

COPTHORNE PREP SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS 2021



COPTHORNE PREP SCHOOL - SCHOLARSHIP POLICY

Like most Prep Schools, Copthorne seeks to attract and retain **very able** children through the awarding of Scholarships to recognise the skills and abilities of children currently in Year 6 (11+) to support them through Years 7 & 8 at Copthorne and hopefully enable them to gain a scholarship at the Senior School of their choice in Year 9.

This policy sets out the rules and justifications for the awarding of scholarships.

- Academic Scholars could receive up to 30% discount which is the maximum value of any single or combined Scholarship. This figure is set by Copthorne Governors and cannot be exceeded. Art, Sport, Drama and All-Rounder Scholarships are worth 10%, whilst Music Scholarships provide for free tuition in up to two instruments.
- Parents of successful scholars are entitled to apply for additional financial support in the form of a "means-tested" Bursary, based on their ability to pay fees, to supplement the scholarship. In exceptional cases this could meet up to 100% of the fees, depending on the personal circumstances of the applicants.
- The Scholarship starts in the September following the Assessment when children join Year 7, (although the Head does have some discretion to start this earlier if there is space in the school).
- The Scholarship would remain with the child throughout their last 2 years at Copthorne subject to certain criteria.
- Academic, Art, Music, Sport, Drama and All-Rounder Scholarships are available for children joining Year 7, whether internal or external candidates.
- Where the school deems the candidate able, but not yet at Scholarship standard in these areas, they may grant the child an "Award" with a value of 5% off the fees.
- Whilst the Scholarship or Award carries a fee remission, some parents are happy to forgo this remission and we can then put the money towards funding other worthy causes. Please let us know if this is something you may consider.
- The process of scholarship assessment is rigorously fair and the decision of the school is final.

The closing date for entries for both internal and external candidates is Friday 29th January 2021.

Academic scholarship assessments will take place in the week commencing Monday 1st March.

Sport/Art/Music/Drama assessments will take place in the week commencing Monday 8th March 2021.

All supporting evidence (portfolio's/references etc.) must be submitted to the school by Friday 5th March 2021.

Results will be emailed to parents by Friday 19th March 2021.

Academic Scholarship criteria

Scholarships are awarded to candidates who will make an outstanding contribution to the academic life of the school. Children entering the Academic Scholarship would be expected to be performing very well academically, and comfortably exceeding "national expectations" at their current school. A typical academic scholar would have a CAT score in excess of 125+ and show considerable academic ability in the core subjects of Maths, English, Science and a language.

The value of the Academic Scholarship can range from 10% to the maximum of 30% off the fees, depending on performance in the assessments. Where the assessment identifies promise, but not yet Scholarship standards, an Academic Award may be offered with a value of 5% off the fees.

The children sit a variety of age appropriate tests under strict exam conditions and the performance on the day is judged.

The tests will involve:

- A computerised Cognitive Ability (Reasoning) Test
- A creative writing task
- A maths problem solving assessment
- A group task
- An interview with the Head or Director of Teaching & Learning

The Scholarship/Award will apply until candidates leave at the end of Year 8, subject to an annual review, as long as they:

- Continue to perform towards the top of the year group in all their academic studies
- Approach all areas of school life with a positive and enthusiastic attitude
- Are prepared to be a positive role model for Copthorne, and represent the school in academic events and at least two Open Mornings (if appropriate) in each calendar year
- Abide by the school rules and core values

Please note that a Scholarship, Bursary or Award will be withdrawn if parents fail to adhere to the above conditions or the school's terms and conditions, specifically that the payment of fees must be made on or before the first day of each term.

Art Scholarship Criteria

Children entering an Art Scholarship would be expected to have a portfolio of 20+ pieces of work available for examination, containing a range of work in different styles/mediums/sizes, in addition (for internal candidates only) to any art work completed at School.

Successful Art Scholars will receive a 10% discount off the fees. Where the assessment identifies promise, but not yet Scholarship standards, an Art Award may be offered with a value of 5% off the fees.

Candidates would undergo an Art Assessment at Copthorne including a test of observational drawing and an interview with the Head of Art to discuss their portfolio.

We are looking for a level of interest in Art that clearly extends beyond lessons in school, and successful candidates are likely to spend time at home pursuing art activities, visiting galleries etc.

The Scholarship/Award will apply until candidates leave at the end of Year 8, subject to an annual review, as long as they:

- Continue to work hard in art lessons at school and also continue to produce art work independently at home
- Commit enthusiastically to all Copthorne activities involving art (Art Club, Open Mornings etc.)
- Are prepared to be a positive ambassador for Copthorne art
- Continue to represent Copthorne at art events, where appropriate
- Recognise that School events involving art take priority over external events (by negotiation)
- Approach all areas of school life with a positive and enthusiastic attitude
- Continue to abide by the school rules and core values

Please note that a Scholarship, Bursary or Award will be withdrawn if parents fail to adhere to the above conditions or the school's terms and conditions, specifically that the payment of fees must be made on or before the first day of each term.



Music Scholarship Criteria

Children entering a Music Scholarship should be at Grade 4 standard in one instrument and be learning a second instrument at Grade 2 or 3 standards. An understanding of Music theory would be required. Involvement in orchestras, choirs, ensembles both in and outside school would be expected.

Successful Music Scholars will receive free music tuition in up to two instruments. Where the assessment identifies promise, but not yet Scholarship standards, a Music Award may be offered which provides for free tuition in one instrument.

Candidates will be assessed by the Director of Music and would be expected to perform some prepared pieces as well as undergo aural skills and sight-reading tests.

The Scholarship will apply until candidates leave at the end of Year 8, subject to an annual review, as long as they:

- Continue to have individual music tuition in their chosen instruments and sit ABRSM examinations as appropriate
- Study Music Theory as an extra activity
- Participate in School orchestras, choirs and ensembles as appropriate
- Represent the school/perform at music events throughout the year (concerts, Open Mornings)
- Recognise that School Music events take priority over external events (by negotiation)
- Approach all areas of school life with a positive and enthusiastic attitude
- Continue to abide by the school rules and core values

Please note that a Scholarship, Bursary or Award will be withdrawn if parents fail to adhere to the above conditions or the school's terms and conditions, specifically that the payment of fees must be made on or before the first day of each term.





Drama Scholarship Criteria

Children entering a Drama Scholarship will be expected to be involved in local drama activities beyond the school. This is likely to involve participation in Lamda, Stagecoach or similar for a period of at least two years.

Candidates should have a prepared portfolio demonstrating their level of skill, and showcasing some of the activities/productions they have already participated in over this minimum two-year period.

Successful Drama Scholars will receive a 10% discount off the school fees. Where the assessment identifies promise, but not yet Scholarship standards, a Drama Award may be offered with a value of 5% off the fees.

Candidates would be assessed in Copthorne by the Head of English and Drama. They would be expected to have prepared at least two pieces/activities in advance **AND** be given some improvisation activities to perform spontaneously at the assessment.

Candidate's portfolios would be examined as part of an interview with the Head of English & Drama.

The Scholarship will apply until candidates leave at the end of Year 8, subject to an annual review, as long as they:

- Continue to participate in drama activities both in and outside school
- Continue to study LAMDA as an extra activity
- Represent the school/perform at drama events throughout the year (concerts, Open Mornings)
- Recognise that School drama events take priority over external events (by negotiation)
- Approach all areas of school life with a positive and enthusiastic attitude
- Continue to abide by the school rules and core values

Please note that a Scholarship, Bursary or Award will be withdrawn if parents fail to adhere to the above conditions or the school's terms and conditions, specifically that the payment of fees must be made on or before the first day of each term.

Sport Scholarship Criteria

Children entering a Sports Scholarship would be expected to be performing at a high level in at least two sports that Copthorne participate in.

We are seeking children who are already at, or close to County standards or above. All candidates therefore should be leading members of their school/club teams in at least two sports, performed at the school.

Candidates should have a prepared portfolio showcasing some of their sporting achievements over at least the preceding two-year period. This should include references from club, representative and/or academy coaches on the candidates technical, tactical attributes and their coachability. Video evidence is particularly welcome to support this.

Successful Sport Scholars will receive a discount of 10% off the fees. Where the assessment identifies promise, but not yet Scholarship standards, a Sports Award may be offered with a value of 5% off the fees.

Candidates would be assessed in Copthorne by members of the PE/Games Department. This assessment would include tests of speed, agility, power, co-ordination and fitness.

Candidates would also be observed in game situations, in the pool, and be subject to an interview and a review of their portfolio.

The Scholarship/Award will apply until candidates leave at the end of Year 8, subject to an annual review, as long as they:

- Lead by example in a positive approach to learning in Games lessons and be a role model to others
- Continue to participate in competitive sport both in and outside school and perform to a high level
- Recognise that school sporting events take priority over external events (by negotiation)
- Approach all other areas of school life with a positive and enthusiastic attitude
- Continue to abide by the school rules and core values

Please note that a Scholarship, Bursary or Award will be withdrawn if parents fail to adhere to the above conditions or the school's terms and conditions, specifically that the payment of fees must be made on or before the first day of each term.



All-Rounder Scholarship Criteria

Children entering an All-Rounder Scholarship would be expected to have at least three strong areas, of which one should be academic, and the others either art, music, sport, drama, or other appropriate skill in an activity pursued by the school. **Successful All-Rounder Scholars will receive a discount of 10% off the fees. Where the assessment identifies promise, but not yet Scholarship standards, an All-Rounder Award may be offered with a value of 5% off the fees.**

Whilst the standards expected are not quite as high as they would be for individual Scholarships, we are looking for exceptional children with genuine talents in many areas, rather than average children who do a lot! Appropriate assessments in the candidates chosen areas will be arranged with the relevant staff.

General Guidelines (please approach specific Heads of Department if you require further clarification)

Academic – Mean CAT scores in excess of 120 +, and performing well in the core subjects at their current school

Art – a prepared portfolio of 10+ pieces in a variety of styles and evidence of work that stretches over a two-year period.

Music – a minimum of Grade 3 in at least one instrument, plus involvement in musical activities in and out of school - Choirs, ensembles, orchestras etc.

Sport – top age group teams in current school in at least two sports (pursued by Copthorne) and involvement in sport outside of school. Candidates must demonstrate appropriate levels of fitness, agility, speed, co-ordination and power.

Drama – A minimum of LAMDA grade 3 or equivalent, with a prepared portfolio that demonstrates involvement in drama activities over at least a two-year period.

The Scholarship/Award will apply until candidates leave at the end of Year 8, subject to an annual review, as long as they:

- Continue to participate in appropriate activities both in and outside school and perform to a high level
- Continue to attend the Sports/Art/Music/Drama Scholarship programme as an extra after school activity as appropriate
- Recognise that school events take priority over external events (by negotiation)
- Approach all areas of school life with a positive and enthusiastic attitude
- Continue to abide by the school rules and core values

Please note that a Scholarship, Bursary or Award will be withdrawn if parents fail to adhere to the above conditions or the school's terms and conditions, specifically that the payment of fees must be made on or before the first day of each term.

Frequently Asked Questions

- **What is the difference between a Scholarship and an Award?**

A Scholarship is ranked higher than an Award and carries a value of at least 10% discount off the fees, whereas an Award recognised that children are good, but not at Scholarship level yet. An Award carries a value of 5% off the fees.

- **How many Scholarships does the school offer each year?**

The school does not have a set amount, or a set scholarship fund. Children are only offered a Scholarship if they are at the required standard, so this will vary year on year.

- **What is a Bursary?**

A bursary can be given in addition to a Scholarship in recognition of financial need, and can enhance a scholarship. Bursaries are means-tested and parents are asked to complete a confidential financial circumstance form which is then assessed by the school.

- **Am I likely to qualify for a Bursary?**

Means tested bursaries are intended to target those families most in need of the limited support that the school can offer. A family's financial circumstances are assessed to determine a "net-worth" value and if this falls within the normal scope a sliding scale of bursarial support can be applied where funding permits.

- **When are the Scholarship Assessments done?**

Scholarships are completed in the second half of the Spring Term.

The closing date for entries for both internal and external candidates is Friday 29th January 2021.

Academic scholarship assessments will take place in the week commencing Monday 1st March.

Sport/Art/Music/Drama assessments will take place in the week commencing Monday 8th March 2021.

Results will be emailed to parents by Friday 19th March 2021.