



# St Michael's Prep School

## The Joy & Wonder of Learning



# Scholarships Booklet 2019

For Entry into Year 7 in September 2020

## INTRODUCTION

This booklet is intended to provide a summary of the various Scholarships that are available and to act as a guide for prospective parents and candidates. Details of standards required and application forms for the Scholarships can be found in this booklet. Alternatively please visit our website [www.stmichaels.kent.sch.uk](http://www.stmichaels.kent.sch.uk).

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## CONTENTS

Page 2	Introduction, Types of Scholarship, How to apply
Page 2	The Profile of the Scholarship Child
Page 4-5	The Tests
Page 5	Fee Remission and Conditions
Page 6	Bursaries, Registration and Timings

## **AN INTRODUCTION TO SCHOLARSHIPS**

Scholarships provide three possible benefits to those pupils in receipt of them. Firstly, a scholarship is a public acknowledgement of a pupil's outstanding ability or talent; so the scholarship brings with it recognition. Secondly, we work hard to ensure that scholarship holders receive, as part of their scholarship, educative experiences that extend and develop their talents. Holding a scholarship brings responsibilities to demonstrate positive attitudes, behaviour and commitment to pursuing excellence. Finally, a scholarship carries some fee remission which is not means tested.

All scholars will receive appropriate support, encouragement and advice to make applications for awards and scholarships into senior schools. There is no guarantee, however that a scholarship won at St Michael's will definitely lead to a scholarship at senior level.

## **TYPES OF SCHOLARSHIP**

St Michael's Prep School offers 6 types of Scholarships, which can be taken for entry into Year 7.

- Academic scholarship
- All-rounder scholarship
- Art scholarship
- Drama scholarship
- Music scholarship
- Sport scholarship

There is no fixed number of each type but the governors' funding is agreed annually.

## **HOW TO APPLY**

Parents interested in applying for a scholarship for their child should look carefully at the descriptions of the likely characteristics of the pupils we expect to win each type of scholarship and then complete the application form at the end of this leaflet/on the website.

## **THE PROFILE OF THE SCHOLARSHIP CHILD**

### **Academic Scholarship Holders**

An academic scholarship holder will demonstrate high levels of engagement with all aspects of the curriculum. He/she will be inquisitive, quick thinking, able to see the big picture and think creatively "outside the box". They will write and speak well and construct interesting logical arguments. They will be deeply curious about the way the world works. They will demonstrate the ability to solve complex problems and enjoy the challenges which they present. They will be the type of child who always enjoys and gravitates towards puzzles. They will persevere when setbacks occur.

### **All-rounder Scholarship Holders**

An all-rounder scholarship holder will demonstrate ability across all subjects. In addition, he/she will show the potential to make a fine contribution to the school through their interpersonal skills, teamwork, leadership potential or social responsibility.

### **Art Scholarship Holders**

Art scholarship holders will demonstrate imagination, creativity, competence and technique in a variety of media. He/she will have a portfolio of work done inside and outside school. An Art Scholarship holder will be expected to maintain high standards of artistic excellence and to be an ambassador for the subject. He/she will be expected to participate in art activities and other artistic events.

### **Drama Scholarship Holders**

*“All the best performers bring to their role something more, something different than what the author put on paper. That’s what makes theatre live. That’s why it persists.” – Stephen Sondheim*

Pupils with dramatic talent will be convincing and natural when assuming roles, prepare independently and reliably, enjoy performing and seek opportunities to do so, work well in a team when putting on a show. They will demonstrate a love of theatre and have high aspirations, bringing distinction and commitment to the drama department at St Michael’s School. They may have had professional acting work.

The Drama Scholarship programme is designed to stretch pupils, through internal productions, festivals, activities, individual work and taking them to different types of theatres and productions.

### **Music Scholarship Holders**

Music Scholarship Holders will have shown early interest in learning an instrument and gravitate towards music making as a leisure activity at every opportunity. They will practise effectively and make progress quickly compared to their peers. They will be learning two instruments at least already and be at about grade 5 by Year 6 in at least one. They may have sought opportunities to belong to regional and perhaps national music groups.

### **Sport Scholarship Holders**

Candidates will be expected to show exceptional promise in either one sport or all round ability in two or three sports at school team, club or county level. These should be taken from the sports on offer at St Michael’s Prep (hockey, netball, rounders, swimming, football, rugby, cricket, and athletics) but other exceptional sporting talents will be considered.

All sports scholarship holders are expected to be fully committed and make a positive contribution to the annual sporting programme at St Michael’s and will be supported by the Director of Sport in becoming sporting role models at the school.

## THE TESTS

### FOR ALL SCHOLARSHIPS:

1. All scholarship applicants need to prepare a letter of application explaining why they want to be considered for a scholarship and what difference it would make to them. This is submitted with the application form.
2. All applicants take part in a group activity.
3. All candidates will take part in a variety of cultural workshops.
4. Each scholarship has a combination of tests as detailed below.
5. All applicants who reach the expected standards in the tests will be interviewed by the Headteacher.

### ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS:

Maths Paper

English Paper: Reading comprehension and writing task

Science Paper

Humanities Paper

If successful, the candidate will then be interviewed.

### ALL-ROUNDER SCHOLARSHIPS:

As for academic scholarships and candidates will also be assessed also in at least two activities from Art, Drama, Music and Sport.

If successful, the candidate will then be interviewed.

### ART SCHOLARSHIPS:

Candidates will be required to do two practical tests; a still life drawing and a creativity task. All materials will be supplied by the school but candidates are welcome to bring their own equipment. Candidates will be required to submit a portfolio of art work.

Your child's portfolio should include a selection of work which demonstrates a variety of skills and reflects his/her ideas, interests and abilities. This should include drawings, paintings, collage, printing, photography or 3D work. We are interested in refinement in the drawing, but also like to see evidence of sketches, ideas, collected images, postcards and notebooks which offer a sense of your child's own particular visual ideas. Drawings may be shown if they are in progress and unfinished. We encourage interesting sketchbooks rather than neat, mounted and 'over presented' work. Please do not worry about mounting or framing as the work will speak for itself.

If they have visited a gallery or have a favourite artist, we would welcome any drawings or notes in their sketchbook about this.

Parents must countersign the work as their child's own unaided pieces.

If successful, the candidate will then be interviewed.

## **DRAMA SCHOLARSHIPS:**

Candidates will be required to perform a two-minute monologue of their choosing. This should incorporate appropriate voice and movement. It must be learnt by heart and not read. They need to show a firm grasp of the character in the scene and be able to justify their interpretation. Candidates should be prepared to talk about their audition piece in the context of the whole play and about why they have chosen it.

Candidates will have to take part in various structured activities, including improvisation and group work.

Candidates will be asked to read a short section of script and talk about how and why they interpreted it in the way they did.

If successful, the candidate will then be interviewed.

## **MUSIC SCHOLARSHIPS:**

Candidates will perform a piece on at least two instruments and will be given sight reading and aural tests. Evidence of grades obtained to date will be required.

If successful, the candidate will then be interviewed.

## **SPORTS SCHOLARSHIPS:**

Candidates are required to provide a summary of their sporting achievements to date and references, where appropriate, from coaches.

Candidates will be required to take part in drills and game situations to show evidence of their positional and tactical awareness as well as skill, agility and fitness level.

If successful, the candidate will then be interviewed.

## **FEE REMISSION**

The scholarship application form asks parents to indicate one of three options:

1. You do not wish to seek any fee remission, thus allowing funds to be used for means-tested scholarships
2. You wish to apply for a small non means-tested scholarship, which is set at between 10% and 20% for most scholarships.
3. You wish to apply for means-tested fee remission, which allows for scholarships greater than 20% to be given based on a family's financial circumstances, subject to sufficient funds being available.

Those parents seeking means-tested fee remission are asked to fill out a Statement of Financial Circumstances Form and either return it with their initial application form or return it after a scholarship has been awarded. Those choosing the latter option will then have a further period to wait while the scale of fee remission is determined.

The Fee Remission Committee meet to discuss the nature and extent of scholarships to be made to applicants of means-tested bursaries.

## **CONDITIONS OF SCHOLARSHIPS**

Scholarships are tenable until the end of Year 8 and are renewed annually. The school reserves the right to withdraw any scholarship if, in the opinion of the Headteacher, the pupil is performing below expectation or failing to meet the terms of their scholarship.

All scholarship candidates will be judged on their apparent merits on the assessment dates and the school reserves the right not to award a scholarship if there are no candidates judged to be of sufficient merit. Assessments take place in Year 6 for entry into Year 7.

Scholarship holders are expected to present themselves as role models within the community and a scholarship will be withdrawn if the scholarship holder's behaviour at school falls below the standard expected or if their actions detract from other pupils' learning or bring themselves or the school into disrepute.

## **BURSARIES FOR FINANCIAL NEED**

The Fee Remission Committee considers applications from all families for bursarial support according to a family's financial need and a child's need for education at St Michael's. Applications are considered six times a year – once each half-term – and parents can submit a request at any time. However, those applying for means tested scholarships who are unsuccessful are not normally awarded bursaries. This is because we only have limited funds available and those awarded scholarships take priority.

## **REGISTRATION AND ENTRY**

For pupils not currently at St Michael's a completed registration form, together with the registration fee of £100, should be returned to the Admissions Office with the scholarship application form and application letter written by the child. Applicants cannot be considered for scholarships unless they

have registered or are already a pupil at the school. Places are only confirmed once a final deposit has been received. The application deadline for September 2020 is **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January**.

## **KEY DATES**

The assessments and tests will be held in January. Practical assessments will take place on **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January** and written examinations on **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> January**. Candidates who are interviewed will be invited to attend an appointment during the following fortnight.

A tour of the school can be arranged for any parents who wish to see the school.

Offers will be made to coincide with Kent 11+ offer information and the closing date for acceptances of our scholarships will also be the closing date for accepting Kent school places.

## **GUIDELINES FOR CANDIDATES**

1. Papers are appropriate for boys and girls from State or Independent Schools.
2. Successful candidates will be asked to interview with the Headteacher.
3. Candidates will sit exams that are suitable for Year 6 students.
4. Candidates will need to bring with them a pen, pencil, rubber and ruler.
5. Candidates should come in their current school uniform.
6. Candidates should bring their sports kit

The papers set are designed to assess academic potential. There is no pattern to the examinations and past papers are not issued. The closing date for all entries is **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2020**. The relevant application form can be found on Pages 8 and 9. You can also download it from the website.

***St Michael's Prep reserves the right to make changes to any part of these arrangements.***





## SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM

*Please complete a form in block capitals for each pupil applying.*

Name of Child: .....

Date of Birth: .....

*Please tick all those that apply*

I/we wish our child to be considered for the following scholarship(s)

- Academic
- All rounder
- Art
- Drama
- Music
- Sport

Publicity for those who win scholarships. Lists are not published prior to acceptance.

- I understand that my child's scholarship result will only be publicised if I accept it.
- I give permission for my child to be interviewed, named and featured in the media.

Fee Remission

- I/we do not wish to seek any fee remission, thus allowing funds to be used for means-tested bursaries.
- I/we wish to apply for a small non means-tested scholarship (set at between 10% and 20% for most scholarships).
- I/we wish to apply for means-tested fee remission, which allows for scholarships greater than 20% to be given based on a family's financial circumstances, subject to sufficient funds being available.

Access arrangements

*Please detail below any special arrangements we would need to make in order to enable your child to perform at their best, ie. extra time (supported by an Educational Psychologist report) /enlarged print/wheelchair access etc.*

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

- I/we attach the application letter from my/our child. There is no fee for current pupils.**

SIGNATURES OF BOTH PARENTS

.....

Date

Date

Current school

If not a pupil at St Michael's Prep, please also give the name of your current school **and complete a standard registration form.**

Name of current school .....

- I/we attach a completed registration form and fee.



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