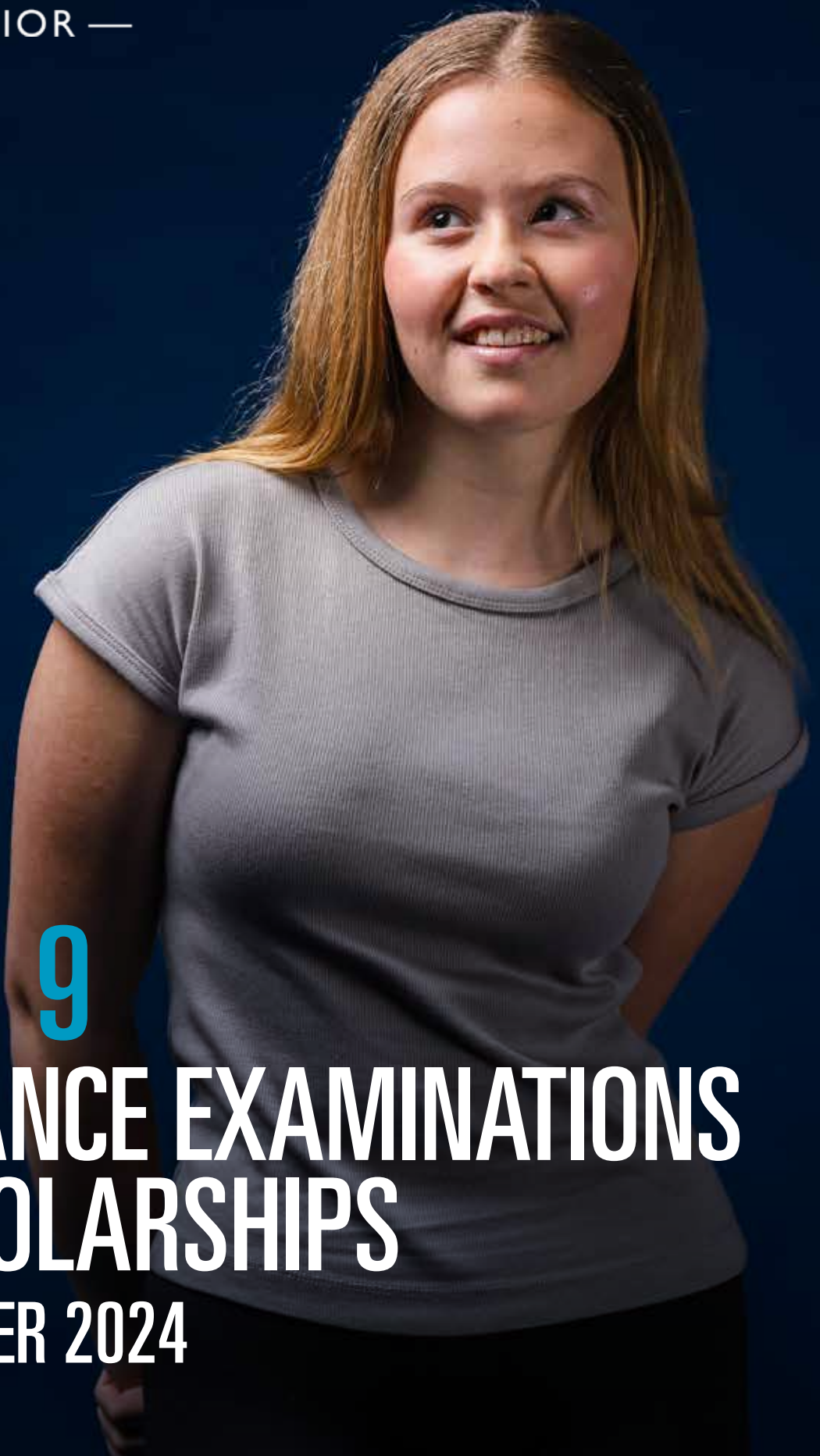




BURGESS HILL
— SENIOR —



YEAR 9

**ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS
& SCHOLARSHIPS**

SEPTEMBER 2024

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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. Creative scholars undergo an annual review with the relevant Head of Department.

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 in a cursive style.

LARS FOX | HEAD

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

KEY DATES:

FRIDAY 1ST DECEMBER 2023

Deadline for entrance examination and scholarship applications

FRIDAY 1ST DECEMBER 2023

Deadline for bursary applications

MONDAY 8TH JANUARY 2024

Year 9 creative assessments begin

SATURDAY 13TH JANUARY 2024

Year 9 entrance examinations

FRIDAY 2ND FEBRUARY 2024

Results sent to students

MONDAY 4TH MARCH 2024

Deadline for acceptance of scholarship and/or place offer



ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS

- Our Admissions Department will arrange for applicants to sit an online cognitive test on an individual basis, ahead of the entrance examination day.
- All students will attend the entrance examination day to complete a Maths test and an English test. The day will also include other activities for the students to get to know each other, and experience the school.
- All students completing the entrance examinations will be automatically considered for an academic scholarship.
- Students who perform in the top percentile on the tests will be invited back for an academic scholarship interview.
- 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 the 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 document.



COGNITIVE ABILITY TEST

All external students seeking a place at Burgess Hill Girls will sit an online cognitive ability test (CAT). This test supports our understanding of their developed abilities and 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.



ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP

Academic scholarships are awarded each year to students who demonstrate outstanding academic capabilities. They are celebrated as exemplars of academic success and provide a vision to others of what an exceptional student is.

External students' entrance examination 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 these tests will be invited back for an interview.

Academic scholars are expected to sustain a high level of academic performance and a positive attitude to learning throughout their time at Burgess Hill Girls. They should be exemplary role models both within the school and at external events, demonstrating the academic successes achieved at Burgess Hill Girls.

They are expected to take an active role in attending academic co-curricular activities, as well as fully embracing the academic scholar programme offered by the school. Academic scholars should aim high, safe in the knowledge that the school will support and push them to achieve their future aspirations.

Academic scholars will benefit from a supportive programme designed to enhance their academic performance whilst at the school, and to support their future ambitions. This includes:

- in-school events and visiting speakers;
- external museum and heritage site visits;
- super-curricular reading and engagement guidance.



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, and is able to explore the areas of the subject that interest them most. Students 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 exhibition or art gallery they have visited;
- be able to talk in depth about an artist of their choosing;
- have an interview with the Head of Art to discuss their portfolio. This is an opportunity for students to showcase their strengths in other mediums and using other processes, such as photography, ceramics, sculpture, animation, painting, and textiles.



Art scholars are encouraged to study Fine Art at GCSE, and should consistently act as a representative and exemplar of the school's Art Department. They should significantly contribute to and foster the creative opportunities available, assisting with in-school exhibitions 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 and 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 two contrasting monologues, which need to be memorised prior to the assessment day. One piece will be set by the school and the other is the student's choice;
- 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 study Drama at GCSE, as well as 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 skills. All these can be gained through extensive practice and performance.

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 5 on their first instrument (or Distinction at Grade 5 if they only play one instrument) and Grade 3 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 a 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 are encouraged to study Music at GCSE and 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 game and seek to continually push themselves and their performance further. 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, amongst 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;
- take part in a practical sport session led by an external moderator;
- 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.

Sport scholars are encouraged to study Physical Education at GCSE, and excellence in sporting performance is key. 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.



TEXTILES SCHOLARSHIP

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

Burgess Hill Girls has a dedicated Textile Design space where art, craft and design practice is meaningfully integrated with theoretical knowledge and understanding. Students are encouraged to be independent and develop their own personal creativity through exploration of different techniques and working styles. Students' work is often entered into regional and national competitions, where we have had significant success over the past few years.

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

- complete a practical task;
- show an interest in the work of other designers and artists, and be prepared to discuss an exhibition or gallery they have visited;
- be able to talk in depth about an artists or designer of their choosing;
- have an interview to discuss their portfolio. It is highly recommended that applicants include independent work in their portfolio alongside coursework.

Textiles scholars are encouraged to study Textile Design at GCSE, and should consistently act as a representative and exemplar of the school's Textiles Department. They should significantly contribute to and foster the creative opportunities available, assisting with in-school exhibitions and attending out-of-school trips.



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 Director of Finance and Operations at dfo@burgesshillgirls.com for further information and to request the application forms.





BURGESS HILL

— GIRLS —

Tomorrow's Women