STAHS
PREP SENIOR SIXTH

Scholarships

Admissions Policy Related Document

September 2026

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STAHS P10: Admissions Related Document

SCHOLARSHIPS

Contents

General 3
Academic Scholarships 3
Art Scholarships 5
Debating Scholarships 6
Design and Technology Scholarships 6
Drama Scholarships 7
Music - Du Cane Instrumental and Du Cane Choral Scholarships 8
Sport Scholarships 10
Review of Scholarship Awards 11
Scholarship Terms and Conditions 11
Number of Scholarships 13

General

STAHS Scholarships are designed to reward excellence and to celebrate exceptional talent. In recognition of this achievement, the Scholar is offered a reduction in fees throughout their time at STAHS, provided they continue to meet the criteria for maintaining the award. A higher value scholarship is awarded at the Principal's discretion where a pupil has truly exceptional talent. In addition, Scholars are provided with many opportunities to stretch and challenge themselves in their target area through participation in the various Scholarship Programmes. Scholarships will only be awarded to pupils who already attend STAHS or who have been offered a place at STAHS based on the outcome of their admissions assessment. There are no scholarships available to pupils of the Prep School.

STAHS offers Scholarships for excellence in the following areas:

- Academic – awarded in Year 7, Year 10 and Year 12
- Art – awarded in Year 7, Year 10 and Year 12
- Literary – awarded in Year 7
- Debating – awarded in Year 12
- Design and Technology – awarded in Year 10 and Year 12.
- Drama – awarded in Year 7, Year 10 and Year 12
- Music – Du Cane Instrumental – awarded in Year 7, Year 10 and Year 12
- Music - Du Cane Choral – awarded in Year 7, Year 10 and Year 12
- Sport – awarded in Year 7, Year 10 and Year 12.

There is no need for a Year 7 Scholar to re-apply for a Scholarship in Year 10, or a Year 11 Scholar to re-apply for a Scholarship in Year 12; provided Scholars continue to meet the criteria for maintaining their award, entry into the next level of the Scholars' Programme will be automatic. The criteria for maintaining Scholarships changes in Year 10 and again in Year 12. Scholars are expected to understand and continue to meet the criteria of the different programmes as they progress up the School.

The decision to award a Scholarship and the level of associated tuition fee remission is entirely at the discretion of the Head of Senior on behalf of St Albans High School for Girls, and there is no ability to appeal the outcome of a Scholarship application or the value of the award.

Academic Scholarships

Information on the STAHS Academic Scholars' Programme, including expectations of Scholars and requirements for maintaining the award can be found on the website. The conditions of the award are also sent to parents at the time of offer.

Lower School - Atkins Scholars – entry in Year 7:

External candidates: External candidates are automatically considered for an Academic Scholarship when they sit the STAHS entrance assessments – there is no need to apply separately for an Academic Scholarship. Typically, the top 10 to 15% of the candidate cohort are invited to attend the Academic Scholarship Assessment Day. The Academic Scholarship Assessment will be in lieu of the interview, as there is an interview element to

the Scholarship Assessment. The decision by the Head of Senior to put a candidate forward for Academic Scholarship Assessment is final; there is no recourse to appeal.

Internal candidates (STAHS Year 6): The STAHS Transitions Panel will identify potential Academic Scholars from the Year 6 cohort and put them forward for Academic Scholarship Assessment. Normally, only the top-performing 10 to 15% of the year group are invited to the Scholarship Assessment. Transition Panel's decision to put a pupil forward (or not) for Academic Scholarship is final. If parents/guardians of a STAHS Year 6 pupil would like their child to be considered for an Academic Scholarship and they have not been put forward, the parents may instead register their child to sit the entrance assessment with external candidates. If the pupil's outcomes on the Assessment Day are within the top 10% to 15% of the candidate cohort, they will be invited for the Academic Scholarship Assessment as outlined above for external candidates. More information on the STAHS Transitions Panel can be found in the Teaching, Learning and Assessment policy related document Academic Transition Through the School available by request and on the school website.

Assessment: The assessment process for Atkins Scholarships will consist of a taster lesson, group activities and an interview,. There is no need to prepare specifically for the assessment.

Middle School - Hodgkin Scholars – entry in Year 10:

In Year 9, STAHS pupils not currently holding an Academic Scholarship may choose to apply for an Academic Scholarship from Year 10. Applications are due in Year 9.

Parents of external candidates wishing for their child to be considered for a Hodgkin Scholarship should complete the standard application form for entry to STAHS, pay the application fee and submit the application form for the Scholarship by the deadline date in the year preceding entry.

Successful candidates are likely to be amongst the top 10% to 15% of their cohort in terms of academic attainment and have a positive behaviour record, including good attendance, punctuality and excellent personal and academic conduct.

Assessment: The best applications will be shortlisted for interview. The assessment process for Hodgkin Scholarships will consist of an exercise completed under controlled conditions in school that assesses critical thinking, literacy and reasoning. A shortlist will be selected based on performance in this assessment and consideration of academic outcomes in end of year assessments. Pupils invited to interview will be asked to present to a selection panel on a pre-agreed topic of their choice. The presentation will be followed by questions assessing academic behaviours, mindset and potential.

Sixth Form - De Beauvoir Scholars – entry in Year 12:

In Year 11, STAHS pupils not currently holding an Academic Scholarship may choose to apply for a De Beauvoir Scholarship from Year 12. Applications are due in Year 11.

Parents of external candidates wishing for their child to be considered for a De Beauvoir Scholarship should complete the standard application form for entry to STAHS, pay the application fee and submit the application form for the fellowship by the deadline date in the year preceding entry.

Successful candidates are likely to be amongst the top 10% to 15% of the cohort in terms of academic attainment and have a positive behaviour record, including good attendance, punctuality and excellent personal and academic conduct.

Assessment: The best applications will be shortlisted for interview. The assessment process for De Beauvoir Scholarship will consist of a presentation to a selection panel of senior staff on a pre-agreed topic of the candidate's choice, followed by questions from the panel, a general interview, and a review of the candidate's academic (including co-curricular and super-curricular) engagement and achievement to date.

Art Scholarships

Information on the STAHS Art Scholarship programme including the entry criteria, expectations of Art Scholars and requirements for maintaining the award can be found on the website. The conditions of the award are also sent to parents at the time of offer.

There are three points of entry for Art Scholarships: Year 7, Year 10 and Year 12. Art Scholars must take GCSE Art (Year 10 Scholars) or A level Art (Year 12 Scholars).

Year 7 entry

Please refer to the website for full details of the application process.

Year 10 entry:

STAHS Year 9 pupils may choose to apply for the award from Year 10 and should submit the application form for the Scholarship by the deadline date in Year 9.

Parents of external candidates wishing for their child to be considered for an Art Scholarship should complete the standard application form for entry to STAHS, pay the application fee and submit the application form for the Scholarship by the deadline date in the year preceding entry.

Candidates must submit a portfolio of recent work that they have completed both in and outside of school.

In the Art Scholarship Assessment candidates will participate in an in-person assessment of their portfolio, where they will be asked to discuss the technical and academic aspects of their work. Candidates will be interviewed by the Head of Art and another member of the Art Department.

Year 12 entry:

STAHS Year 11 pupils not currently holding an Art Scholarship may choose to apply for the award from Year 12 and should submit the application form for the Scholarship by the deadline date in Year 11.

Parents of external candidates wishing for their child to be considered for an Art Scholarship should complete the standard application form for entry to STAHS, pay the application fee and submit the application form for the Scholarship by the deadline date in the year preceding entry.

Candidates must submit a portfolio of recent work that they have completed both in and outside of school, including highlights of their GCSE work where applicable.

In the Art Scholarship Assessment candidates will participate in an in-person assessment of their portfolio, where they will be asked to discuss the technical and academic aspects of their work. Candidates will be interviewed by the Head of Art and another member of the Art Department.

Debating Scholarships

Information on the STAHS Debating Scholarship programme including the entry criteria, expectations of Debating Scholars and requirements for maintaining the award can be found on the website and in the Scholarships brochure. The conditions of the award are also sent to parents at the time of offer.

Year 12 is the only point of entry for Debating Scholarships currently.

Year 12 entry:

STAHS Year 11 pupil may choose to apply for the award from Year 12 and should submit the application form for the Scholarship by the deadline date in Year 11.

Parents of external candidates wishing for their child to be considered for a Debating Scholarship should complete the standard application form for entry to STAHS, pay the application fee and submit the application form for the Scholarship by the deadline date in the year preceding entry.

Candidates must submit an application form to include details of experience in debating and how they would encourage and support others with their debating. If invited to interview, candidates will deliver a presentation to the selection panel (consisting of the Head of Debating and a member of the Senior Leadership Team). This will be followed by questions assessing debating behaviours, mindset and potential. Candidates will also compete in a British Parliamentary-style debate.

Design and Technology Scholarships

Information on the STAHS Design and Technology Scholarship programme including the entry criteria, expectations of Design and Technology Scholars and requirements for maintaining the award can be found on the website. The conditions of the award are also sent to parents at the time of offer.

There are two points of entry Design and Technology Scholarships: Year 10 and Year 12. Design and Technology Scholarships will be considered for any of the two disciplines of Textiles and Product Design. Design and Technology Scholars must take GCSE Design and Technology or GCSE Textiles (Year 10 Scholars) or A level Design and Technology (Year 12 Scholars).

Year 10 entry:

STAHS Year 9 pupils may choose to apply for the award from Year 10 and should submit the application form for the Scholarship by the deadline date in Year 9.

Parents of external candidates wishing for their child to be considered for a Design and Technology Scholarship should complete the standard application form for entry to STAHS, pay the application fee and submit the application form for the Scholarship by the deadline date in the year preceding entry.

Candidates must submit an application form to include details of competitions, clubs and events that they have been involved in. Candidates must also submit a portfolio of their current and recent work in any of the three disciplines.

In the Design and Technology Scholarship Assessment candidates will participate in an in-person assessment of their portfolio, where they will be asked to discuss the technical and academic aspects of their work. Candidates will be interviewed by the Head of Design and Technology and a specialist teacher for the discipline of their choice.

Year 12 entry:

STAHS Year 11 pupils not currently holding a Design and Technology Scholarship may choose to apply for the award from Year 12 and should submit the application form for the Scholarship by the deadline date in Year 11.

Parents of external candidates wishing for their child to be considered for a Design and Technology Scholarship should complete the standard application form for entry to STAHS, pay the application fee and submit the application form for the Scholarship by the deadline date in the year preceding entry.

Candidates must submit an application form to include details of competitions, clubs and events that they have been involved in. Candidates must also submit a portfolio of their current and recent work in any of the three disciplines.

In the Design and Technology Scholarship Assessment candidates will participate in an in-person assessment of their portfolio, where they will be asked to discuss the technical and academic aspects of their work. Candidates will be interviewed jointly by the Head of Design and Technology and a specialist teacher within the Design and Technology department.

Drama Scholarships

Information on the STAHS Drama Scholarship programme including the entry criteria, expectations of Drama Scholars and requirements for maintaining the award can be found on the website. The conditions of the award are also sent to parents at the time of offer.

There are three points of entry for Drama Scholarships: Year 7, Year 10 and Year 12. Drama Scholars must take GCSE Drama (Year 10 Scholars) or A level Drama (Year 12 Scholars).

Year 7 entry:

Parents wishing for their child to be considered for a Drama Scholarship should complete the standard application form for entry to STAHS, pay the application fee and submit the application form for the Scholarship by the deadline date in the autumn of the year preceding entry. Current Year 6 STAHS pupils should submit the application form for the Scholarship by the deadline date in the autumn of the year preceding entry.

Full details of the application process can be found on the STAHS website.

All candidates are interviewed by the Director of Drama and Head of Academic Drama and participate in a Q&A session with current Sixth Form Drama Scholars.

Year 10 entry:

STAHS Year 9 pupils not currently holding a Drama Scholarship may choose to apply for the award from Year 10 and should submit the application form for the Scholarship by the deadline date in Year 9.

Parents of external candidates wishing for their child to be considered for a Drama Scholarship should complete the standard application form for entry to STAHS, pay the application fee and submit the application form for the Scholarship by the deadline date in the year preceding entry.

A portfolio in support of applications is required. External candidates must submit one reference from their current school or an outside drama group.

In the Drama Scholarship Assessment candidates are required to perform a prepared monologue, followed by a feedback session in which they will be asked about their piece, and will be expected to take direction on their performance.

All candidates are interviewed by the Director of Drama and participate in a Q&A session with current Sixth Form Drama Scholars.

Year 12 entry:

STAHS Year 11 pupils not currently holding a Drama Scholarship may choose to apply for the award from Year 12 and should submit the application form for the Scholarship by the deadline date in Year 11.

Parents of external candidates wishing for their child to be considered for a Drama Scholarship should complete the standard application form for entry to STAHS, pay the application fee and submit the application form for the Scholarship by the deadline date in the year preceding entry.

A portfolio in support of applications is required. External candidates must submit one reference from their current school or an outside drama group.

In the Drama Scholarship Assessment candidates are required to perform a prepared monologue, followed by a feedback session in which they will be asked about their piece, and will be expected to take direction on their performance.

All candidates are interviewed by the Director of Drama and participate in a Q&A session with current Sixth Form Drama Scholars.

Music - Du Cane Instrumental and Du Cane Choral Scholarships

Du Cane Scholarships are awarded to outstanding musicians who play any instrument or sing with exceptional ability. Information on the STAHS Du Cane Scholarship programme, including the entry criteria, expectations of Scholars and requirements for maintaining the award can be found on the website. The conditions of the award are also sent to parents at the time of offer.

There are three points of entry for the Du Cane Instrumental and Choral Scholarships: Year 7, Year 10 and Year 12.

Year 7 entry:

Parents wishing for their child to be considered for a Du Cane Scholarship should complete the standard application form for entry to STAHS, pay the application fee and submit the application form for the Scholarship by the deadline date in the autumn of the year preceding entry. Current Year 6 STAHS pupils should submit the application form for the Scholarship by the deadline date in the autumn of the year preceding entry.

Instrumental Scholarship Candidates should offer two instruments (although an outstanding candidate with just one of Grade 7 standard would be considered). Normally candidates will have reached a minimum standard of Grade 5 on their principal instrument, although the potential of the candidate is an important factor.

In the assessment for Instrumental Scholarship, candidates will be required to perform one or two contrasting pieces on the principal instrument and one on the second and any other instrument offered. Candidates will be required to sing a short, prepared piece unaccompanied and will also be given a sight-reading test on one of their instruments, as well as aural and musicianship tests.

In the assessment for Choral Scholarship candidates perform two contrasting songs of their choice in any genre, have the opportunity to play a piece of their choice on an instrument and must prepare a verse of one unaccompanied song, such as a folk song. Candidates are tested in sight-singing and aural ability.

All Du Cane Scholarship Candidates are interviewed by the Director of Music and references from current teachers may be provided.

Year 10 entry:

STAHS Year 9 pupils not currently holding a Du Cane Scholarship may choose to apply for the award from Year 10 and should submit the application form for the Scholarship by the deadline date in Year 9.

Parents of external candidates wishing for their child to be considered for a Du Cane Scholarship should complete the standard application form for entry to STAHS, pay the application fee and submit the application form for the Scholarship by the deadline date in the year preceding entry.

Instrumental Scholarship Candidates should offer two instruments (although an outstanding candidate with just one would be considered). Normally candidates will have reached a minimum standard of Grade 7 on their principal instrument.

At assessment for Instrumental Scholarship, candidates will be required to perform one or two contrasting pieces on the principal instrument and one on the second and any other instrument offered. Candidates will be required to sing a short, prepared piece unaccompanied and will also be given a sight-reading test on one of their instruments, as well as aural and musicianship tests.

All Du Cane Scholarship Candidates are interviewed by the Director of Music and references from current teachers may be provided.

Year 12 entry:

STAHS Year 11 pupils not currently holding a Du Cane Scholarship may choose to apply for the award from Year 12 and should submit the application form for the Scholarship by the deadline date in Year 11.

Parents of external candidates wishing for their child to be considered for a Du Cane Scholarship should complete the standard application form for entry to STAHS, pay the application fee and submit the application form for the Scholarship by the deadline date in the year preceding entry.

Instrumental Scholarship Candidates should offer two instruments (although an outstanding candidate with just one would be considered). Normally candidates will have reached a minimum standard of Grade 8 on their principal instrument.

At assessment for Instrumental Scholarship, candidates will be required to perform two contrasting pieces on the principal instrument, plus a piece on any supporting instruments/voice. Candidates will be given a sight-reading test and aural tests.

All Du Cane Scholarship Candidates are interviewed by the Director of Music and references from current teachers may be provided.

Sport Scholarships

Information on the STAHS Sport Scholarship Programme and the Elite Athlete Support Programme, including the entry criteria, expectations of Sport Scholars and requirements for maintaining the award can be found on the website and in the Scholarships brochure. The conditions of the award are also sent to parents at the time of offer.

There are three points of entry for Sport Scholarships: Year 7, Year 10 and Year 12.

Year 7 entry:

Parents wishing for their child to be considered for a Sport Scholarship should complete the standard application form for entry to STAHS, pay the application fee and submit the application form for the Scholarship by the deadline date in the autumn of the year preceding entry. Current Year 6 STAHS pupils should submit the application form for the Scholarship by the deadline date in the autumn of the year preceding entry. Full details of the application process can be found on the website.

In the Sport Scholarship assessment candidates will be assessed for athletic potential, teamwork and leadership. All candidates will have an individual or group interview with the Director of Sport.

Year 10 entry:

STAHS Year 9 pupils not currently holding a Sport Scholarship may choose to apply for the award from Year 10 and should submit the application form for the Scholarship by the deadline date in Year 9.

Parents of external candidates wishing for their child to be considered for a Sport Scholarship should complete the standard application form for entry to STAHS, pay the application fee and submit the application form for the Scholarship by the deadline date in the year preceding entry.

In the Sport Scholarship assessment candidates will be assessed for athletic potential, teamwork and leadership, including in one or more of the main STAHS team sports during a squad training session. All candidates will have an individual or group interview with the Director of Sport.

Year 12 entry:

STAHS Year 11 pupils not currently holding a Sport Scholarship may choose to apply for the award from Year 12 and should submit the application form for the Scholarship by the deadline date in Year 11.

Parents of external candidates wishing for their child to be considered for a Sport Scholarship should complete the standard application form for entry to STAHS, pay the application fee and submit the application form for the Scholarship by the deadline date in the year preceding entry.

In the Sport Scholarship assessment candidates will be assessed for athletic potential, teamwork and leadership, including in one or more of the main STAHS team sports during a squad training session. All candidates will have an individual or group interview with the Director of Sport.

Review of Scholarship Awards

Near the end of each term, the members of staff responsible for each Scholarship Programme will provide the Head of Senior with the names of any pupils who are not currently meeting the criteria for maintaining their Scholarship. The member of staff will also meet individually with these pupils to offer support and advice to help them engage constructively with the Scholarship Programme. Parents will be informed of any such discussions. Pupils who have failed to meet the criteria will (where appropriate) be placed on an action plan that they must adhere to in order to avoid losing their Scholarship.

Scholarship Terms and Conditions

Awarding of Scholarships. Scholarships are granted at the sole discretion of St Albans High School for Girls.

1) **Obligations of the Pupil.** A pupil who is in receipt of a Scholarship award is required to meet the criteria for the maintenance of the award as outlined by the School. It is the pupil's responsibility to maintain their Scholar's Portfolio as evidence of their engagement with the Scholarship Programme. In addition to meeting the specific requirements of the Scholarship Programme, all Scholars must adhere to the School's required standards of conduct, attendance and progress.

2) **Obligations of the Parents/Guardians.** The parents/guardians are required to support and encourage the pupil, to engage fully with the Scholarship Programme, to maintain a constructive relationship with the School and to uphold the aims and good name of the School. The parents are also required to pay the balance of fees and extras by the first day of term.

3) **Annual Review.** All Scholarships will be subject to annual review (the Scholar's Review) to ascertain each pupil's engagement with the Scholarship Programme. Following the annual review, the School reserves the right to remove the award should it be clear that the pupil is not meeting the criteria for

maintaining the award. However, any such adjustment of award will not operate so as to increase the fees due in respect of a term which has already commenced.

4) **Withdrawal of the Scholarship.** The Scholarship may be withdrawn by written notice sent to a parent as a result of the Annual Review under paragraph 4 above or if, in the opinion of the Head, the pupil or a parent has not complied with the obligations set out in paragraphs 2 and 3 above. Withdrawal of the Scholarship will take effect from the start of the following term. If within fourteen (14) days following the withdrawal of a Scholarship award in its entirety a child is withdrawn from the School, no fees in lieu of notice will be payable.

5) **Fees in Lieu of Notice.** For the avoidance of doubt, fee reduction related to a Scholarship does not apply to any term for which the School has required payment of fees in lieu of notice.

6) **Conditions of the Scholarship.** These Scholarship Terms and Conditions take precedence over any of the School's standard terms and conditions which are inconsistent with them but in all other respects the School's Terms and Conditions as amended from time to time shall apply and these Scholarship Terms and Conditions shall be interpreted with them.

Number of Scholarships

The number of Scholarships awarded each year varies depending on the candidate cohort. Typically, between 10 and 15% of Senior School pupils will be identified as Academic, Music, Sport, Debating, Drama or Art/Design and Technology Scholars.