

NOTRE DAME 11+ SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

FOR ENTRY IN SEPTEMBER 2027

A limited number of scholarships are awarded to those students who excel in certain subject areas. Our Scholars are expected to positively contribute to the life of the School.

Details about our Academic, Art, Drama, Music, Musical Theatre and Sport Scholarships are included in this guide.

All candidates, internal and external, are welcome to apply and should carefully review the application criteria listed under each subject.

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Scholarship Applications

We welcome scholarship applications from all candidates, both current Notre Dame students and those joining us from other schools. We are looking for applicants whose skills and talents would make a positive contribution to life at the School, who would be a credit to the School and who would set a good example to their fellow pupils.

Duration

Scholarships awarded in Year 7 (11+) run until the end of Year 11 and are reviewed annually.

Value

Each Scholarship is worth 10 per cent of tuition fees per year, split equally across the three terms. Scholarships are subject to specific conditions, set out in our Conditions of Award document. By signing their acceptance, parents confirm they accept these conditions.

Please note

A pupil may hold more than one scholarship at a time, but the 10 per cent fee discount can only be applied once.





ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

Our Academic Scholars thrive on challenge.

Alongside their lessons, they dive into an exciting range of co-curricular opportunities designed to stretch and inspire them, including our Above and Beyond the Curriculum (ABC) programme. Here, Scholars take on an extended investigation of their own choosing, guided by dedicated staff mentors and earn achievement points along the way as they push their thinking further.

All ABC activities are showcased on Firefly, our online pupil and parent portal and we enjoy and encourage students who go further still by seeking out challenges of their own. We warmly encourage families to get involved too, exploring activities and sparking discussions together at home. It is a wonderful way to nurture your daughter's curiosity, deepen her thinking and help her flourish, academically and personally.

Application Criteria

External candidates (applying to join Year 7)

Every external candidate applying for a place in Year 7 will take our 11+ exam and is automatically considered for an Academic Scholarship, so there is nothing extra to do. If she is successful, you will hear the good news alongside her offer of a place and there is no additional fee for scholarship consideration.

Internal candidates (our Year 6 pupils)

Our internal Year 6 girls must apply for an Academic Scholarship by responding to the invitation sent out via SchoolPost. Applicants will sit the 11+ exam alongside our external candidates, giving them the same opportunity to shine. An assessment fee applies to sit the Academic Scholarship exam.





ART AND TEXTILES SCHOLARSHIPS

Our Art Scholars are true ambassadors for creativity at the School. They dive into art and textiles activities with real enthusiasm and proudly represent the School in exhibitions and events, internally, locally and nationally. Importantly, they act as inspiring role models for our younger students, sparking a love of art throughout the School.

One of the many joys of the Art Scholarship is the close mentoring from our Head of Department and the wider art and textiles team. Scholars have the chance to talk with their teachers about the kind of artist they hope to become, working together to hone their craft and bring their vision to life. They are invited to enter Notre Dame and national art and textiles competitions, opening the door to a wider world of art and design. Dedicated extracurricular sessions also give scholars personalised advice and guidance to help them flourish.

Art Scholars are invited to join gallery trips and where appropriate, our art and textiles trip abroad, a wonderful opportunity to explore galleries and museums and discover the artists and designers who came before them. Together, these experiences inspire and shape our young scholars as they grow into confident, imaginative artists.

Assessment Details

Notre Dame's Art Department is seeking Scholars who have potential in and a genuine passion for, art and design. To demonstrate this, candidates should submit the online scholarship form and submit a creative set of work of up to 10 slides on PowerPoint to be uploaded into their personalised file (the link will be provided in your invitation to apply).

The portfolio could include:

- Photos of original paintings, drawings, collage, print-making, textiles, photographs and other craft work
- Work produced at home as well as at school
- Evidence of the candidate's knowledge of observational drawing, painting and design ideas
- Use of colour and the ability to work with a variety of materials

Following an evaluation of all submissions, candidates may be invited to a practical assessment. During this assessment, candidates will:

- Be required to produce two observational still life studies within an hour and a half approximately: Full details will be explained on the day and all materials and subject matter will be provided.





DRAMA SCHOLARSHIPS

Our Drama Scholars lead by example, both in the Montaigne Theatre, classrooms and beyond. In lessons, they bring an open-minded, enthusiastic energy to learning new techniques and ideas, inspiring those around them.

In co-curricular activities such as clubs, Inter-House Drama and School Productions, Scholars are encouraged to be creatively ambitious, aiming for artistically demanding roles and committing fully to every scheduled rehearsal. All roles in School Productions are cast on the strength of auditions and we look to our Drama Scholars to prepare thoroughly, showcasing their ability and passion for Performing Arts at Notre Dame.

Scholars enjoy a host of exciting benefits, including invitations to theatre trips across all year groups, broadening their appreciation of a wide range of theatrical styles and genres. There are also special events just for scholars, such as audition workshops and acting masterclasses, designed to support and accelerate their practical performance skills.

Assessment Criteria

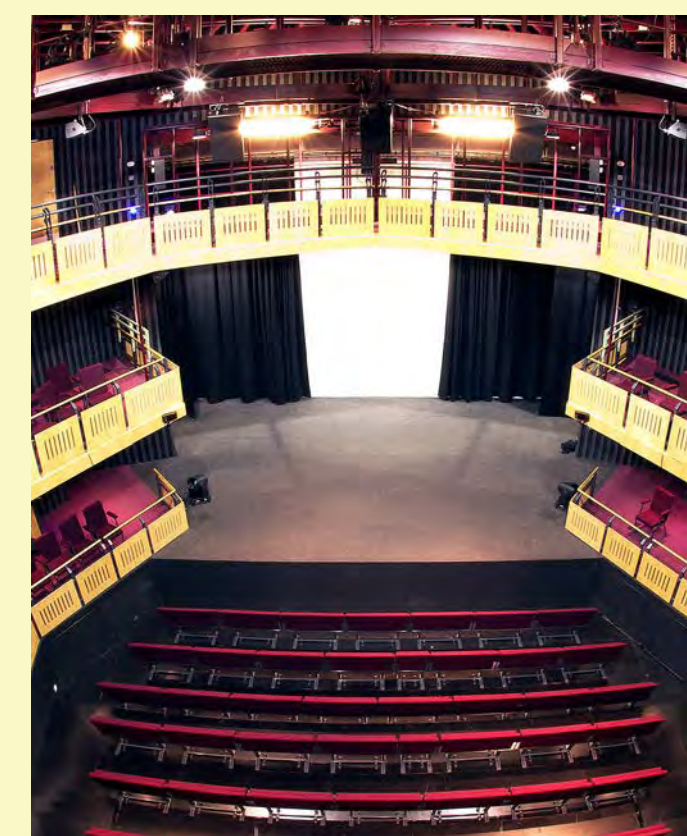
Candidates wishing to be considered for an 11+ Drama Scholarship should complete the online scholarship form and include a digital submission into their personalised folder (provided with the invitation to apply) that showcases their abilities and experience.

This should include:

- A list of drama activities and productions the candidate has taken part in
- Any LAMDA, Guildhall or Festival comment sheets, if applicable
- A short review, of no more than 500 words, written by the candidate evaluating a drama production they have seen, forming the basis for an informal discussion

Auditions

Following an evaluation of all submissions, candidates may be invited to audition. The audition process is informal and relaxed, as we want every candidate to enjoy the experience and perform at their best. Candidates should prepare a short character monologue from a play, no more than two minutes long, and take part in a group drama workshop. As this involves group work, we are regrettably unable to offer alternative assessment dates.





MUSIC SCHOLARSHIPS

Music Scholars are appointed following an audition, where each candidate performs on her instrument or voice, completes aural tests and sight-reading and takes part in an interview with the Director of Music.

Once appointed, Scholars play an active role within our thriving Senior Music Department. All Scholars attend at least one ensemble each week and are ready to perform in concerts, assemblies or other school events whenever called upon by the Director of Music.

Benefits of the music scholarship are threefold:

- **GCSE success:** We hope our music scholars will go on to take GCSE Music. The countless opportunities to perform at Notre Dame set scholars up brilliantly for the performance element of the course.
- **Endless performance opportunities:** Scholars enjoy a rich calendar of performances, including two scholars' concerts, two teatime concerts, an Easter concert, masses, prize giving and assemblies each year, all wonderful chances to grow as musicians.
- **Friendships for life:** Being part of a department that brings together all year groups is a fantastic way to build confidence and connection. The Senior Music Department is a brilliant place to make lifelong friends.

Assessment Criteria

Candidates wishing to be considered for an 11+ music scholarship should complete the online scholarship form sent out with the invitation to apply and they should upload the accompaniment scores needed for their audition to their personalised folder (sent out with their invitation to apply). No further submissions, such as certificates, are required before the audition.

Auditions

All candidates are invited to audition. The process is informal and relaxed, as we want every candidate to enjoy the experience and perform at her best. As part of the audition, the Director of Music will chat with the candidate about her musical interests and activities, as well as her wider interests and involvement in school life.

Candidates may perform unaccompanied or using their submitted accompaniment score. For the audition, each candidate should be prepared to:

- Perform two contrasting solo pieces on her first instrument
- Perform a solo on her second instrument or voice, if applicable
- Undertake some simple aural tests
- Share information on her level of skill (for example, grade exams) and her involvement in music, in and out of school





MUSICAL THEATRE SCHOLARSHIPS

Notre Dame's Musical Theatre Scholarship celebrates true 'triple-threat' talent, recognising girls who shine across singing, acting and dance. As part of our exciting Montaigne Performing Arts Programme, Scholars help lead the charge as we establish Notre Dame as a nationally recognised centre of excellence for the Performing Arts.

Musical Theatre Scholars take their place at the heart of school life, bringing energy and ambition to our School Productions, showcases and performance opportunities. They benefit from access to our professional-standard facilities and industry partnerships, including connections with National Youth Music Theatre, Italia Conti and Mountview Theatre School, as well as masterclasses, mock auditions and critiques from industry professionals. This is a wonderful opportunity for a talented all-rounder to be nurtured and inspired every step of the way.

Assessment Criteria

Applicants are invited to audition. The process is informal and relaxed, as we want every candidate to enjoy the experience and perform at her best. As part of the audition, the Director of Music Performance will chat with the candidate about her musical interests and activities, as well as her wider interests and involvement in school life.

- A group workshop exploring acting and dance
- An individual interview, during which candidates will:
 - Sing a solo song from a musical (candidates must bring their own backing track and sheet music or lyrics)
 - Perform a solo dance of their choosing, in a style of their choice, lasting no more than two minutes
 - Meet with the Head of Dance, Head of Music Performance and Director of Drama





SPORT SCHOLARSHIPS

Our Sport Scholars are true athletes at heart, training hard and competing proudly for the School. As part of our elite sports development programme, each Scholar is paired with a specialist sports mentor from our staff, offering individual support and advice, and all Scholars attend weekly tailored strength and fitness sessions to help them go from strength to strength.

Candidates are expected to offer at least one sport to a high standard, along with a real flair for picking up new skills and a genuine passion and commitment to sport more broadly. We look to our Sport Scholars to play a full and active role in sporting life at Notre Dame.

Sport scholars enjoy a fantastic range of benefits, including:

- A funded term of Strength and Conditioning at LOCKER 27 for Year 7 and 8 scholars
- Mentoring with the Director of Sport and Heads of Sport
- A Go Beyond Day, hosted at Notre Dame in the Spring Term, where scholars dive deeper into sports psychology, nutrition, fitness and trying new sports
- A half-day visit to LOCKER 27 for Year 9 and 10 scholars, with specialist fitness testing and education on training and recovery

Assessment Criteria

Sport scholarships are awarded to candidates with proven sporting ability and potential. Candidates wishing to be considered for an 11+ sport scholarship should complete the online scholarship form included in their invitation to apply and upload a brief supporting letter to their personalised folder (sent out with the invitation to apply). This letter should cover the following:

- How long the candidate has been participating in her chosen sport or sports
- School/Club/County or National participation and level
- Courses attended, awards gained (along with awarding body/level/year achieved)
- Details of positions of responsibility (eg captain)
- References from sports club coaches
- Candidate's aspirations
- Candidate's other interests, sporting or otherwise, in and out of school
- Any other relevant information to support the candidate's application.

Please note: A full portfolio is not required.

Assessment Arrangements

Sport Scholarship assessments are designed as a relaxed day for candidates, including lunch and breaks with internal and external applicants being assessed alongside each other, giving them a genuine feel for school life and our staff. Candidates offering gymnastics or dance will finish later than those not doing gymnastics. Further details will be sent out nearer the time.

Assessment Content

Candidates will take part in:

- Swimming, assessing stroke technique and speed
- Hockey, football and netball skills and match play
- Fitness testing
- Throwing and catching skills

What to Bring

- Comfortable clothing for the sporting activities listed
- A refillable water bottle and snacks
- Hockey stick, shin pads and mouthguard
- Swimming costume, towel, goggles and swimming hat





APPLICATION PROCESS

How to apply

Candidates will be invited to apply for a Scholarship following communication sent directly to families. External candidates will receive this invitation once registered on OpenApply (checking the box to apply for a scholarship), our admissions portal, while internal candidates will be invited via SchoolPost.

When to apply

Invitations to apply will be sent out in September, along with a link to the application form and a personalised link to a folder to upload any supporting evidence. As the form requires supporting evidence, as outlined in this document, please have everything ready before you start. Regrettably, if a candidate is unable to attend her scholarship assessment, we are unable to offer an alternative date.

Key dates

Scholarship applications open:	Autumn Term 2026
Scholarship Application Deadline:	Monday 2nd November 2026
Academic Scholarship Assessment Day:	Friday 20th November 2026
All Other Scholarship Assessment:	Week commencing 23rd November 2026
Scholarship Offers:	January 2027
Acceptance Deadline:	March 2027



Please contact our Registrar,
Mrs Jenny Slaymaker
with any questions.

01932 869993

admissions@notredame.co.uk

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