STOVER SCHOOL

Scholarship Information



2026 - 2027

Stover School Scholarships

Stover School offers the following scholarships:

- Academic
- Art
- Drama
- Musical Theatre
- Music
- Sport, including the Tennis and Golf Academies
- Portico Scholarship

Purpose of Scholarships

Scholarships are designed to reward excellence and to celebrate exceptional talent. These awards take into account assessment results, a pupil's ability, potential, attitude and work ethos. In recognition of this achievement, the scholar is usually offered a reduction in the fees for a designated time at Stover School.

Scholarship invitations are sent out to all parents who have expressed an interest in joining the school. We encourage parents who are applying for scholarships and who anticipate that they will experience difficulty in meeting the balance of the tuition fees, to apply for a means-tested bursary. Details regarding bursaries are available from the Finance Office. (Bursar@stover.co.uk)

Scholarship Expectations

All scholarships are subject to annual review, and a scholar is expected to help set high standards amongst their peers, and to demonstrate an ongoing commitment to the school. Scholars are expected to represent the school at Open Mornings and School events. Within these guidelines, it is not obligatory for a scholar to opt for any particular academic subject in Years 10 or 12.

General Information

At what age do examinations take place?

Scholarships are available on entry to the Senior School and Sixth Form.

What are the awards worth and how long do the awards last?

The value of a scholarship award is up to 15% of school fees (excluding extra charges). The value of a Portico scholarship is up to 75% of school fees. Scholarships awarded at entry into Years 7 to 11 continue until the end of Year 11 and are subject to an annual review. Sixth Form Scholarships run for two years until the end of the A Level course (Year 13), subject to annual review and do not have a financial value, except for the Portico Scholarship.

How is information communicated to parents?

A review panel analyses the results of scholarship assessments and letters of offer, as appropriate, are sent to parents within one month of the assessment date. The school's decision is binding; no further correspondence will be entered into.

How do pupils apply?

All pupils wishing to sit a scholarship assessment must have registered their interest with Stover School according to the timescales provided by the Admissions Department. Assessments for scholarship awards for entry into Years 7 to 10 will be sat in January. Assessments for scholarship awards for entry into Sixth Form will be sat in November.

Will external candidates need to provide further information?

Stover School will require a copy of a recent school report for all external pupils taking scholarship assessments and may contact the pupil's current school for a confidential report. Each subject has differing requirements on the information that is required and several run a pre-screening process. Details of requirements are available from the Admissions Department and will be provided when a prospective candidate applies to sit for a scholarship.

Scholarships

Academic

A Culture of Aspiration.

At Stover, we believe in recognising and nurturing academic excellence. Our Academic Scholarships celebrate pupils with all-round academic potential and a curiosity for learning. Scholars are encouraged to pursue their strengths with ambition and confidence, supported throughout their journey by expert teaching and a rich programme of opportunities.

What is an Academic Scholarship?

Academic Scholarships at Stover are awarded to pupils who demonstrate exceptional ability in the core areas of English and Mathematics, as well as non-verbal reasoning. They offer both financial value and formal recognition of potential.

Scholars benefit from:

- Individualised academic scholar tutor
- Tailored stretch and challenge in the classroom
- Raised expectations from teaching staff
- A visible role within our culture of academic ambition

A Whole-School Approach to Support

Academic Scholars are supported across the full curriculum. All teachers are aware of a scholar's status and provide differentiated teaching and meaningful challenge in their subject. This ensures support is holistic, with opportunities woven into daily learning across all disciplines.

Individual Support and Encouragement

While an Academic Scholarship is a mark of recognition, it also represents a commitment: that each scholar will be known, guided, and supported throughout their time at Stover.

Each scholar is assigned a dedicated tutor who works with them to set personalised academic targets for the year and provides ongoing support to monitor and encourage their progress.

Expectations of an Academic Scholar

All pupils at Stover – whether scholars or not – benefit from a rich academic programme of lessons, events, trips, and talks from Year 7 to Year 13. This inclusive

approach ensures that all children are stretched, inspired, and supported. Academic Scholars are expected to take active responsibility for engaging with the opportunities available to them. These may include:

Clubs, Competitions & Challenges

- STEM/Engineering Club
- Debating Society
- Chess Competitions
- STEM Olympiads
- Coding Challenges
- Year 9 Research Prize
- Extended Project Qualification (Sixth Form)
- Dissection Club
- Carnegie Prize event (Literature)

Assessment for Senior School Entry

All pupils will sit the following written tests:

- English paper (approx. 1 hour)
- Mathematics paper (approx. 1 hour)
- Non-verbal Reasoning (approx. 1 hour)

Assessment for Year 12 Entry

Candidates will sit a 'general paper' requiring two pieces of comprehension and writing (fiction and non-fiction) on unseen topics and a Maths and Cognitive Abilities Test. They will be expected to achieve grades 9 to 7 across a range of GCSE subjects.



Art

Art Scholars should be able to demonstrate skill, originality and enthusiasm in their creativity and show a genuine interest in art, craft and design. They are expected to show a high level of commitment to School Arts throughout their school career. They are expected to keep a sketch book and portfolio and attend the Art Scholar Club for at least two terms of the year. Scholars enter their work in exhibitions and competitions to demonstrate their skill and enthusiasm. School can highlight the opportunities, but there should also be an independent approach.

Expectations of an Art Scholar

Art Scholars should embrace the provision of Art across the school, and where opportunities arise, be involved in set painting, mural design, creative workshops, collaborative and community work and publication illustrations. Conduct in Art and around the School must be of the highest order.

Assessment

Candidates will be asked to submit a letter (approximately 300 words), written themselves, explaining what they like about Art and how they explore Art outside of the classroom. The letter should be accompanied by five photographs of recent pieces of work from this year and a reference from their Art teacher or suitable adult who has worked with them.

Candidates who are selected for consideration, will be assessed in three main areas:

- Portfolio: where we expect to see a selection of a candidates best work, this could be presented in a sketchbook or art folder. This could include both 2D and 3D work (photos of 3D work if it is too big to transport). This portfolio should be approximately ten to twenty pages and include evidence of observational drawing and/or photography and use of other media and techniques to demonstrate their own personal style and interests.
- Interview: a discussion about the portfolio of work and their ambitions.
- Scholarship exam: an observational drawing using only pencil, which will test skills and understanding of line, shape and tone.



Drama

At Stover, Drama is at the heart of our creative community. Through productions, competitions, directing opportunities and technical theatre projects, we have built a strong reputation for nurturing talented young theatre-makers both on stage and behind the scenes. Our Drama Scholarship programme is designed to recognise, challenge and develop pupils with exceptional potential in either performance or technical theatre.

Who Can Apply?

Drama Scholarships are awarded to pupils who demonstrate outstanding talent, creativity and commitment within one of two specialist pathways:

Performance Pathway

For pupils with strengths in acting, devising, directing, scriptwriting and performance.

Technical Theatre & Design Pathway

For pupils with strengths in lighting, sound, costume design, set design, stage management, scenic art, prop-making or production arts.

Applications are welcomed from pupils with an established track record of achievement, as well as those who demonstrate exceptional potential and a passion for theatre-making.

Expectations of a Drama Scholar

Drama Scholars are ambassadors for the Performing Arts Department and are expected to make a significant contribution to the cultural life of the school.

All Drama Scholars must:

- Actively contribute to school productions throughout the academic year.
- Demonstrate commitment, professionalism and a positive attitude.
- Attend Drama Scholar workshops, rehearsals and enrichment opportunities.
- Actively contribute to the wider Drama culture of the school.

Drama Scholar Programme Benefits

All Drama Scholars are expected to actively engage in our Drama Scholar Programme, which provides a range of exclusive development opportunities, including:

- Weekly Drama Scholar workshops focused on developing performance, directing and technical theatre skills.
- Specialist master-classes delivered by visiting theatre professionals and industry practitioners.

- Theatre visits, backstage experiences and educational trips.
- Opportunities to represent Stover in ISA Drama competitions and other external events.
- Individual mentoring from a member of the Drama Department.

Assessment Process

Candidates will be asked to complete a Drama Scholarship application form, available from the Admissions Team. The application should be supported by a reference from a suitable teacher, director, theatre practitioner or creative professional to support the application. Suitable applicants will be invited to attend an assessment appropriate to their chosen pathway.

Performance Pathway

Prepared Monologue

Applicants perform a prepared monologue from a published play and demonstrate their ability to respond to direction.

Practical Theatre Assessments

Applicants complete sight-reading and ensemble devising activities designed to assess creativity, communication and performance skill.

Technical Theatre & Design Pathway

Portfolio Presentation

Applicants present examples of previous work, such as set designs, costume concepts, lighting plans, sound designs, model boxes or production photographs.

Design Challenge

Applicants complete a practical design task which may focus on lighting, sound, costume, set design or production problem-solving and creative thinking.

Both pathways in the assessment process conclude with an interview with a member of the Drama Department.

Musical Theatre

At Stover, Musical Theatre is a vibrant and growing part of our Performing Arts programme. Through high-quality productions, performance opportunities and specialist training, we support talented young performers in developing the skills, confidence and professionalism required to excel in Musical Theatre. Our Musical Theatre Scholarship programme is designed to recognise, challenge and nurture pupils with exceptional potential across acting, singing and dance.

Who Can Apply?

Musical Theatre Scholarships are awarded to talented performers who demonstrate strength across all three core disciplines of acting, singing and dance.

Applicants should demonstrate a genuine passion for Musical Theatre, strong performance potential and a commitment to developing as a well-rounded performer. Formal qualifications such as LAMDA, Singing Grades, ISTD or RAD are welcomed but are not essential.

Expectations of a Musical Theatre Scholar

Musical Theatre Scholars are ambassadors for the Performing Arts Department and are expected to contribute positively to the artistic life of the school. All Musical Theatre Scholars must:

- Audition for the annual school production each year.
- Demonstrate commitment, professionalism and a positive attitude.
- Attend Musical Theatre Scholar workshops and enrichment opportunities.
- Represent the department at performances, Open Mornings and school events.
- Actively contribute to the wider performing arts culture of the school.

Opportunities Beyond the Classroom

Musical Theatre Scholars are encouraged to take advantage of a wide range of performance and enrichment opportunities designed to broaden their experience and develop their skills. Opportunities may include:

- Participating in school productions and showcases.
- Representing Stover in Musical Theatre competitions and festivals.
- Attending specialist workshops and master-classes.
- Working with visiting industry professionals.
- Leading or mentoring younger pupils.
- Exploring external opportunities such as NYMT, West End Calling or NYT

Assessment process

Applicants will be assessed in acting, singing and dance and will have a brief interview to discuss their previous experience and ambitions for the future. Further details are available from the Admissions Team.



Music

Stover School offers a vibrant and comprehensive music program with extensive performance opportunities ranging from intimate Chamber Concerts to large-scale public events.

Music holds a high profile at Stover School, supported by a strong choral tradition. Our ideal Music Scholar is a versatile, dedicated musician - equally confident delivering Memphis Soul as they are performing Mozart. Because of the frequent performance calendar both in school, and across the wider community, candidates who offer a second instrument or voice bring a distinct advantage.

Expectations of a Music Scholar

Music Scholars serve as ambassadors for the department. Their journey is defined by four core pillars:

- Performance & Versatility: Readiness to perform across diverse venues and musical styles, demonstrating technical skill and stage confidence on main and secondary instruments/voice.
- Choral & Ensemble Contribution: Active participation in Stover's rich choral tradition, committing fully to school choirs and ensemble groups.
- Rigorous Practice & Progression: Maintenance of a disciplined practice routine and continuous advancement through music exam board grades (ABRSM, Trinity, or equivalent).
- Leadership & Mentorship: Immersion in department life, supporting fellow musicians, and representing Stover School at flagship events, concerts, and Open Days.

Entry Requirements

Candidates are expected to meet or exceed the following standards for entry:

Entry Level	Principal Instrument Level	Theory Standard
Year 7	Grade 3 or above	Foundation understanding
Year 10	Grade 5 level	Approaching Grade 5 Theory
Year 12 (Sixth Form)	Approaching Grade 7	Passed Grade 5

Assessment & Audition Process

The audition process lasts 30 minutes total (a 10-minute warm-up followed by a 20-minute assessment). Candidates are evaluated across three main areas:

- Performance: Two contrasting pieces on chosen instrument(s) or voice. If assessing on a single instrument, the two pieces must highlight performance different styles.
- Aural & Sight Reading: Practical tests evaluating ear training and musical adaptability.
- Interview: A short conversation discussing the candidate's musical interests, experience, and commitment to department life.

Audition Checklist: Please remember to bring two copies of sheet music for the panel and a piano accompaniment score if required.



Sports

A Tradition of Sporting Excellence

At Stover, we have developed a proud tradition of sporting achievement and have built a strong reputation for supporting the progression of talented athletes across a range of sporting disciplines. Our Sport Scholarship programme is designed to recognise, challenge and develop pupils with exceptional sporting potential.

Who Can Apply?

Sport Scholarships are awarded to high-performing athletes who demonstrate excellence in two or more sports, with particular emphasis placed on sports within the school's sporting programme. Applications from pupils with an exceptional level of achievement in a single sport will also be considered.

The Four Key Pillars

Successful Sport Scholars consistently demonstrate excellence across our four key pillars:

Athleticism - physical qualities including speed, strength, agility, endurance and overall performance potential.

Decision Making - the ability to make effective choices under pressure and apply tactical understanding in competition.

Competitiveness - a strong desire to improve, perform and succeed, while demonstrating resilience and determination.

Skill Level - technical proficiency and the ability to execute sport-specific skills consistently at a high level.

Sport Scholar Programme Benefits

All Sport Scholars are expected to actively engage in our Sport Scholar Programme, which provides a range of exclusive development opportunities, including:

- Additional before-school training sessions focused on physical and skill development.
- Workshops delivered by guest speakers, including topics such as sport psychology, performance analysis and elite athlete experiences.
- Trips to watch high-level sporting events and visit professional sporting facilities.
- Opportunities to lead and support school sporting events as Sports Leaders.



- Individual mentoring from a member of staff.
- Specialist skills master-classes.
- A Stover Sport Scholar dry robe.

Expectations of a Sport Scholar

Sport Scholars are role models within the school community and are expected to embody the values of Stover School sport both on and off the field.

All Sport Scholars must:

- Represent the school in fixtures and sporting events throughout all the school year.
- Demonstrate commitment, professionalism and a positive attitude.
- Actively contribute to the wider sporting culture of the school

Assessment Process

1. Application

Complete a Sport Scholarship application form, available from the Admissions Team.

2. Supporting Reference

Provide a reference from a suitable coach or sporting professional to support the application.

3. Scholarship Assessment

Suitable applicants will be invited to attend a practical assessment, including:

Fitness Testing

A range of fitness components will be assessed to evaluate athleticism and competitiveness. Results will be benchmarked against normative performance data.

Skill Testing

Applicants will complete a variety of practical tasks designed to assess skill level and decision-making ability.

4. Interview

The assessment process concludes with an interview with a member of the Physical Education Department.


GILBERT

Tennis Academy

Tennis Academy Scholars benefit from the same programme as our Sports Scholars. In addition, the Tennis Academy Scholarship provides scholars with 3 sessions of squad tennis per week.

The Academy is aimed at players of outstanding potential or ability and at County Level.

The scholarship assessment will include:

- Physical/fitness testing (age appropriate)
- Observation of tennis performance by tennis coach
- An interview



Golf Academy

Stover School's Stover Golf Academy, offers talented young golfers the opportunity to develop their game while receiving an outstanding education. Supporting pupils from Year 7 through to Sixth Form, the Academy aims to help every golfer maximise their potential. Scholarships are available for pupils who demonstrate proven ability and potential, including those requiring financial assistance.

Over the past four years, Stover's golf programme has enjoyed considerable success. Highlights include winning the Devon County Championships in 2025 and finishing runners-up in 2026. Our golfers have competed in numerous Independent Schools Golf Association (ISGA) events, reaching the National Finals in both the Stableford competition and Pairs Matchplay. Pupils have also proudly represented Devon at the National Championships at Woodhall Spa.

We currently have golfers involved in the Devon pathway, alongside players holding registered England Golf handicaps ranging from single figures to 28. With further talent emerging through our Prep School programme, the future of golf at Stover looks incredibly exciting.

The Academy aims to attract talented golfers from across the local area, providing the coaching, facilities and individual support needed to progress their golfing journey while pursuing their academic aspirations.

Golf Academy Programme Benefits

Scholars benefit from weekly coaching with Andy Fox, Steve Chambers and Dave Jeffs, access to Stover Golf Club's practice range, Trackman technology and award-winning course, and opportunities to compete in county and national ISGA events. Additional benefits include one-to-one mentoring, academic support, a flexible Sixth Form timetable and guidance towards UK and US college pathways.

How to Apply

Candidates attend a playing and coaching assessment at Stover Golf Club, led by Head of the Golf Academy, Alex Lloyd and Head Golf Professional Andy Fox. Assessments consider handicap, competition record, technique, attitude and potential. Applicants should compete regularly, record scores through the England Golf app and demonstrate a commitment to training and representing the school. The Academy welcomes both boys and girls.

To find out more, please contact Alex Lloyd at alloyd@stover.co.uk.



Portico Scholarship

The Portico Scholarship is Stover School's most prestigious award. It is reserved for a small number of exceptional pupils who are already performing at the very highest level in their chosen field. This might mean competing at national level, performing with a national company, or achieving outstanding academic distinction.

Portico Scholarships are aimed at pupils joining or continuing at Stover in Key Stage 4 and Sixth Form. Awards of up to 75% of tuition fees are available to the most outstanding scholars across the school.

Portico Scholarships are awarded in the following disciplines:

- Academic
- Sport, (with specialist pathways in Golf and Tennis)
- Art
- Music
- Drama
- Musical Theatre

Application Process

Selection for a Portico Scholarship is designed to identify pupils whose talent, commitment and achievement are truly exceptional. The process has four stages:

Letter of application - a written application to the relevant Head of Department. The letter should set out the applicant's strengths and achievements in their chosen field, and explain how they would contribute to the life of the school.

Scholarship assessment - candidates take part in Stover's standard scholarship assessment for their discipline.

Professional references - candidates provide references from relevant professionals in their field, such as a national coach, a company director or a specialist teacher. These references should confirm the level at which the candidate is currently performing and may not be from a family member.

Interview - short-listed candidates are invited to an interview with the Head and the relevant Head of Department.

Awards are made at the discretion of the school and are reviewed annually. Continuation depends on the scholar's ongoing commitment, progress and contribution to school life.



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