



Scholarship Policy

Rookwood School

January 2025

1 Aims

This is the Scholarship policy of Rookwood School. The aims of this policy are as follows:

- 1.1 to deliver high quality opportunities that provides challenge for each individual learner;
- 1.2 to build student awareness, independence and responsibility for their learning so that they can work with drive and focus towards achieving their full potential.
- 1.3 to have a culture of academic endeavour and to celebrate achievement in all its forms.

2 Scope and application

- 2.1 This policy applies to the Senior School

3 Regulatory framework

This policy has been prepared to meet the School's responsibilities under:

- 3.1 Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014;
- 3.2 Statutory framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (DfE, September 2021);
- 3.3 Education and Skills Act 2008;
- 3.4 Childcare Act 2006;
- 3.5 Data Protection Act 2018 and General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR); and
- 3.6 Equality Act 2010;
- 3.7 ISI Inspections framework;
- 3.8 NMS statutory guidance;
- 3.9 SEN code of practice.

4 Publication and availability

This policy is published on the School website. This policy is available in hard copy on request.

- 4.1 A copy of the policy is available for inspection from the School office during the School day.
- 4.2 This policy can be made available in large print or other accessible format if required.

5 Responsibility statement and allocation of tasks

The Proprietor has overall responsibility for all matters which are the subject of this policy. To ensure the efficient discharge of its responsibilities under this policy, the Proprietor has allocated the following tasks:

Task	Allocated to	When / frequency of review
Keeping the policy up to date	Deputy Head Academic	As required
Monitoring the implementation of the policy and any action taken in response and evaluating effectiveness	Deputy Head Academic.	As required, and at least termly
Maintaining an up-to-date register	Registrar	Once a year
Seeking input from interested groups (such as pupils, staff, parents) to consider improvements to the School's processes under the policy	Registrar and Deputy Head Academic	As required, and at least annually
Annual review of scholarships	Registrar and Deputy Head Academic	Spring Term for the following academic year
Annual review of Scholars' results in GCSE and A level exams	Deputy Head Academic	September of each year

6 Awarding Scholarships

All places at Rookwood School remain subject to the School's Admissions process (See Admissions Policy for general admissions criteria).

It is possible to apply for more than one Scholarship. All scholarships are at the discretion of the Head.

6.4 Academic Scholarships receive up to 10% fee remission.

6.5 Performing Scholarships: (Music, Art, Drama, Sport) receive a 10% fee remission. In addition, Music Scholars will receive the equivalent of one free peripatetic lesson per week during term time.

6.6 Academic Scholarship are available at entrance at 11+, 13+ and 16+.

A number of Academic Scholarships are awarded to candidates on the basis of performance in the School's written papers in English and Mathematics as well as baseline testing. The exams are based on the National Curriculum expectations and therefore these exams are accessible to children from any setting.

6.7 Art Scholarship: Entrance at 11+ and 13+ and 16+

Candidates are required to produce two pieces of work at home, unaided:

- A drawing using any dry colour media. For example, it could be pastel, fine-line pen, conte crayons, coloured pencils or charcoal. The drawing can be of any subject e.g. a landscape, portrait or still life and could be in colour or black and white
- A painting copying or interpreting a painting by a well-known artist. This can be done using any type of paint except oil. We recommend using good quality paper or canvas for this to achieve the best result.

On the assessment day, candidates will complete an observational still life pencil drawing in the relaxed environment of the Art Department. This will last approximately an hour. The purpose of this is as much to identify creative potential as well as to assess current ability.

6.8 PE Scholarship: Entrance at 11+ and 13+.

Applicants for a Sports Scholarship must be representing a local team and/ or representing or working towards representing their County in their chosen sport. Scholars who are very good at a range of sports normally undertaken at Rookwood School may also be considered.

Applicants will be asked to submit a brief resume of their sporting activities to date, and should also provide a letter of recommendation from their coach or PE teacher. The assessment includes a fitness test and a group sporting activity.

6.9 Music Scholarship: Entrance at 11+, 13+ and 16+.

Ideally, musicianship and technical proficiency should be shown on two instruments which could include voice. One instrument should be Grade 3 standard or above (Associated Board or the equivalent). However, the School will audition a candidate if they only have one instrument at Grade 4 or above.

Applicants will be required to play one prepared piece of their choice, play a piece at sight and complete some aural tests.

6.10 Drama Award: Entrance at 11+ and 13+.

Applicants will be required to perform one prepared monologue of their choice, lasting approximately two minutes. This monologue should be learnt by heart. Applicants will also be asked to perform a short monologue or poem which will be given to them during the audition. Following the performances, there will be a discussion with the teacher with regards to the role that drama plays in the applicant's life. Applicants should also provide a drama portfolio which details any drama examinations that they have taken, roles they have had in a play or drama clubs they belong to.

6.11 Sixth Form Scholarship

A number of awards are available to candidates entering the Sixth Form. These are awarded as a result of interview, predicted GCSE results and/or baseline testing. The Scholarship is confirmed on GCSE results day and is to the discretion of the Head. The value of each award is determined upon the quality of each applicant, and may go above the remission value of 11+ and 13+ scholarships.

6.12 Headteacher's Special Award

A discretionary Scholarship (not always awarded) for a pupil who displays outstanding promise or contribution to School life.

7 Rationale (intent)

To provide planned academic opportunities for all Scholars, who could be joined by other pupils, to be stretched beyond the curriculum:

7.1 To celebrate the academic achievements of the students.

7.2 To improve the culture of academic rigour within the School.

7.3 To hold an event specifically for Scholars only.

8 Implementation

8.1 Academic Scholars are expected to contribute to the academic life of the school submitting regular scholarly work and articles to share with the rest of the school.

8.2 Academic Scholars in Year 10 and Year 11 are expected as a minimum to be achieving their target grades.

8.3 Sport Scholars are expected to contribute to the local community activity in their chosen sport and represent the School in their chosen sport as School reasonably deems appropriate.

8.4 Drama, Art and Music Scholars are expected to take an active role in the department, participating and promoting extra-curricular activities in performing arts and communicating proactively on a regular basis with the Head of Department. They should opt for a design or performance GCSE unless there is an exceptional reason submitted to the Headteacher in writing.

8.5 All Scholars are expected to maintain report results of blue and dark green for both study areas and attitude to learning grades in all reports. They should be role models in behaviour and standards of dress and ambassadors for their Scholarship area.

8.6 All Scholars are expected to be advocates for Rookwood School and represent and promote the School in a positive way within the local community.

8.7 All Scholars will be expected to contribute to open events, support and welcome visiting families.

8.8 An annual review of scholars is undertaken in the Spring Term of each academic year by speaking to relevant staff and reading school reports.

8.9 The Headteacher may withdraw a scholarship either as a result of the review process, or at any point in the year, for non-payment of school fees, poor student behaviour, lack of commitment and/or effort, attainment in the scholarship area falling below expected scholarship level and poor attendance at school.

9 Co-curricular opportunities

Scholars, along with other students, are given opportunities to practice and extend their skills. Some of these opportunities may be:

9.1 Internal – school competitions and debates, EPQ, Duke of Edinburgh, school show, leading workshops and clubs in Prep or lower senior years, musical ensembles, gallery exhibition, performances in concerts, additional qualifications e.g. Further Maths in Year 11.

9.2 Regional and National – Youth Speaks, UKMT maths challenge, Science Olympiads, Sporting fixtures, Drama competition, ISA competitions

10 Celebration of Achievement

Scholar’s achievements are celebrated throughout the academic year. Celebrations may include:

10.1 Annual digital book of student essays on the annual topic (to commence academic year 2025-2026)

10.2 Evening Scholarship presentations of work including performances for performing arts scholars

10.3 Termly achievement assemblies; Senior School Prize-giving; fortnightly Sway newsletter, SLT, Head Girl and other staff; social media; housepoints; postcards home; Parents’ evenings; Progress reviews;

11 Pastoral

11.1 Students with a Scholarship may put additional pressure on themselves to achieve at a high level. This can sometimes be detrimental to their mental health.

11.2 Form tutors will keep a careful eye on students to recognise when they are suffering from stress and pressure and support them to achieve a balance. This will take the form of one-to-one tutorials in form time, monitoring behaviours and looking out for signs of stress.

11.3 Assistant Heads of Senior School can provide further guidance and the schools safeguarding process can be used if there are further concerns.

11.4 Within tutor time, pre-emptive advice and support is given regarding coping strategies, time management and wellness within the PSHE curriculum.

11.5 Boarders receive further support from academic tutors and boarding staff who regularly complete welfare checks and monitor when students show a change in behaviour. There is academic liaison between heads of year and boarding to ensure that the boarding students are fully supported.

11.6 Parents are invited to larger celebrations of achievement and during the course of the year receive a letter sharing ideas on how they can support their child.

12 Version Control

Date of adoption of this policy	January 2025
Date of last review of this policy	January 2025
Date for next review of this policy	January 2028
Policy owner (SMT)	Deputy Head (Academic)
Policy owner	(Proprietor) Amit Mehta (ILG)