



Croydon High School
for girls aged 3-18

GDST
GIRLS' DAY SCHOOL TRUST

Seniors Scholarship Programme

For pupils joining at Year 7 and 9





Where girls
aspire without limits

Croydon High School - Inspiring Girls since 1874

We are extremely proud of our commitment to offering outstanding opportunities for girls to thrive; academically, socially and across a wide range of co-curricular activities.

Our Scholarship Programme is designed to recognise potential and to develop talent, within a vibrant aspirational community, where every girl is encouraged to excel, every day.

Scholarships are offered to girls joining the school in Year 7 and Year 9 in the Senior School and there is also an opportunity for external applicants and current pupils to be assessed for Scholarship as they join our Sixth Form.

Scholarships are awarded in recognition of Academic Excellence, and in Art, Drama, Music and Sport.

Our Scholars are recognised as elite learners, but importantly, opportunity is not limited to those enrolled on the Scholarship Programmes, but instead our Scholars' are expected to model excellence and to take the lead in raising standards for all.

Scholarships are awarded at the Head's discretion and the Head's decision on all aspects of these awards is final.

Sixth Form Scholarships are also awarded for current and external pupils entering our Sixth Form.

Full details on the application criteria for Scholarships is [available on our website](#) and applications should be made via the [Admissions Portal](#) when applying to the school.



Art Scholarship

Croydon High's Art and Design Department has long been recognised for the strength of its offering with excellent facilities and superb teaching standards.

The Art Department is innovative and responsive, encouraging young artists to discover their individual strengths and means of expression and to work collaboratively on exciting projects from Year 7 upwards.

Art Scholars are encouraged to take an active and leading role in curricular and co-curricular activities and to help promote Art in the school, through participation and attitude.

At 11+ (Year 7) Art & Design scholarships may be awarded to girls showing outstanding ability and potential who also pass the school's entrance examination.

At 13+ (Year 9) Art and Design Scholarships may be awarded to pupils joining the school as part of the Academic Plus Year 9 Scholarship Award.

Girls should submit their application as a digital portfolio containing five pieces from a small sketchbook. No additional pieces of work will be considered. The portfolio should include at least one drawing and one painting. The other items may be art or craftwork.

Sixth Form Scholarships are also awarded for current and external pupils entering our Sixth Form.

Full details of the application process and key dates can be found on the [Bursaries and Scholarships](#) section of the website.

Roles and responsibilities

Key Stage 3 and 4

- Scholars must take an active role in all curricular and co-curricular Art (including entering creative competitions).
- Scholars will be encouraged to take Art at GCSE.
- Scholars should take every opportunity to help promote Art in the school through their attitude as well as their participation.

Key Stage 5 – Sixth Form (Years 12-13)

- Scholars are role models promoting all aspects of Art in the school and should use their initiative to be proactive in ways which will benefit the department.
- It is expected that all scholars will be studying Art in the sixth form.
- Scholars must take a lively and active role in curricular and co-curricular Art.
- The scholar is expected to play an active leadership role within the co-curricular Art life of the school, for example, by running a weekly lower school club.
- The scholar is expected to assist the Art Department at school events such as Open Day, Open Evening, Sixth Form Open Evening, and Taster Days.
- Scholars should be willing to attend workshops and life drawing.

Drama Scholarship

For girls with dramatic aspirations, be that on-stage or backstage, Croydon High offers an outstanding environment in which to develop potential and learn new skills.

Drama Scholars rarely need encouragement to step into the spotlight, but naturally take the lead on promoting the dramatic life of the school as well as taking advantage of the many opportunities available to them through the Scholars' Programme.

At 11+ (Year 7) Drama scholarships may be awarded to girls showing outstanding ability and potential who also pass the school's entrance examination.

At 13+ (Year 9) Drama Scholarships may be awarded to pupils joining the school as part of the Academic Plus Year 9 Scholarship Award.

Shortlisted candidates will be asked to learn and perform a speech from any published play. They should focus on the creation of character, through voice and movement, the creation of the correct mood or atmosphere, and if applicable, the creation of place, and the acknowledgement of any other character(s) they might be addressing.

In choosing a piece, candidates should try to pick a character that will show off their acting skills to their best advantage. The choice is entirely up to individual applicants; the Drama Department will not suggest suitable pieces.

Sixth Form Scholarships are also awarded for current and external pupils entering our Sixth Form.

Full details of the application process and key dates can be found on the [Bursaries and Scholarships](#) section of the website.



Drama Scholarship

Roles and responsibilities

Key Stage 3 and 4

- The scholar must take a lively and active role in all curricular and co-curricular Drama.
- The scholar is expected to take part in school productions.
- The scholar will be expected to take part in Drama presentations on Open Day, and possibly other school events.
- The scholar will be encouraged to take the Drama GCSE course in Year 10.

Key Stage 5 – Sixth Form (Years 12-13)

- The scholar must take a lively and active role in curricular and co-curricular Drama.
- The scholar is expected to play an active leadership

role within the co-curricular Drama life of the school, for example, by running a weekly lower school club.

- The scholar will be encouraged to take part in productions, either within an acting capacity or within a stage management role.
- The scholar is expected to assist the Drama Department at school events such as Open Day, Open Evening, Sixth Form Open Evening, and Taster Days/Drama Days.
- The scholar may be asked to take a role in helping to organise costume and prop storage and assist younger girls in locating and returning items needed for productions.
- The scholar should be willing to attend theatre trips.
- The scholar will be encouraged to take the Drama A-level course.



Music Scholarship

Opportunities for expression in musical form abound at Croydon High School and these opportunities and aspirations are a critical part of the Music Scholars' Programme.

With an expert teaching staff and state of the art facilities to explore both composition and performance, our Music Scholars experience a wide range of activities that support their individual musical journeys.

At 11+ (Year 7) Music Scholarships may be awarded to girls showing outstanding ability and potential who also pass the school's entrance examination.

At 13+ (Year 9) Music Scholarships may be awarded to pupils joining the school as part of the Academic Plus Year 9 Scholarship Award.

PLEASE NOTE: A candidate should be of a good Grade 4 standard on at least one instrument. Singing qualifications alone will not be sufficient.

Shortlisted applicants

Candidates are asked to supply a video and copies of the music pieces they would perform if shortlisted and most recent certificates or awards that they have been awarded in support of their application.

Girls should be prepared to play or sing one (or two contrasting) pieces on one instrument, plus, if appropriate one short piece on a second instrument.

The total playing time should be at least 4 minutes but no more than 8 minutes in total if one instrument is being offered, and no more than 12 minutes if two are offered.

If candidates need an accompanist, we are able to assist, provided that the appropriate request for accompaniment and a copy of the accompaniment music is submitted with the application.

Pupils may, of course, bring their own accompanist. The audition will include an unaccompanied "sight reading" piece for the main instrument and aural tests.

Candidates will be expected to give as polished a performance as possible and both accuracy and evidence of musicality will be important.

After the performance the candidate will have a short interview with our Director of Music.

Sixth Form Scholarships are also awarded for current and external pupils entering our Sixth Form.

Full details of the application process and key dates can be found on the [Bursaries and Scholarships](#) section of the website.



Music Scholarship

Roles and responsibilities

Key Stage 3 and 4

- Scholars are expected to continue taking lessons on their chosen instrument(s) throughout the duration of their scholarship.
- They are expected to sing in the relevant choir (Middle School or Senior) and to take part in appropriate ensembles to suit their instrument type e.g. orchestras, wind ensembles etc.
- They will be given opportunities to perform solos throughout the year and will be expected to play in assemblies.
- They are expected to take a lead in rehearsals and may be asked to help out with younger students, either mentoring or helping with more junior ensembles.
- Assist the music department on Open Days.
- They are encouraged to take GCSE music.
- They should take every opportunity to help promote the music in the school through their attitude as well as their participation.

Key Stage 5 – Sixth Form (Years 12-13)

- Scholars are role models promoting all aspects of music in the school and should use their initiative to be pro-active in ways which will benefit the department.
- They are expected to sing in the Senior Choir and to take part in appropriate ensembles to suit their instrument type e.g. orchestras, wind ensembles etc.
- They will be given opportunities to perform solos several times throughout the year and will be expected to play in assembly and on Open Days.
- They are expected to take a lead in rehearsals and will help out with younger students and take sectional practices as appropriate.
- They will be encouraged to study music in the Sixth Form.



Sports Scholarship

Croydon High has a proud and fiercely defended reputation for offering one of the most successful school sports' programmes in the country.

Outstanding facilities in our extensive grounds include a purpose built gymnasium, sports hall, 25 metre swimming pool, eight tennis courts, floodlit all-weather pitch and ample space in our 20 acre grounds for athletics and games. In addition, there is a dance studio, a fitness room and six netball courts, three of which have floodlights and newly installed cricket nets in the sports hall.

These facilities, combined with exceptional coaching and mentoring expertise, has seen our school consistently achieve accolades across a wide range of sports, at local regional and national levels.

The school undoubtedly attracts many talented young athletes who recognise the opportunities here, but our PE department is equally proud of the progress made by those who develop a love for sport during their time at Croydon High and go on to achieve at the highest levels.

We run short and long haul sports tours and have recently toured to Conover Hall, Shropshire, South Africa, Barbados and Spain.

Shortlisted candidates will all show netball, hockey, athletics and swimming, and have the opportunity to showcase their skills in cricket, football, gymnastics, dance and tennis if any of these are areas of strength.

Our Sports Scholars are stretched and challenged, but also nurtured and supported to enable them to aim high and succeed.

At 11+ (Year 7) Sports Scholarships may be awarded to girls who have a significant strength in the sports offered at Croydon High School or who are outstanding all-rounders, displaying potential and who also pass the school's entrance examination.

At 13+ (Year 9) Sports Scholarships may be awarded to pupils joining the school as part of the Academic Plus Year 9 Scholarship Award, who have a significant strength in the sports offered at Croydon High School or who are outstanding all-rounders.

Sixth Form Scholarships are also awarded for current and external pupils entering our Sixth Form.

Full details of the application process and key dates can be found on the [Bursaries and Scholarships](#) section of the website.

Roles and responsibilities

A pupil who is the recipient of a Sports Scholarship is expected to:

- Represent the school in a minimum of 1 winter and 1 summer activity
- Attend all practices and fixtures/competitions
- Represent the PE department at open days/evenings as ambassadors for the subject
- Assist at junior clubs when in Key Stage 3
- Assist in leading Key Stage 3 clubs when in Key Stage 4
- Engage with our Sports Scholarship Programme by attending appropriate lectures/outings etc
- Keep PE notice boards up to date with team sheets and competition information
- Write and present PE subject reports
- Mentor younger sports scholars (Sixth Form only)



Academic Scholarship

All girls sitting for the Entrance Assessment at Year 7 are automatically considered for Academic Scholarships which are awarded to those who perform at the highest levels.

At Year 9 entry, girls can apply for a limited number of Academic Plus Scholarships. These will be awarded to applicants from external schools, who apply for academic scholarship and assessment in either Art & Design, Music, Drama or Sport.

Our Academic Scholars Programme encourages girls to ignite their curiosity and passion for learning, all while giving them the tools to learn effectively as part of a motivated and reflective community.

Their academic curiosity and intrinsic motivation is developed by focusing on key skills like problem solving, creativity, reflection and risk taking. These essential skills help Academic Scholars become adaptable, effective and more autonomous.

They are given the conditions to unearth their potential and the space to learn what is required to help them to develop as individuals in school and beyond. These principles equip them with the tenacity and determination to thrive in a rapidly changing world.

Ultimately, the Academic Scholarship programme seeks to foster a lifelong love of learning and ambition, not just for success for public examinations, but for its own sake, too. This approach, in partnership with inspirational teachers, ensures that all Academic Scholars are given every opportunity to fulfill their academic potential.

Sixth Form Scholarships are also awarded for current and external pupils entering our Sixth Form.

Full details of the application process and key dates can be found on the [Bursaries and Scholarships](#) section of the website.

Roles and Responsibilities

- Academic Scholars will receive their Academic Scholar badge, proudly worn on the lapel of their school blazer.
- Academic Scholars will set an exceptional example for other pupils, embodying the school's values and commitment to academic excellence.
- Academic Scholars will attend all scheduled meetings and workshops with the Head of Academic Scholars, ensuring ongoing support and development.
- Academic Scholars will actively engage in stretch-and-challenge activities, the Learning Resource Centre (LRC) programme, and wider reading initiatives. Senior Scholars may also lead clubs, workshops, or events as part of the co-curricular programme.
- Each Academic Scholar will create their own Scholar Profile and complete a year-end self-reflection, which will be included in their end-of-year report.
- Scholars and their families will take part in Academic Scholar Celebration evenings, showcasing achievements and fostering a sense of community.
- Scholars are encouraged to participate in GDST Academic Competitions, departmental events, and Masterclasses.
- Younger Scholars will be paired with senior Scholars in a "Scholar Family," fostering shared experiences and modelling excellence.
- Senior Scholars are encouraged to take initiative by supporting departments and mentoring younger pupils in their area of academic expertise.









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