

SEVENOAKS SCHOOL

Art scholarships



Visual Arts at Sevenoaks

The Art department aims to foster independent, adventurous creativity. Specialist teachers share their practice and passions, enabling pupils to realise ambitious, personal and exciting work. Within the curriculum, pupils experience the widest range of disciplines. This includes painting, printmaking, ceramics, photography and digital imaging. You will find a gallery of our pupils' work here.

Art Scholarships

Art scholarships are offered annually at the age of 13+ or 16+. Those joining the school at 11+ may apply as internal candidates for the award at 13+.

The Scholarship Selection Process

Candidates wishing to be considered for an Art scholarship will need to provide a testimonial and attend an assessment session in the Sevenoaks Art department. This is a user-friendly process in which candidates are given choices and open tasks and are helped to show themselves in the best possible light.

Criteria

A satisfactory performance in the appropriate entrance examination is a condition of an Art scholarship. Art scholarships are open to boys and girls from any school. Children who join the school at 11+ may apply as internal candidates for an Art scholarship at 13+.

We are looking for gifted and committed young people who meet the normal academic requirements of the school but who also demonstrate outstanding artistic ability, particularly through creativity, imagination, manipulative skills, strong powers of observation and evidence of some specialist language and concepts appropriate to the appreciation of art.

We expect holders of Art scholarships to make a significant extra-curricular commitment to their artwork. It is expected that holders of Sixth Form awards will take Art at IB Higher or Standard Level.

Art scholarships will normally be awarded for the duration of a pupil's school career but may in the first instance be offered for a certain number of years.

All scholarships are reviewed annually and their continuance is dependent upon satisfactory conduct, attitude, participation and progress. At such a review, holders of awards are expected to assess their own contribution and to set targets for themselves.

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Assessment

We aim to make the process as user-friendly as possible, so that the candidates are helped to show themselves in the best possible light, by having everything explained in advance and by being given choices and open tasks.

There are three parts to the assessment:

1. A drawing test:

The candidates will be invited to spend time drawing from direct observation. A range of materials will be made available and it is expected that candidates will be able to demonstrate how they record what they see. The best preparation for this is to practise observational drawing.

2. The portfolio:

We have no pre-conceived ideas about what a portfolio might contain. It would be natural to expect work made as part of normal lessons at school, but we will be especially interested in other items, whether drawings, photographs, computer art, doodles in science folder margins, craft items made at home, or self-motivated art. The portfolio should be selected items that show the candidate's range and depth of interests, skills and knowledge. Asking for an absolute maximum of 20 items may help. The Head of Art will review portfolios without the candidates initially before inviting them for an informal interview.

3. An informal interview:

During the drawing test, candidates will be invited individually for a short, informal interview with the Head of Art. They will be asked to select one piece from their portfolio and explain the ideas and motivation behind it. Candidates will be expected to be able to discuss their work with enthusiasm and make connections with artists' work that they have studied.

4. Individual reports on each candidate are written and passed to the Director of Admissions, immediately after the assessment, along with recommendations for scholarships.

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Further information and application details

For further information, details of the applications process and application forms, please visit www.sevenoaksschool.org/scholarships. Work by students in the Art department can be viewed at www.sevenoaksschoolart.org

Applications for a 13+ Art scholarship should be made via the Director of Admissions no later than 1 February in Year 8.

For Sixth Form, applicants will be asked to indicate their interest on the confirmation forms.

The Head of Art, Mr Charley Openshaw, is pleased to meet candidates informally at any stage and to answer any queries. Please contact him on 01732 467718 or email cwo@sevenoaksschool.org