



NORWICH  
HIGH SCHOOL  
For Girls aged 3-18

GDST  
GIRLS' DAY SCHOOL TRUST

# Scholarship Guide

Year 12 (16+)  
September 2026 Entry



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# Introduction

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Scholarships for 16+ (Year 12) are worth 5-10% off fees and scholars are expected to show a commitment to the school in the discipline for which they have been awarded a scholarship.

Scholarships are available to external applicants as well as those students moving up from Upper 5 (Year 11) to Sixth Form.

For external applicants, it is possible to be awarded a bursary as well as a scholarship. If you are in need of financial assistance to support your daughter's attendance at Norwich High School for Girls, please consider applying for a means-tested bursary.



# Academic Scholarship

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## Assessment:

Interview with the Head – applicants should be prepared to discuss their academic interests, ambitions and current affairs.

Two 1hr written papers – applicants choose two subject papers in advance of the assessment date from their preferred subject areas. The nature of the papers vary depending on the choice of subjects. Papers reflect GCSE content and the types of task which students should be familiar with; they are designed to be accessible for students while presenting a challenging level of tasks.

## The decision making process:

Academic scripts are marked 'blind' – papers are numbered rather than named in order to ensure complete fairness in the marking and moderation process. Interview performance is assessed.

The applicant's previous school record is also taken into consideration.

# Art or Textiles Scholarship

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Scholarships are available for Fine Art or for Textiles:

## Fine Art

Art Scholarships are awarded on merit according to artistic ability and potential. By accepting the award, they will agree to take part actively and contribute to a wide range of Art enrichment activities.

Prerequisites - candidates should be currently studying a GCSE in an Art or Design related course.

Application - applicants:

- should submit a letter of application of 250 words explaining why they would make an excellent Art scholar.
- should prepare and bring to the assessment day a portfolio of their artwork containing one of the following:
  - five A1 or smaller drawings / paintings
  - evidence of contextual research
  - a sketchbook\*
- should be prepared to complete a formal art examination of two hours (inspired by their current coursework project) on the assessment day.
- will have an interview with Head of Art.

The decision making process:

- practical task is assessed.
- interview performance is assessed.
- awards will be subject to a yearly review by the Head of Art and Textiles.

## Textiles

Textile scholarships are awarded on merit according to creative ability and potential. By accepting the award, they will agree to take part actively and contribute to a wide range of Textiles enrichment activities.

Prerequisites - candidates should be currently studying a GCSE Art or Design related course.



**Application - applicants:**

- should submit a letter of application of 250 words explaining why they would make an excellent Textiles Scholar.
- should prepare and bring to the assessment day a detailed sketchbook of work containing:
  - observation studies
  - contextual research
  - experimentation (a series of fabric examples)
  - final outcome(s)
- should be prepared to complete a formal art examination of two hours (inspired by their current coursework project) on the assessment day.

# Sport Scholarship

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Sports scholarships are awarded on merit according to sports ability and potential. Award holders are expected to be leaders and to contribute to a range of sporting activities. By becoming a Sports Scholar, a student will be expected to be a reliable and enthusiastic performer in sports teams and events for the school.

Prerequisites - applicants should be of at least county standard or above in their chosen sport.

## Application (Stage 1)

A written application is required from all applicants. This should provide the following:

- details of sporting achievements both in and outside of school.
- a reference from the applicant's sports coach.
- video evidence of your chosen sport. This should last no longer than 20 minutes.

Successful applicants will be invited for an interview and a practical/ written test.

## Assessment (Stage 2)

Applicants:

- will take part in a practical fitness test e.g. 12 minute run.
- will attend an interview with the Director of Sport where they will be expected to talk about significant sporting achievements and their aspirations for the future.
- should prepare their response to a contemporary issue in global sport and be prepared to discuss it at interview. This will be detailed in the candidate application pack e.g. discuss how women's sport has developed over the last five years.



The decision making process:

- the practical fitness test will provide the candidate with an opportunity to show her fitness levels, perseverance and determination.
- Interview performance is assessed, as well as the candidate's sporting knowledge and passion for sport when discussing the contemporary sporting issue.
- the applicant's ability in their chosen sport will be assessed through the video evidence provided.
- awards will be subject to a yearly review by the Director of Sport.

If your daughter has already been awarded a sports scholarship in the Senior School, please be aware that they will be re-assessed alongside any new applicants for the Year 12 sports scholarship awards. They will be invited to reapply in the autumn term of Year 11.

# Performing Arts Scholarship: Music

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Music Scholars will enjoy a range of performance opportunities, both as ensemble musicians and as soloists. Music Scholars will be expected to be leading members of at least two school musical ensembles and will be selected to perform in termly Scholars' Recitals in venues across the county. By accepting the award, they will agree to be reliable and enthusiastic participants in rehearsals, concerts and other school music events.

Prerequisites – applicants should be of Grade 7 standard or above on their principal instrument although it is not necessary for the candidate to have taken any formal exams (eg. ABRSM, Trinity).

Audition – candidates will need to:

- prepare two contrasting pieces on their main instrument, and one piece on any other instrument offered. (Time constraints may not allow for each piece to be heard in full).
- prepare pieces that demonstrate their technical ability and versatility whilst ensuring that they choose pieces that they can play confidently under the pressure of an audition.
- prepare to receive some basic tuition on their pieces and should be able to show an ability to respond to advice and coaching.
- sight read and undergo some aural tests (eg. singing back a short melody, clapping rhythms, identifying time signatures and major or minor chords).
- talk about their musical interests, aspirations and experiences.

\* Instrument may be voice

\*\* Candidates may arrange to bring their own accompanist if they wish. A member of the audition panel will be happy to accompany any candidates who require an accompanist, though it will not be possible to rehearse this in advance of the audition. Copies of piano accompaniments should be sent through to the School Registrar at least two weeks before the date of the audition.

The decision making process:

- audition performance, together with sight reading and aural skills are assessed.
- awards will be subject to a yearly review by the Director of Music.



# Performing Arts Scholarship: Drama

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Drama Scholars will have the opportunity to be an active member of the Drama department and take on many leadership roles. By accepting the award, they will agree to take part actively and contribute to a wide range of Drama enrichment activities.

Prerequisites - applicants are expected to participate in an extra curricular Drama programme or have performed in a variety of performances. They should be confident to perform in front of an audience and are able to display a number of skills. It is not necessary for the candidate to have any formal examinations in Drama.

Audition - applicants:

- should prepare two monologues, one to two minutes in length and be prepared to perform this in front of the Head of Drama and another member of the department on the assessment date. The first Monologue you will perform is Puck's speech from A Midsummer's Night Dream Act 3, scene 2. You may pick your second Monologue, but we would like it to be from a contemporary play.
- should bring a concise Curriculum Vitae of their drama experience with them to the assessment day.
- will have a short interview to discuss the level of their experience, interest and commitment to different areas of Drama, both in school and out of school.

The decision making process:

- performances of the monologues are assessed against A level Drama criteria.
- interview performance is assessed.
- the applicant's experience in their Curriculum Vitae is also taken into consideration.
- awards will be subject to a yearly review by the Head of Drama.



# Product Design Scholarship

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Product Design Scholars will have the opportunity to be active in the Product Design department and take on leadership roles in the departmental co-curriculum offer. By accepting the award, they will agree to take part actively and contribute to a wide range of Design enrichment activities.

Prerequisites - candidates should be currently studying a GCSE in a Design Technology related course.

Assessment - applicants:

- should submit a letter of application of 250 words explaining why they would make an excellent Product Design scholar.
- will be given a design brief once they have applied, and will be asked to produce a portfolio consisting of at least four sheets of A3 including:
  - an outline problem of their choice from the given brief.
  - photographs with detailed analysis and drawings of an exemplary product of their choice.
  - research and analysis of a range of similar existing products.
  - written commentary including sustainable, environmental, moral and social issues.
- will sit a two hour examination, and demonstrate their ability to solve the found problem through inventive graphical communication and written explanations.
- will have an interview with Head of Product Design.

The decision making process:

- candidates will be assessed on their ability to show an understanding of the design process by
  - maturely communicating their ideas both visually and in writing
  - demonstrating their ability to be inventive whilst working under timed conditions.
- interview performance is assessed.
- awards will be subject to a yearly review by the Head of Product Design.



# Further Information

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We aim to notify applicants the outcome of their scholarship at the time of offer, this is around 1st December 2025.

The Head's decision is final. We will not discuss marks, grades or rankings.

Should you have any questions, please contact our Registrar,

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