



BURGESS HILL
— SENIOR —

YEAR 7
ENTRANCE
EXAMINATIONS &
SCHOLARSHIPS

SEPTEMBER 2023



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Please note that the information contained in this booklet is subject to reasonable change.

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FOREWORD



Being a scholar at Burgess Hill Girls is a considerable honour. Scholars have been selected as paragons of excellence in their field and given a hard-earned accolade as a reward. Scholars are leaders and experts, and play a vital role in upholding and extending the standards of the school. We offer Academic, Art, Drama, Music and Sport scholarships, and look for exceptional academic standards, spark, spirit and intellectual curiosity.

Candidates who receive creative scholarships are expected to make a significant contribution to that area throughout their time at the school. Scholars are expected to act as ambassadors for their subject and give their full support to the relevant curricular and co-curricular areas.

Bursaries are means-tested and are awarded in addition to scholarships.

If you would like to discuss these opportunities further before making an application, please get in touch with our Admissions Department to organise a call, visit or tour of the school.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lars Fox', written over a thin horizontal line.

LARS FOX | HEAD

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

KEY DATES:

FRIDAY 2ND DECEMBER 2022

Deadline for entrance examination and scholarship applications

FRIDAY 2ND DECEMBER 2022

Deadline for bursary applications

MONDAY 9TH JANUARY 2023

Year 7 creative assessments begin

FRIDAY 13TH JANUARY 2023

Year 7 CAT tests

SATURDAY 14TH JANUARY 2023

Year 7 entrance examinations

FRIDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2023

Results posted to students

MONDAY 6TH MARCH 2023

Deadline for acceptance of scholarship and/or place offer

COGNITIVE ABILITY TEST

All students will sit an online cognitive ability test (CAT) before going into Year 7. This test supports our understanding of their developed abilities and likely academic potential. The test assesses a student's ability to reason with and manipulate different types of material through a series of verbal, non-verbal, quantitative and spatial ability tasks. The test is fully standardised across 25,000 UK students.

Students' CAT scores will be used to determine academic scholarship potential. Every student sitting the entrance examinations on the assessment day will be considered for an academic scholarship. Students who perform in the top percentile on the CAT test will be invited back for an interview with the Head.



EXTERNAL APPLICANTS

We are really pleased that you are interested in joining Burgess Hill Girls. If you haven't already visited, we can arrange for you to explore all the opportunities at Burgess Hill Girls further, either through a call with the Head or a private visit and tour of the school (guidelines permitting).

If you haven't done so already, to formally apply for a place, please send a completed registration form and fee to the Admissions Department.

INTERNAL APPLICANTS

All current Prep School students wishing to continue into the Senior School have a guaranteed place in Year 7. All internal students will be required to attend the entrance exam assessment day, and complete an online cognitive ability test. This test demonstrates a student's progress through their time at the school and also allows the school to place students in sets going into Year 7. Current students do not need to register for a place for Senior School.

If you would like to arrange a private meeting with the Head to discuss the opportunities available to you at Burgess Hill Girls Senior School before making a scholarship application, please do not hesitate to contact the Admissions Department.

ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS

- All internal and external students will attend the entrance examination days to complete an online cognitive ability test and papers in Maths and English. The day will also include other activities and taster sessions for the students to get to know each other, and experience the Senior School.
- All students completing the entrance examinations will be automatically considered for an academic scholarship.
- Students who perform in the top percentile on the CAT test will be invited back for an academic scholarship interview with the Head.
- If you are an external candidate we will request a written reference from your current school.

CREATIVE SCHOLARSHIPS

- Students may apply for a maximum of two creative scholarships.
- All students will complete the entrance examinations as detailed above.
- Students will also attend a creative scholarship assessment day to complete the process for their chosen scholarship/s. Further information about what each scholarship assessment entails is provided later in this booklet.



ART SCHOLARSHIP

Art scholarships are awarded to students whose imagination and passion allows them to develop and explore their creativity, building a foundation for a creative future.

The Art department comprises of a suite of light and airy rooms centred within an exhibition space. A strong emphasis is placed on student work, which is exhibited throughout the department and offers creative reflection and interaction between students. Lessons are held in a relaxed and friendly studio atmosphere where individualised help and advice is provided to ensure each student reaches their full potential. All students will take Art in Year 7 and Year 8, and are encouraged to explore and express their creative ideas, and use imagination and feelings to respond to given themes or topics. There is time to develop existing and new skills, and experiment with a range of new media, materials and techniques.

On the assessment day, applicants for an Art scholarship will:

- complete an observational drawing exercise;
- show an interest in the work of other artists and be prepared to discuss an artist of their choosing or an exhibition or art gallery they have visited;
- have an interview with the Head of Art to discuss their portfolio. This should consist of 5-10 individual art works created over the year, please do not include work that is more than a year old.

This is an opportunity for students to showcase their strengths in other mediums and using other processes, such as photography, ceramics, sculpture, animation, digital art work, painting and textiles.



Art scholars are expected to consistently act as a representative and exemplar of the Art department. They should significantly contribute to and foster the creative opportunities available, such as attending an art club, taking part in school exhibitions and competitions and attending out-of-school trips.

DRAMA SCHOLARSHIP

Drama scholars are leaders both on and off the stage and behind the scenes. As they develop expertise as actors and performers, they can also be extraordinary stage managers, aspirant playwrights or directors.

The Drama department is housed in a state-of-the-art drama, performance and music centre encompassing a 320-seat tiered auditorium, as well as a smaller drama studio. The original building was recently refurbished and extended to provide a theatre where girls put on performances spanning several nights and attracting audiences of over 1,000 people. Smaller-scale productions and exam pieces can also be performed in the studio, providing a more intimate atmosphere.

School productions reflect the broad talents and interests of the students, with recent shows including *Chicago*, *Noises Off* and *West Side Story*. Students have the opportunity to work alongside industry professionals to develop their skills and understanding of all aspects of theatre, both on the stage and behind the scenes. It is widely recognised that the varied disciplines of Drama - analysis, evaluation, performance, devising, spontaneity, collaborative work and presentation - as well as the opportunities for nurturing artistic expression, provide a strong platform of skills for the future.

On the assessment day, applicants for a Drama scholarship will:

- perform a set monologue which needs to be memorised prior to the assessment day;
- have an interview with the Head of Drama and an external adjudicator. Candidates should bring a portfolio or CV of past work, relevant experience, certificates of achievement etc. with them to the interview.

Before the assessment day, students will be asked to complete a personal statement and provide a written reference.

Drama scholars are encouraged to immerse themselves in the co-curricular Drama programme and productions. They should act as an ambassador for the Drama department, by encouraging and inspiring the uptake of Drama by other students.



MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP

Music scholars are first and foremost talented performers in one or more musical discipline. A fundamental skill is composure, time management and communication.

The Music department is a purpose-built facility linking neatly to the performance areas, with modern practice rooms surrounding the main teaching facilities. Students at all levels are involved in creating music at Burgess Hill Girls, and the inspiring performances showcased at concerts and within practice rooms encourage personal development across the subject.

Music is a vital part of the way we communicate and interact with the world around us. The course encourages students to develop a deeper understanding of the nature and language of music, a broader awareness of its cultural and historical contexts, and enhanced listening, performing and composition skills.

On the assessment day, applicants for a Music scholarship will:

- have achieved a minimum of Merit at Grade 3 on their first instrument (or Distinction at Grade 3 if they only play one instrument) and Grade 1 on their second instrument;
- have an audition with the Director of Music and an auditioning committee, demonstrating their talent on their instrument/s and/or voice. Students will perform two pieces (one on each instrument, or two contrasting pieces if they only play one instrument) which show good representation of their abilities;
- undertake a sight-reading test, aural tests and viva voce.

Before the assessment day, students will be asked to complete a personal statement and provide a written reference for each instrument. Students who require piano accompaniment should provide a photocopy of the accompanying music prior to the assessment day. The Director of Music will be happy to provide accompaniment.

Music scholars should play a significant role in the school's musical activities, which include orchestras, smaller ensembles, choirs, concerts and individual performances. A Music scholar should encourage the development of other musicians, as well as demonstrating the practice and dedication required to develop personally and within an ensemble.



SPORT SCHOLARSHIP

Sport scholarships are awarded to students who are top of their games and seek to continually push themselves and their performance to a higher level. Sport scholars are dedicated and hardworking individuals whose enthusiasm and encouragement inspires others around them.

Sport is an integral part of everyday life at Burgess Hill Girls and plays a crucial role in building confident, resilient and healthy young people. Students learn self-discipline, commitment, teamwork and leadership skills, and being girls- only provides a relaxed environment for PE where students can get involved without any inhibitions.

The school's main sports are hockey, netball, tennis and athletics, however there are many more on offer, both as part of the curriculum and as co-curricular activities. Students can try their hand at cricket, volleyball, swimming, football, trampolining, skiing and horse riding, and many more.

Students throughout the school regularly have the opportunity to represent Burgess Hill Girls in their chosen sports, and many also represent their club and the county.

On the assessment day, applicants for a Sport scholarship will:

- complete netball, hockey and fitness assessments;
- complete a written task;
- have an interview with the Director of Sport and an external moderator.

Before the assessment day, students will be asked to provide video evidence of any sport that is not netball or hockey. Students will also be asked to provide the name of one referee who knows the student's sporting ability, who may be called upon if required.

Excellence in sporting performance is key, and scholars are expected to play at least one sport at club level, as well as playing a prominent role in their school teams. Being a leader and ambassador for the school is very important, through supporting co-curricular clubs and maintaining good conduct in competitions and all aspects of performance and training. Sports scholars are expected to be committed to the training and development required to push themselves personally and as a member of the school teams.



BURSARIES



A fund is set aside each year to provide financial help for those in need. Bursaries are means-tested confidentially, and the value of a bursary is related to the income and financial resources of a student's family.

Bursaries are subject to annual review, and their continuation is dependent on a review of the family's financial situation and the pupil achieving the school's normal standard of behaviour and endeavour.

Most bursaries awarded are in the range of 10% to 30% to girls from families whose gross income is less than £60,000 per annum, with a single child at the school. Families with a total income of less than £30,000 per annum and with no capital assets other than their home may be eligible for a significant bursary subject to available funds. The maximum value of the bursary can be full published fees.

External applications for a bursary should be submitted by the deadline outlined in the key dates. Applications received after the deadline will not be successful if all available funding has already been allocated.

Families of existing pupils whose financial circumstances change may make a bursary application at any time throughout the year.

Please call 01444 241050 or email the Bursar at bursar@burgesshillgirls.com for further information and to request the application forms.



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— GIRLS —

Tomorrow's Women