



ST MARY'S CALNE
SCHOLARSHIP
PROSPECTUS

2025 Entry





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The contents of this prospectus apply
only to students who are new to the school

SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

At St Mary's Calne, we place the highest value upon the ideals and virtues of Scholarship. To be a Scholar brings with it important responsibilities, and we expect our award holders to:

- ◉ Enhance and enrich the school community and its daily life;
- ◉ Show dedication and commitment in the area(s) in which they have won an award, without detracting from their capacity to be involved in other aspects of the school;
- ◉ Act as role models for their peers and encourage others to aspire to excellence;
- ◉ Be ambassadors for their particular subject(s).

We offer Scholarships and Exhibitions to talented girls who are new entrants to the school at 11+, 13+ and at Sixth Form.

Scholarships are awarded to girls who display outstanding ability in their chosen area(s) whilst we offer Exhibitions to girls showing excellent talent and potential. All Scholarship or Exhibition holders join the Scholars' Programme for their area of expertise.

All Scholarship awards are retained to the end of Sixth Form and are formally reviewed on an annual basis. All candidates who are successful in gaining an award but require assistance with fees, in order to be able to take up their place, may apply for a means-tested Bursary. Financial Circumstances forms are available from the Bursar.





SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR I1+, I3+ & SIXTH FORM ENTRY

Academic

All Rounder (I1+)

Art

Bodinnar All Rounder (I3+)

Choral (*for first-study singers*) (I6+)

Drama

Music (*for first-study instrumentalists*)

Sport

Girls may apply for more than one type of Scholarship, but we recommend that any application is made following discussion with, or recommendation from, a candidate's current school.

All awards made are honorary and do not, therefore, include any fee remission as part of the award. However, families can apply for assistance with fees (from 1%-100%, means-tested).

SCHOLARSHIP DATES

II+ 2025

Monday 2nd December 2024 Deadline for receipt of all scholarship applications and references

Tuesday 21st January 2025 Academic Scholarship Examinations

Wednesday 22nd January 2025 Non-Academic Scholarship Assessments and Auditions

All Scholarship examinations, assessments and auditions take place at St Mary's Calne.

I3+ 2025

Monday 2nd December 2024 Deadline for receipt of all scholarship applications and references

Monday 27th January 2025 Academic Scholarship Examinations

Tuesday 28th January 2025 Non-Academic Scholarship Assessments and Auditions

All Scholarship examinations, assessments and auditions take place at St Mary's Calne.



Sixth Form 2025

Monday 28th October 2024 Deadline for receipt of all scholarship applications and references

Monday 18th November 2024 Academic Scholarship Examinations

Tuesday 19th November 2024 Non-Academic Scholarship Assessments and Auditions

All Scholarship examinations, assessments and auditions take place at St Mary's Calne.

ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

All girls who hold an Academic Scholarship or Exhibition participate in the Scholarship Programme, a series of challenging and enriching academic sessions led by members of staff and outside guests. It aims to stretch the most able students across a broad spectrum of subjects and disciplines, to foster excitement and ambition, and to nurture and satisfy their intellectual curiosity.

At 11+

Candidates who are recommended by their school, or who are shortlisted at Entrance Day for the Academic or All Rounder Scholarship, will sit papers in English and Mathematics.

The Maths Scholarship paper will comprise a number of questions written to encourage girls to use their mathematical skills and apply them to logical deduction, reasoning and problem-solving questions. The paper is designed to ensure girls understand why and how methods work rather than applying learned processes.

The English paper will assess a variety of writing and reading skills. A range of questions will be set on a literary passage, normally a poem, followed by a piece of directed writing which will be linked to the passage.

Girls will also have an academic interview with a senior member of staff.

At 13+

Candidates shortlisted at Entrance Day or by their School for the Academic or Bodinnar All Rounder Scholarship will need to sit our Academic Scholarship papers in English, Mathematics, Science and a Modern Foreign Language. These papers are intended to be academically challenging, but are based on the Common Entrance syllabus.

Girls will also have an academic interview with a senior member of staff.

Sixth Form

Candidates for the Academic Scholarship will sit an examination in up to two subjects they anticipate studying at A Level, as well as a General Paper. They will also have an academic interview with a senior member of staff.

Academic Exhibitions

At 11+, 13+ and Sixth Form, Academic Exhibitions may also be offered to candidates who show considerable promise in a single subject or group of subjects.

11+ ALL ROUNDER & 13+ BODINNAR SCHOLARSHIPS

The 11+ All Rounder and 13+ Bodinnar All Rounder Scholarships will be awarded to external candidates who excel both academically and in two or more disciplines selected from Art, Drama, Music and Sport.

The application must be fully supported by a report from the candidate's current school.

Candidates will sit the Academic Scholarship examinations and be assessed in their chosen disciplines. The assessment criteria for the Non-Academic Scholarships is set out in the following pages.





ART SCHOLARSHIPS

Art at St Mary's enjoys a high profile, with wonderful examples of pupils' work exhibited throughout the school. The Department inspires, challenges and supports creativity through the development of a range of skills including drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, ceramics and digital media. We have dedicated studio areas for each discipline and for Sixth Form artists. Girls are taught and supported by subject specialists as well as visiting professionals and our Artist in Residence.

Trips to exhibitions and galleries, in London and other UK locations, are offered and are selected to facilitate a wide range of student interest. As part of the Department's triennial cycle, we give the opportunity for senior girls to take part in an annual international trip and a London-based exhibition.

A dynamic Arts Council, which comprises all Art Scholars, Ambassadors and other interested parties, meet every term to discuss the focus and range of activities offered within the Department, which has included lectures, special events, socials, gallery visits and hosting various 'pop up' exhibitions throughout the year.

Student work is entered into various national and international competitions, including the Saatchi Gallery Art Prize, Royal Academy of Arts and SPoKE. The Art Department curates the annual Founders' Day Exhibition and a triennial exhibition held in London. Alumnae support the work of our artists by providing professional experience opportunities, preparing them for careers in creative industries.

In the assessment, we would like to see evidence of recent creative flair and ideas, with the ability to take artistic risks, whilst also demonstrating skill and understanding of art materials. At the end of the assessment, we will review the practical work completed, interview the student and view their portfolio.

Who should apply?

Candidates will be expected to show not only a strong level of technical skill, but also an imaginative, enthusiastic and original approach to the subject, which is a good indicator of potential development in future years. Art Teachers are asked only to enter girls who have a genuine and strong natural aptitude and, therefore, a realistic chance of success in the Scholarship. Sixth Form art Scholarship candidates should be predicted a Grade 8 or 9 prediction for GCSE Art.

Assessments

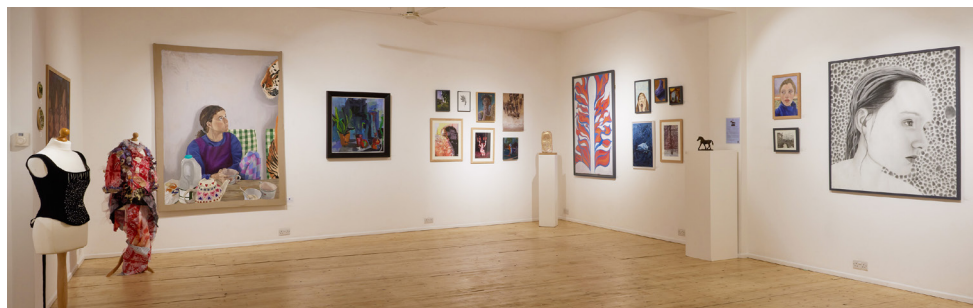
All Candidates will be expected to communicate dedication to and an enthusiasm for the subject through a discussion of their portfolio. This should include at least five pieces of artwork in a range of media and materials. They will also be asked to undertake a short observational drawing and a practical test. They should be prepared to discuss a range of artists' work which they have seen.

Art Scholars are expected to take GCSE and A Level Art and produce a consistently excellent level of work. Additional responsibilities are set out below.

Art Scholars' Responsibilities

- To act as a role model by presenting a strong work ethic and positive attitude towards Art Projects;
- To engage independently in sketchbook studies;
- To make full use of the Art facilities outside lessons;
- To participate in and/or lead clubs and workshops;
- To visit galleries, museums and exhibitions on a regular basis and engage in visual and written responses;
- To participate independently in special events and competitions;
- To engage with, and be proactive in, the Arts Council.

Sixth Form Art Scholars are expected to take leadership responsibility in the organisation of events and initiatives from the Arts Council, Student Head of Art and the Director of Art. They are also expected to assist in leading the Arts Council and other Art initiatives.



DRAMA SCHOLARSHIPS

Drama is one of the leading creative departments at St Mary's and has a long-established national reputation for achieving the highest standards in Theatre Arts. The department runs its own specialist enrichment programme for Scholars, which involves workshops, run in-house or by outside practitioners. There may be age-specific or general, and have resulted in weekend performances to small, invited audiences. Recent projects have been American Drama, run by RSC actor Clarence Smith, and Adaptation of Short Stories, run by physical theatre practitioner Scott Gray.

The annual repertoire of the Drama Department is presented in the purpose-built Delscey Burns Theatre. From large scale musicals to whole school productions of Shakespeare, theatre projects at St Mary's are always ambitious. We perform regularly at the Edinburgh Fringe. The Junior production, which is a musical in alternate years, is presented by all the girls in Year 7 and 8 in the Summer Term, and all the girls in Year 9 take a production to a professional working theatre outside the school in the Spring Term. Regular theatre trips, acting and technical workshops and visiting professionals, including theatre companies, form part of the Drama calendar.

The aim of the Drama Department is to inspire and develop the creative best in each individual pupil, whether as an actor, director, theatre designer or production manager. Academic Drama is pursued through very well-subscribed GCSE and A Level courses. Individual LAMDA (London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts) tuition is offered to all pupils from Year 7 onwards; this is a very popular choice, with many pupils continuing actor training up to Gold Medal standard.

In the audition, we would like to see work and ideas, which are the candidate's own. At the end of the audition, we will work with the candidates to re-direct a moment from one of their pieces, as we value candidates who are able to show versatility and a willingness to experiment with the delivery of their pieces.



Who should apply?

At St Mary's 'The play is the thing' and the expectations of a candidate for a Drama Scholarship include originality, imagination and creative flair, as well as a high degree of technical accomplishment. Passion, commitment, dedication and enthusiasm, are all essential, as is the candidate's potential for leadership. Drama teachers are advised only to enter a pupil who has innate ability in this subject area.

At 11+

All candidates will be expected to communicate a genuine enthusiasm and interest in Drama and Theatre at interview. They will be required to prepare and perform two contrasting dramatic monologues from published plays (for example: one tragic and one comic); these should each be between two and three minutes in length. It is expected that candidates will be off-script and will not require prompting. They will also be required to discuss and evaluate one of their selected excerpts.

At 13+

All candidates will be expected to communicate a genuine enthusiasm and interest in Drama and Theatre at interview and provide a portfolio which documents their theatre experience (as a performer and a spectator). They will be required to prepare and perform two contrasting excerpts; these can be candidates' choice, but we recommend contrasting time periods and characters; all pieces should be between three and four minutes in length. It is expected that candidates will be off-script and will not require prompting. They will also be required to discuss and evaluate both of their selected excerpts.

At Sixth Form

All candidates will be expected to communicate a genuine enthusiasm and interest in Drama and Theatre at interview and provide a portfolio which documents their theatre experience (as a performer and a spectator). They will be expected to demonstrate clear leadership qualities and already have experience relating to this. Candidates will be required to prepare and perform two contrasting excerpts; these can be candidates' choice, but we recommend contrasting time periods



and characters. All pieces should be between three and four minutes in length. Candidates will also be required to prepare and present an unseen dramatic excerpt and give reasons for the directorial and creative decisions taken. It is, of course, expected that candidates will be off-script and will not require prompting; they will also be required to discuss and evaluate both of their selected excerpts.

Drama Scholars' Responsibilities

All Drama Scholars are expected to be leaders of their subject and play a prominent role in the dramatic and theatrical life of the school. They are expected to lead by example, setting the highest standards of performance and creativity. This applies to Drama Scholars of all age groups, from those at 11+ contributing to the Junior Drama Society to those at 16+ engaged in the academic study of the subject at A Level.

Drama and Theatre necessitate high levels of ensemble and teamwork. While being strong, proactive individuals, Drama Scholars must be able to work effectively with other pupils to support, encourage and inspire them. The ongoing development of the Drama Department and its role in the life and culture of St Mary's should always be priorities of the Drama Scholars.

MUSIC SCHOLARSHIPS (INCLUDING CHORAL)

St Mary's offers Music Scholarships for first-study instrumentalists and Choral Scholarships for first-study singers at 16+. Music is central to life at St Mary's and the musical diary gives every possible opportunity for girls to hone their performance skills and to enjoy making music to the highest standard. From the Fourth Form Music Competition, the Company Music Festival, regular school concerts and music performances to the whole school, the opportunities are manifold.

Each year, the Music Department is also honoured to present the prestigious Sir Bryn Terfel Song Prize, a unique award created in partnership with the operatic star, and the Sir Tim Rice Award, both of which celebrate vocal excellence at St Mary's.

There are numerous ensembles - the Symphony Orchestra, String Sinfonia, Opera Ensemble, Junior Choir, Junior Consort, Chamber Choir and Big Band - to name just a few. There are also many trios, quartets and other small ensembles, both vocal and instrumental; some of these are run by staff whilst others are initiated by the girls themselves.

St Mary's enjoys a national reputation for the quality of its Music Department and has links with universities and professional bodies, as well as with leading boys' and co-educational schools.

Over two-thirds of St Mary's girls take individual instrumental or singing lessons with specialist peripatetic teachers, and the majority are regularly entered for ABRSM or Trinity College London examinations. Theory and Aural classes are provided upon request, as are sessions with an accompanist.



Updated Scholars' Programme

The St Mary's Calne Music Department takes great pride in the quality and diversity of our Music programmes, and we are always looking for ways to further broaden the range of opportunities available to our students.

We are therefore delighted to be able to announce a new development initiative for our Music Scholars. This innovative program will introduce a range of new classes designed to improve performance experience and offer scholars a range of optional modules that will expose them to more specialised fields of music.

The first part of this includes the introduction of fortnightly performance forums. Music Scholars will be able to perform for their peers and receive detailed and constructive feedback from one of our highly trained teachers. Student audiences will be encouraged to record their feedback and thereby hone their critical listening and performance analysis skills. These classes will then be augmented by the implementation of optional modules for Music Scholars in LV-UVI.

Vocal Scholars will be able to elect language training specific to their repertoire, and systematised classes in the use of the international phonetic alphabet – an enormously powerful linguistic tool that sees universal application in conservatoires and opera companies around the world.

Available to Piano Scholars, the Accompanying module will explore the art of the collaborative pianist and offer both structured training and the exciting opportunity to play piano with one of our professional instrumentalists.

Chamber Music will give Scholars a chance to explore the wonderful world of ensemble music with a significant degree of agency and autonomy. Small ensembles will be formed, and appropriate repertoire chosen with an allocated Tutor. The groups will then be encouraged to rehearse independently and develop their shared musical personalities. Tutors will meet with them regularly to offer specialised guidance.

Conducting will be offered over three years, ranging from basic to advanced, and will see scholars trained in both hand and baton conducting, choral and symphonic conducting, and the art of shaping and guiding music as a leader. The final stage of this will offer placements in school ensembles, with the opportunity to conduct a band, orchestra or choir.

The Music Department are thrilled to be able to offer this further investment in musical training, and hope that our scholars will be both excited and inspired.



The selection process consists of:

Audition

- ⦿ A well-balanced programme of one or more prepared pieces chosen by the candidate in accordance with the stipulations for difficulty below, and lasting a total maximum of between six and eight minutes in length; most candidates will choose to perform at least two pieces on two instruments or one instrument and voice (applicants for Choral Scholarships must perform two contrasting songs);
- ⦿ A performance of a ‘Quick Study’ following 10 minutes of preparation time, during which a piano is provided. For first-study instrumentalists, this will be a short piece on an instrument of the candidate’s choice, declared at the time of application. For first-study singers, this will be a short vocal piece;
- ⦿ Aural tests: to include repetition of rhythms and melodies, and testing a candidate’s ability to isolate pitches in cluster chords;
- ⦿ Interview: a brief conversation with the candidate to determine her interests and aspirations.

General Information

Difficulty levels:

At 11+

- ⦿ At least one piece should be played or sung at, or above, ABRSM Grade 4 standard, though progress and potential will be taken into account. For candidates wishing to play a second or third instrument, including voice, this may be presented at any standard from beginner onwards. The maximum programme length is six minutes;
- ⦿ The ‘Quick Study’ will be of ABRSM Grade 3-4 standard.

At 13+

- ⦿ At least one piece should be played or sung at, or above, ABRSM Grade 5 standard. For candidates wishing to play a second or third instrument, including voice, this may be presented at any standard from beginner onwards. The maximum programme length is seven minutes’
- ⦿ The ‘Quick Study’ will be of ABRSM Grade 4-5 standard;
- ⦿ Candidates will be asked questions of a more analytical and/or creative nature.



Sixth Form

- ⦿ At least one piece should be played or sung at, or above, ABRSM Grade 7 standard. For candidates wishing to play a second or third instrument, including voice, this may be presented at any standard from beginner onwards. The maximum programme length is eight minutes;
 - ⦿ The Quick Study will be of ABRSM Grade 7 standard;
 - ⦿ Candidates will be asked questions of a more analytical and/or creative and/or historical nature;
 - ⦿ Candidates will be expected to have a solid grasp of, and interest in, the history of music and will normally have taken GCSE Music or equivalent;
 - ⦿ Choral Scholarship candidates will be expected to show some knowledge of vocal or choral repertoire.
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Whilst taking into account other factors, the award of the Scholarship will be based primarily on how the candidate performs on the day and responds at interview.

Music Scholars' Responsibilities

Music and Choral Scholars play a prominent part in the musical life of the school. In academic terms, girls are expected to study GCSE Music and to show their genuine interest by attending concerts and undertaking wider reading.

As practical musicians, they will play leading roles in several ensembles as well as show their proficiency as soloists. They are expected to lead by example in their approach to rehearsals and practice, to encourage development of the Music Department. Scholars may be asked to perform at an annual recital, or to organise events such as Music Chapels, involving girls in their year group.





SPORTS SCHOLARSHIPS

St Mary's attracts a high number of talented and committed sportswomen to the school. Our results and reputation are excellent and we are consistently a leading competitor on our extensive fixture circuit. With eight tennis courts (and an additional 12 in the Summer), a full sized Astro pitch, seven netball courts, a large sports complex with a fitness suite, a dance studio and a swimming pool, our facilities on site allow all athletes to achieve the best from sport and push their ability.

The aim of the Sport Scholarship is to attract outstanding sportswomen and to provide the opportunity for the successful candidates to develop and maximise their own athletic potential. Those successful in gaining a Sports Scholarship will benefit from expert teaching and termly one-to-one mentoring, provided by our highly qualified and experienced staff. Scholars will also receive invitations to designated sports specific clinics and lectures to assist in their progression, and to fulfil their potential.



Application and Assessment

Applications should be supported by evidence of past sporting achievements, together with a report from the candidate's PE teacher(s) or relevant coach(es).

On the assessment day, candidates will undergo a series of movement tests including agility, balance, co-ordination, speed, and stamina tests, as well as having the opportunity to participate in our major sports: Lacrosse and Tennis. Candidates may also be assessed for their potential and aptitude in Netball, Hockey, Cricket, Athletics (including Cross-Country) and Swimming, alongside assessing teamwork and mental strength in activities like Indoor Wall Climbing. Equestrian and other sports can be assessed with a pre-recorded video. Previous experience will be taken into consideration.

Sixth Form candidates should preferably have reached county standard, or equivalent, and ideally have the ability to offer two or more sports

Sport Scholars' Responsibilities

- To play an active and positive leading role amongst Sport students/peers. Foster a positive, winning attitude on and off the sporting field;
- Be an ambassador for Sport throughout their time at St Mary's Calne through attending Team Practice and playing in the A Team in at least one of our main sports - Lacrosse, Tennis, Netball, Hockey, Cricket, Equestrian, Swimming and Athletics;
- To wear the correct sports kit and be well presented at all times;
- Strive to maximise their physical, tactical, technical and mental potential in training, practice and during competitions;
- Remain coachable, by proactively seeking advice from coaches to aid continued self-improvement;

- To take part in matches/competitions as required by the Sports Department;
- Attend Sports Scholar lectures;
- To support team mates and younger pupils who may be less experienced through assistance in coaching, umpiring and mentoring;
- To set and reach the agreed physical and technical targets, in addition to long and short term goals, as discussed with Sports staff;
- To stay on top of academic targets through time and workload management, alongside sporting commitments.





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