



Scholarships at 13+ for entry into Year 9 in 2010

Scholarships are financial and/or honorary awards that are given on a competitive basis. Scholarships that carry a financial award are given without regard to the ability of the family to pay the fees. The type, number and level of awards may vary from year to year. All awards are open to current Year 8 pupils at Ashford School and external candidates.

Awards are made for the duration of a pupil's senior school career including Sixth Form subject to satisfactory progress and conduct, and they are reviewed annually.

An application form is available from the Registrar (coxr@ashfordschool.co.uk).

Timetable of Key Dates for 13+ Entry in 2010

Friday 8 January 2010	Deadline for applications to sit the entrance tests
Friday 8 January 2010	Deadline for applications for scholarships
Friday 15 January 2010	Written tests for all candidates including scholarships

Following the written tests, successful scholarship candidates are invited back for final assessments

27-29 January 2010	Assessments for selected candidates only
Wednesday 24 February 2010	Offer letters sent to successful candidates
Friday 12 March 2010	Deadline for acceptance of scholarships and places

Candidates may apply to be assessed for a maximum of two awards only. Please seek advice from your child's current school.

Exceptionally, at the discretion of the Head and where performance in the assessments merits it, candidates may be offered an All-rounder Award (up to the value of 10% of the day fee). All candidates will automatically be considered for an All-rounder Award.

The maximum award for any scholarship to an independent school is 50%. In common with most independent schools, Ashford School may offer scholarships up to 50% for exceptional performance.

For September 2010 entry into the Senior School the following scholarships are available.

1. Academic Scholarships (normally up to the value of 10% of the day fee)

Awarded on the basis of written tests in English, Mathematics, Science and Non-Verbal Reasoning (NVR) plus an assessment interview.

Academic scholars are normally expected to be within the top 20% of the national ability range for twelve year olds. As a guide this means that they should have achieved Level 5 in all Key Stage 2 SATs or 120+ in a recent NVR test.

Assessment: awards are made on the basis of performance in the written papers and assessment interview only and are competitive i.e. candidates taking the papers at the same time compete for the scholarships available.

2. Art Scholarships (normally up to the value of 10% of the day fee)

Awarded on the basis of written tests in English, Mathematics, Science and Non-Verbal Reasoning plus a practical assessment. The assessment will be the main factor on which Art awards are based.

We are looking for pupils who meet the normal academic requirements of the school (not those expected of academic scholars) but who also demonstrate outstanding ability in art, through creativity, imagination, manipulative skills and strong powers of observation. Art Scholars would be expected to study Art and Design for one of their GCSE options.

Assessment: candidates wishing to be considered for an Art Scholarship will need to spend a half day in the Ashford Art Department when they will be asked to do some observational drawing and to talk about their favourite artist. On the assessment day, they should bring a portfolio of work done both at school and on their own initiative during the last year.

3. Music Scholarships (normally up to the value of 10% of the day fee)

Awarded on the basis of written tests in English, Mathematics, Science and Non-Verbal Reasoning plus a practical assessment. The practical assessment will be the main factor on which Music awards are based.

Holders of awards are expected to meet the normal academic requirements of the School and to be good ambassadors for Music. They should participate fully in the musical life of the school, involving themselves in choirs, orchestras and chamber ensembles according to their interests and expertise. They should want to be a member of the school choirs as appropriate and be prepared to commit to attending both the rehearsals and performances. At 13+ we are looking for potential rather than achievement and a genuine enthusiasm for music. Orchestral players, and especially students who play string and brass instruments, are particularly encouraged to audition. Musicality and a desire to perform are more important than actual graded examinations taken.

Assessment: all candidates are required to play two contrasting pieces on the instruments they are offering. They are also encouraged to sing a short piece if appropriate. Sight reading and aural tests appropriate to the candidate's ability will also be given

Parents who have any queries about the audition or their child's suitability for a music award are encouraged to contact the Director of Music, Mr Allan Clay (claya@ashfordschool.co.uk) to arrange an informal conversation or meeting.

4. Sports Scholarships (normally up to the value of 10% of the day fee)

Awarded on the basis of written tests in English, Mathematics, Science and Non-Verbal Reasoning plus a practical assessment. The practical assessment will be the main factor on which Sports awards are based.

We are looking for pupils who meet the normal academic requirements of the school but who also demonstrate sporting ability or potential, determination and enthusiasm. They will also respond well to guidance, work well in a team and demonstrate good leadership skills. Sports Scholars should have high levels of talent in at least two areas. Preference will normally be given to those involved in the School's major games – rugby, cricket, athletics/cross-country, netball, tennis, swimming, and hockey – but all candidates of talent will be considered. Scholars are expected to participate fully in the sporting life of the school.

Assessment: selected candidates will be invited to attend a sport and physical fitness assessment. The candidates will compete in structured drills and small-sided game situations to see if they have a range of abilities and are able to adapt their skills to changing circumstances and to assess their fitness, speed, agility and co-ordination. Each candidate will also be interviewed individually about their sporting interests, motivation, achievements and ambitions.