (Seniors)

OUR EXPECTATIONS:

- ★ Drama scholars will take part in school productions and drama events throughout the academic year.
- ★ Drama scholars will be a role model to other pupils in the school and assist in lunchtime or after school clubs that offer drama skills improvements.
- ★ Drama scholars are expected to study Drama at GCSE and Sixth Form
Drama scholars at A-level.
- ★ Full active participation in the production of and writing articles for the school digital news site.



METHOD OF 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 required and other supporting testimonials are welcome. The 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.



Music / Choral

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

WHAT WE OFFER:

- ★ Access to peripatetic lessons in school time and after school
- ★ Instrumental and vocal ensembles
- ★ Further extracurricular activities include IT in Music (Music Tech), Rockscool, and theory of music
- ★ Performance opportunities within concerts, carol services, and school musical productions (often original works)
- ★ Residential tour trip to perform with the choir (in 2024 this was to Belgium)
- ★ The opportunity to contribute to the student digital news site The Raven (Sixth Form), Agemo (Seniors)

OUR EXPECTATIONS:

Music scholars are expected to show an aptitude in music and should have strong performance skills in at least one instrument. They will show commitment through participation in the extracurricular programme, taking opportunities to broaden their musical experiences and develop their ensemble skills. They will be role models in lessons and more widely, positively promoting the musical life of the school.

- ★ Music scholars will participate in at least one assembly throughout the academic year, and will involve themselves in the House Music Competition.
- ★ Leadership opportunities will be offered in musical rehearsals, house events, assemblies, and concerts whereby scholars can share their work with other pupils.
- ★ Senior Music scholars are expected to study music at GCSE and Sixth Form music scholars at A-level.
- ★ Full active participation in the production and writing articles for the school digital news site.



METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

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.





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.

WHAT WE OFFER:

- ★ Scholar specific Strength and Conditioning Programme
- ★ Coached by professionals in their own sport
- ★ Nutrition talks by outside speakers
- ★ Extra curricular elite skill training across a range of sports
- ★ The opportunity to apply for the High Performance Pathway in Rugby and Football in Year 10 and 11
- ★ Sports Award evening to recognise the student input to school sports
- ★ Sports Tour once per year
- ★ The opportunity to contribute to the student digital news site The Raven (Sixth Form), Agemo (Seniors)



OUR EXPECTATIONS:

- ★ Successful candidates will be expected to be strong A team players in a number of the school's major sports and fully commit to representing the school teams in midweek and Saturday Fixtures
- ★ Sport scholars will be expected to demonstrate dedication to training sessions, and be a role model to other pupils within PE/games lessons and extra curricular sports activities. This in addition to having a good general attitude and behaviour around school
- ★ Students joining the High Performance Pathway should be a minimum standard of some level of involvement at a professional clubs academy or equivalent
- ★ Students are expected to represent the school as often as possible in their area of sporting expertise and in other sports if they are capable
- ★ Sixth Form Scholarships. Scholarships will be awarded to students that will represent the School's 1st teams in more than one sport OR perform regularly at an elite level in a particular sport



METHOD OF 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



Our Expectations

We award scholarships to those who show exceptional talent and potential and therefore have expectations in awarding these to students which are as follows:

- ◆ Scholarships are offered on the condition that the holder will pursue their academic career at Claires Court through to a minimum of GCSE completion
- ◆ Are 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 examination, until the end of Year 11
- ◆ Reapplied for on entry into Sixth Form
- ◆ All scholarships awarded are subject to the Claires Court Schools' continuing satisfaction with the scholar's current performance.

FINANCIAL AWARD VALUES

Scholarships are offered up to a maximum of 10% against the current school term fees, though can be awarded in isolation or in combination with up to two other awards.

Scholarships carry a fee reduction. Alternatively parents who do not require financial assistance may accept their child's scholarship on an honorary basis. The fee will then be put back into the scholarship programme to build upon the offer available to the scholars.



COLE
WALTER

YR10
DU, BEN
GARDNER

FRANK
LARK



Sixth Form

There are three types of scholarships for the Sixth Form available

1. CONTINUATION SCHOLARSHIPS (CURRENT SCHOLARS ONLY)

These are available to existing Scholars who are moving up from our Senior School. **Any scholarship awarded in Senior School does not automatically continue to the Sixth Form therefore an application will need to be made for the extension/retention of their existing award/s.** 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).





How to Apply

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

Once a relevant scholarship application form has been completed online, please send all supporting documentation to the Registrar at registrar@clairescourt.com or post / deliver to:

Claire's Court, Ray Mill Road East, Maidenhead SL6 8TE.

For applications regarding the Sixth Form 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 or 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.

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We believe that by igniting a passion for learning and fostering independent exploration, we prepare our students not just for academic success, but for a life filled with intellectual curiosity.”





registrar@clairescourt.com
www.clairescourt.com

Correct at the time of printing – July 24.
Any updates to the Scholarship Programme will be posted online on our website.

RESPONSIBILITY ♦ RESPECT ♦ LOYALTY ♦ INTEGRITY