



Glenalmond College



ADMISSION FOR ENTRY 2025

12+ & 13+
SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships

At Glenalmond College, scholarships are awarded to applicants on the basis of aptitude, potential and attitude. Scholars should always act as ambassadors and champions for their particular specialism and encourage their fellow pupils to show similar enthusiasm and commitment to the life of the College. Scholars are expected to demonstrate leadership and to participate fully in all school activities and events. They are required to meet the highest standards; at all times they are role models.

In return, Scholars will be carefully supported and will benefit from a programme of enrichment activities that will help them develop their potential.

Applications are encouraged from candidates who believe they possess the necessary ability or potential in a specific area or subject. Attitude, optimism, resilience, determination and curiosity are also important criteria.

Warden's Scholarships

These scholarships were introduced by the Warden in 2023 and may not be applied for. If, during the process of assessment for a scholarship (in any discipline) at Glenalmond, a candidate is considered to possess outstanding leadership potential, then the Warden may award one of these scholarships. The holders meet regularly with the Warden to discuss leadership and the development of their own leadership during their time at the College. A Warden's Scholarship may be held in conjunction with another scholarship.

Mark Mortimer
Warden



Expectations of Scholars:

All pupils at the College are expected to give 100% effort, throw themselves into the life of the College and contribute to the school community. However, the College's expectations of Scholars are particularly high and they are expected to live up to those expectations and to set the highest standards.

The Deputy Head, Staff and Pupil Development, through the respective heads of department will provide more specific and detailed guidance for Scholars during their time at Glenalmond, but in general those in receipt of such scholarship are expected to:

1. Meet the level of progress and development reasonably expected of a Scholar by the relevant head of department.
2. Make a significant and consistent contribution to the area of College life in which they have been given a scholarship (e.g. plays, ensembles, concerts, practice, fixtures, shows, exhibitions, clubs & societies) for the duration of their time at the College.
3. Meet the required level of commitment, practice and performance as laid down and stipulated by the head of department.
4. Show great determination to fulfil their identified potential or ability and strive to be the best they can be. This requires focused and consistent effort and application.
5. Act as a role model within the College and set an aspirational and outstanding example for other pupils. This may well include coaching or mentoring younger pupils.
6. Act at all times as an ambassador for the College (e.g. at fixtures, concerts or plays).
7. Support the relevant department when required, e.g. open mornings, feeder school events and masterclasses.
8. Successfully manage their time and school commitments (with guidance and support from their tutor).
9. Gain experience from involvement with relevant clubs, teams, societies and groups beyond school.
10. Communicate proactively on a regular basis with the relevant head of department.

The award of a scholarship is for the duration of the pupil's time at the College. However, as well as being mentored and supported, the award holders will be reviewed against these expectations on a termly basis by the Deputy Head, Staff and Pupil Development. The School reserves the right, after consultation with the pupil and parent, to withdraw a scholarship.

The following pertains to all scholarship applications:

A scholarship is awarded at the sole discretion of the Warden. There is no right of appeal.

A candidate may apply for more than one scholarship. Glenalmond scholarships are highly prized and are awarded in recognition of proven talent or exceptional potential. They are prestigious accolades, the integrity of which lies in their honorary capacity and the access to the scholarship programmes that the College offers. Each Scholar is given the necessary support, tuition and, potentially, financial remission as deemed appropriate by the Glenalmond College Scholarship Committee.

Candidates may be entered for up to four of the following scholarships: Academic, Art, Drama, Design, Golf, Music, Choral, Piping, Sport.

A candidate may hold no more than two scholarships; this is to ensure that in order to perform at the top of their cohort, we take care to challenge them in such a way as to supplement and enhance their areas of scholarship, rather than put undue pressure on them.

All scholarships are awarded on merit and will be awarded to those candidates who perform at an outstanding level. All candidates will have an interview with the Warden.

To apply for a scholarship, pupils must submit a personal letter to the Warden, a CV (and portfolio if relevant), and a reference from their current Head.

12+ & 13+ Academic Scholarships

Pupils are expected to sit written papers in the following subjects:

Subject 12+	minutes	Subject 13+	minutes
Mathematics	30	Mathematics	60
English	30	English	60
CAT4	60	Science	60
		Modern Languages	60
		Geography	60
		History	60
		General Paper *	60
		Latin and/or Greek (if taught at current school)	60
		Divinity	60

In addition to the written papers, pupils will be expected to complete a French speaking test with our Head of Modern Languages and an interview with the Head of the William Bright Society (Scholars' Society).

*"The General Paper is designed to test reasoning and initiative in tackling the unexpected, for example in Art, Music, Current Affairs, Politics, social issues, etc. There will be questions testing critical thinking, creative thinking, and clear communication."

The following scholarships are offered at Glenalmond:

- Academic Scholarship
- Art Scholarship
- Drama Scholarship
- Design Scholarship
- Golf Scholarship
- Music Scholarship
- Choral Scholarship
- Piping Scholarship
- Sports Scholarship



What are the benefits of becoming an Academic Scholar?

At Glensalmond College, all Scholars can look forward to participating in the Scholars' Programme, and will be recognised as a Scholar and have their name included on the Scholars' List. Academic Scholars will specifically benefit from:

- Mentoring and guidance, enabling pupils to set goals and explore their own areas of academic interest through a personalised scholars' programme.
- Membership of the William Bright Society, which provides opportunities for pupils to broaden their experiences and enhance their critical thinking, creativity and communication skills through participation in trips, workshops, group activities and appropriate extension tasks.
- Monitoring of academic progress and engagement in co-curricular and enrichment activities to allow for support, advice and encouragement where appropriate.
- A Scholars' Portfolio detailing goals, achievements and participation throughout their time at Glensalmond College.

Who can apply?

High performing pupils will be assessed for scholarships in a variety of ways according to their year of entry. For Academic Scholarship consideration, pupils will sit the Glensalmond College Scholarship examination.

What do we expect of an Academic Scholar?

Scholarships are awarded for the duration of the pupil's time at the College. It is expected that the candidate will maintain a high level of achievement, effort and contribution to the academic life of the College.

Academic Scholarship Assessment

Academic Scholarships are awarded to a small selection of pupils as a public recognition of academic talent and rigour. They are usually awarded at the start of the Second or Third Form and in the Lower Sixth Form. They are awarded on the basis of the Glensalmond Scholarship Examinations. An Academic Scholarship offers a wide range of additional opportunities and support to fulfil academic potential.

Scholars must be willing to work hard, get involved, be flexible and play a leading role in the life of the College. They should be enthusiastic and engaged across a range of academic disciplines. They will be model pupils in lessons, during external visits and when participating in any College events. Scholars will be expected to maintain a high level of academic achievement in all subjects and be prepared to make presentations and/or speeches at College events. It is expected that academic scholars demonstrate sufficient appetite and aptitude for learning across all academic disciplines and attend enrichment activities available at the College.

The Head of the William Bright Society (WBS) will mentor the Scholars and take a particular interest in tracking their progress. Through a programme of lectures, visits and the WBS Thinking Series it is the intention to enrich the Scholars' everyday school experience. All Scholars will have personalised mentoring and unique opportunities. We offer our Academic Scholars:

- Membership of the WBS, an academic society which organises regular evening sessions (two per half term) providing both a Lecture and a Thinking Series covering an interesting or peripheral aspect of an academic area. This bespoke programme of talks and meetings is created to push students' perception of and exposure to different subject disciplines.
- Regular opportunities to engage in enhancement across all disciplines to expose them to new ideas.
- A bespoke mentoring programme with the Head of the WBS, who will guide Scholars in their extracurricular reading and also discusses progress, challenges and points for development.



Art Scholarship Assessment

We aim to make the process as accessible as possible so that candidates can show themselves in the best possible light.

There are three parts to the assessment:

1. Drawing test:

Candidates will be invited to spend time drawing from direct observation using a material of their choosing. 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, feel and observe. The best preparation for this is to practise and feel confident.

2. The portfolio:

We have no preconceived ideas about what a portfolio might contain. It would be natural to expect work made as part of normal lessons at school. However, we will be especially interested in other items, whether drawings, photographs, computer art, doodles, craft items made at home, self-motivated art, experimentation and sketchbooks. 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 15 items may help. The Head of Art will review portfolios without the candidates initially before inviting them for an informal interview.

3. An informal meeting:

Candidates will be invited for a short, informal interview with the Head of Art. They will be asked to select one or two pieces from their portfolio and to explain the ideas and motivation behind them. Candidates will also be expected to discuss their work with enthusiasm and make connections with artists' work that they have studied or observed.

What we offer:

- We offer a program of Masterclasses once a week mainly in the second and third terms.
- One-to-one tutorials to discuss current work and the direction of personal areas of interest.
- Exhibitions and competitions.
- Visiting speakers and trips.

Scholars need to play an active part within the department throughout their time at Glenalmond and every year produce work for exhibitions and competitions.



Design Scholarship Assessment

Candidates applying for a Design scholarship must demonstrate a genuine interest in design and making. They will have an informed knowledge of design and creativity through visits to exhibitions and museums and a developed vocabulary from wider learning and experience. Due to the varied differing nature of the subject, the overriding factor in whether a candidate receives an award will be whether they show exceptional creative promise and enthusiasm for Design.

There are three parts to the assessment:

1. Making task:

The candidates will have practical processes demonstrated to them by a member of staff in one of our workshops. These processes are then to be used as a starting point for the candidates to manufacture a product. A range of materials will be made available and it is expected that candidates will be able to demonstrate accuracy, originality, initiative, creativity and problem solving attributes.

2. The portfolio:

The candidates will be expected to present a portfolio or samples of their work as evidence of design and making that they have completed recently either in school or home or at a club. 3D work should be photographed. There is no prescribed format or specific requirement regarding content or presentation of the portfolio, but it is anticipated that there will be a range of interests and experience. The Head of Design will review portfolios without the candidates initially before inviting them for an informal interview.

3. An informal interview:

The Head of Design will interview the candidate. It is expected that the candidates will be able to discuss the examples of work they have brought with them on the day and talk about good design in common products and demonstrate their enthusiasm for the subject. The interview is there to assess the candidate's knowledge of the following areas:

1. Enthusiasm and interest in the subject.
2. Blue-sky thinking and problem-solving.
3. Eco-Design and Inclusive design.

What we offer:

- One-to-one tutorials to discuss current work and the direction of personal areas of interest.
- Co-curricular clubs and activities.
- Entering work for Exhibitions and competitions.
- Visits to suitable local Exhibitions and Workshops.
- Extended use of the Design facilities.

Scholars need to play an active part within the department throughout their time at Glenalmond College.

Drama Scholarship Assessment

The Glenalmond Drama Scholarship is a public recognition of talent and ability. And because there are only one or two drama scholarships available, they are very prestigious.

The Drama Scholarship enables pupils to develop incredible specialist and personal social skills, but it will also be an impressive accomplishment on your CV. The scholarship offers a wide range of additional opportunities and professional support to develop pupils' appreciation and skills in drama and performance. The scholarship is designed to further develop pupils who have shown excellence within drama either as a performer or in technical theatre and to fully support them in the audition process to further education in drama leading to a professional career in the Performing Arts.

Scholars must be willing to work hard, get involved, be flexible and play a leading role in the life of the department. They should be enthusiastic, engaged and willing to experiment with new ideas, methods and genres across a range of drama activities. They will be model drama students in lessons, during theatre trips and when participating in drama-related events such as workshops. Scholars will be expected to perform in all college drama productions and events and be prepared to perform and make presentations and/or speeches at the discretion of the Head of Drama.

It is expected that drama Scholars demonstrate sufficient interest and aptitude to pursue Drama and Theatre Studies not only through GCSE and A Level but also exhibit a genuine interest in drama and theatre outside of the college by attending the theatre, and/or participating in drama courses and/or workshops, and/or auditioning for the Youth Theatre Groups, National Youth Theatre or other appropriate extension programmes. Scholars will also be invited to participate in a range of professionally-led workshops, lectures and events, as well as a separate programme of events and trips focused particularly on drama.

The Head of Drama will mentor the scholars and take a particular interest in fast-tracking their progress. Through a programme of special events, it is the intention to enrich the Scholars' drama and everyday school experience. All Scholars will have personalised mentoring and unique opportunities. These include:

- Work closely with the Head of Drama in order to develop drama skills and to prepare for future auditions.
- A programme of one-to-one mentoring and special activities.
- Access to contacts with professionals within drama and the wider Performing Arts.
- Opportunities to participate in theatre workshops with highly acclaimed theatre practitioners.
- Access to a wider range of theatre trips and experiences.
- Directing opportunities with younger year groups.
- Running a Drama Club and leading drama workshops for younger year groups.
- Opportunity to be a part of the process of selecting future plays and casting.

Requirements for Consideration for Drama Scholarship

- A letter of support from the most recent Head of Drama or equivalent outlining experience and suitability.
- A portfolio highlighting or listing roles, productions, dates, and venues of previous drama participation, and any formalised qualifications such as LAMDA grades, certificates from Perform in Perth etc, membership of theatre groups outside of school.
- An audition (performance) or presentation (technical theatre) with the Head of Drama (no longer than 5 mins)
- Participation in a practical drama class working with others developing creative ideas.



Music Scholarship Assessment

Music is central to the life of Glenalmond - well over half of the College receives instrumental lessons from a team of thirty full and part-time musicians. All Music Scholarships include free tuition on the instruments offered at audition, plus the possibility of future study on an additional instrument if deemed sensible by the Director of Music. A music scholarship entitles a scholar to free instrumental lessons on up to two instruments and a Choral Scholarship exists for those whose voice is their sole instrument at scholarship level, this is the same for Piping Scholars, and entitles the Choral/Piping Scholar to free singing or piping lessons. Additionally, all Music Scholars will receive free one-to-one tuition in Music Theory until Grade 5 is passed.

Tuition is currently available on the following instruments:

Piano, Organ, Voice, Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, Guitar, Bass Guitar, Recorder, Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Bassoon, Saxophone, Clarsach, Trumpet, Cornet, Horn, Trombone, Euphonium, Tuba, Bagpipes, Chanter and Percussion (orchestral, pipe drums and drum kit).

Music forms an important part of the academic curriculum. Pupils can opt to take Music at GCSE, then Music A level: Glenalmond regularly sends students to university to follow these courses at tertiary level. The purpose-built Music School houses practice rooms, a percussion room and a well-equipped Apple/Logic9/Sibelius Music Technology studio. All pianos, including our Yamaha C7X concert grand instrument, are maintained to the highest professional standards. Our Chapel organ, a mechanical action II/27 instrument built by Harrison & Harrison in 2007, is one of the finest school instruments in the UK.

There are a number of musical ensembles within the College which rehearse and perform regularly to a wide variety of audiences. These include the College Orchestra, two Pipe Bands and a variety of chamber groups. There is a large and enthusiastic Chapel Choir who sing new material every Sunday of the school year.

The Music Scholarship Examination, held at the College at any point in the school year, but by February half term at the latest, will consist of:

- The playing of pieces on the selected instrument(s). Normally, candidates will play two pieces on their first instrument and one or two pieces on their second.
- The option of singing a prepared piece/pieces and performing sight singing.
- Sight reading and aural tests to the level of the pieces played on their first instrument.
- A viva voce, designed to explore musical interests and enthusiasms.

Broadly speaking the overall standard expected for a major award at Second/Third Form entry is about that of a good result at Grade 5 ABRSM on the first instrument. **However, general musicianship, musical intelligence, enthusiasm and flair are considered to be as important, even more important, than the audition performance.**

Scholarships will be awarded based upon the candidate's overall impression, rather than treating the audition as a pass/fail examination. With this in mind it can be useful for potential candidates to visit some time in advance of their audition, to play to and meet the Director of Music informally. This allows a picture to be built up and progress/potential monitored. (However, inability to fulfill this ideal is not in any way detrimental to a candidate's chances.)

Music Scholarships are very much a two way process. We have high expectations of our Scholars, and in return will give exceptional support:

- Scholars are expected to show self-motivation, to practise their instruments hard and to make tangible/notable progress over the course of every term.
- Exams should be taken on a regular basis to mark progress, but repertoire building is even more important: Scholars are expected to have many pieces underway at any time.
- Lunchtime Concerts take place most weeks, and Scholars form the backbone of these concerts: they should therefore expect to be performing several times during any term.
- All Music Scholars are members of the Chapel Choir, and attendance at Sunday services is obligatory.
- All Music Scholars are encouraged to take GCSE Music as one of their options; A-level study is not obligatory, given potential vocational needs outside of Music for post-Glenalmond study.
- Scholars are highly visible, and should be perfect role models to their peers, taking the lead in rehearsals, the first to help with setting up or putting things away, never late for rehearsals.
- All Music Scholars will be personally mentored by the Director of Music:
 - a programme of study will be devised that will ensure immediate aims are met, but will focus on the long-term goals of the pupil, and any aspirations they may have.
 - flexibility will be given, where possible, to allow attendance at Junior RCS on Saturdays, as well as opting out of other activities to help in preparation for significant events.
 - attendance at concerts and events away from Glenalmond is encouraged, and trips will be organised to help broaden knowledge and musical experience.
 - organists will be given the opportunity to play for Chapel services, and to conduct the Chapel Choir - this is an exceptional opportunity, and ideal preparation for a potential Oxbridge Organ Scholarship.
 - Glenalmond's small size means that musicians are big fish in a small pond from the moment they arrive here. This means that they will immediately take centre stage in our concert performances, both at Glenalmond and away from the College. Multiple performance opportunities abound, and platform nerves are addressed and conquered through frequent performance and unrivalled support.
 - The Glenalmond Music Department is a friendly, welcoming place. Music Scholars are an essential part of our team, and are included in decision-making and planning. The level of departmental engagement from the start of a Scholar's journey at Glenalmond is exceptional, with opportunities abounding.

Further details are available from the Director of Music who is happy to meet prospective candidates and their parents at any time.

Sports Scholarships

This award is designed for those pupils who demonstrate exceptional talent and/or potential in one or more sporting disciplines, which are offered at Glenalmond College. Candidates will be expected to attend an assessment day that will include two practical assessments and a physical assessment in the gym. The practical assessments will be split into two sections; a small-sided multi-ball activity and a sports-specific activity.

Sport-specific criteria will be used to assess each practical sports session, which will be overseen by the relevant Head of Sport. The physical assessment tests will be monitored and assessed by the whole Sports Department.

The tests will include:

- Overhead body weight squat
- Counter movement jump
- Plank (for time)
- Dead hang
- Medicine ball horizontal throw
- Illinois Agility Test

Across all areas the ideal candidate will be able to demonstrate a high level of competency within the following fields:

- Attitude and Coachability
- Technical Skill
- Tactical Understanding
- Game Play
- Emotional Intelligence

It is expected that any successful candidate will compete within the regional or national pathways for their main sport. However, as each sport differs with the starting age and format of their excellence pathway, this particular criterion should not be a defining factor in application. Furthermore, the successful candidate will show an ability to contribute to the full sporting programme at Glenalmond College, representing A teams through each term.



All-Rounder Scholarships

It is not possible to apply for an All-Rounder Scholarship. These scholarships are awarded at the discretion of the Warden and are presented to those candidates who are not yet at the required level for scholarship in the areas in which they applied, but are deemed to have the potential to reach this level in time. All-Rounder Scholarships must be made up by a combination of at least two separate disciplines. All-Rounder Scholarships cannot be combined with any other scholarship.

What are the benefits of an All Rounder Scholarship?

- Specialist guidance on the development of the appropriate areas.
- Mentoring by the Head of the relevant discipline.
- Support in developing other talents.

Further Information

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact the Registrar.

Email: registrar@glenalmondcollege.co.uk

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