



TRENT COLLEGE
AND
THE ELMS



**Trent College Scholarships
Year 7 Entry in September 2024**

Information for Elms Candidates



Trent College Scholarships Year 7 Entry in September 2024

Message from Bill Penty, Head of Trent

At Trent College we want every individual to discover each of their strengths and make the most of their talents. Our Scholarships are awarded for excellence in the fields of Academic ability, Art, Drama, Music & Choral and Sport. They recognise a student's specific flair and aptitude and identify potential for development.

Scholars will be mentored, guided and supported by department heads and tutors and be provided with the development needed to exceed their potential. In return, they are expected to maintain an excellent performance in their field. Fundamental to the role of a Scholar is to lead by example and to be aware of the privileged and important, position a Scholar has in the academic and pastoral structure of our School.

We are delighted to welcome applications for the next generation of Trent Scholars, and hope that the information contained herein provides you with all the details you need to show us your abilities in the assessments.

Good luck!

Message from Mrs Faith Potter, Head of The Elms

We are very proud that each year, pupils from The Elms are recognised for their outstanding talents and gain a Trent College Scholarship. We believe that The Elms provides a perfect preparation for life at Trent, and it is wonderful to see our children, including Scholars, go on to achieve great things as they move to senior school.

The Elms provides a variety of help for children who want to apply for a Trent Scholarship, from specialist clubs to individual support. Children and parents are very welcome to speak to class teachers and specialist staff if they have any questions about preparations for the assessments.

Wishing all our Scholarship candidates the best of luck.

Academic Scholarship

Expectations

Academic Scholars are expected to lead their peers by example in the academic sphere. This means that they will display an attitude in class, and towards their studies, which is exemplary. They will pursue breadth and depth in their academic study and develop and demonstrate the skills of an independent learner. They will involve themselves in extra-curricular cerebral activities as determined by the Deputy Head (Academic) and Heads of Department.

Assessment

Candidates will be assessed by sitting the Trent College Entrance Examination and the offer of a Scholarship depends upon their performance in this exam, combined with feedback from the interview.

The Entrance Exam will be held on **Thursday 11 January 2024** and comprises of a Cognitive Abilities Test (covering verbal, non-verbal, spatial and numerical reasoning) and a writing task.

Interviews are a 1:1 chat with a member of Trent staff and will be held on **Wednesday 24 January 2024**. Children will be asked about themselves, their interests and their ambitions for the future. Additionally, the interview will include a discussion on a current affairs issue (a choice of topics will be available on the day).

How to Prepare

Any child can choose to apply for an Academic Scholarship. Whilst preparation for the exam is not essential, children should strongly consider participating in academic after school clubs.

Should you want to familiarise your child with the style of the questions, there are a couple of resources that you may choose to purchase:

- Bond 11+: Non-verbal Reasoning: Assessment Papers: 10-11+ years Book 1 (2015) ISBN-13: 978-0192740267
- Bond 11+: Verbal Reasoning: Assessment Papers: 10-11+ years Book 2 (2015) ISBN-13: 978-0192740366

Children may also benefit from practising doing pieces of writing under timed conditions (20 to 30 minutes), thinking about how long they spend on planning, writing and proof reading.

Art Scholarship

Expectations

Our Art Scholars are highly valued and are the best possible example of talent and hard work, helping to motivate others, both inside and outside of Art lessons. They really set the standard, working to a consistently high level, but also demonstrating enthusiasm about their work. Scholars are expected to continue with Art as an academic subject up to GCSE level, and then to A-Level if they maintain their Scholarship into Sixth Form.

Assessment

The scholarship assessment test will be at **4:15pm on Thursday 25 January 2024**. Candidates will need to **submit a portfolio in advance**, and on the day of the assessment will carry out a **1 hour drawing test**, the subject of which they will not know beforehand.

Scholarship candidates need to **collate examples of their own artwork, completed unaided, in a portfolio** that includes examples showing the level of their drawing skill and demonstrating their ability to **depict accurate shapes and their ability to shade, showing light and dark**. Specifically, pupils are asked to include in their portfolio a series of drawings, which will lead to a test piece to be undertaken on the day of scholarship assessment. Pupils must **produce a series of five observational drawings in 2B pencil**, approximately 13 x 13 cm - a scale which allows detail, but without being overly large. The five drawings must be of the following:

- an apple
- a group of mushrooms
- an insect
- a knotted piece of plain fabric (a close up section)
- a group of sweets.

The **portfolio can also contain any other examples** of work that shows off their talent such as paintings, textile, glass, sculpture, collage, clay etc. It can contain recent school work but must also demonstrate their enthusiasm in the subject, and examples of work undertaken outside of school, preferably avoiding cartoon work.

The portfolio must be submitted by **Friday 19 January 2024**.

How to Prepare

It is important that children take time to develop their portfolio and think carefully about what to include. The key to the portfolio is to be selective; the work must show the quality of the child's technical skill - only including work that best shows their ability. Children should look for inspiration from a variety of sources, and try to show their work developing and evolving as they practise their skills. Focus on the key assessment criteria listed above, "ability to depict accurate shapes and to shade, showing light and dark".

Children applying for a Scholarship can also speak to Miss Lisa Rigley, Head of Art at The Elms, for inspiration and guidance.

Drama Scholarship

Expectations

Drama Scholars are ambassadors for the department. As such, we expect our Scholars to lead by example and eventually inspire and motivate others. We expect our Drama Scholars to achieve high grades in curriculum Drama and to participate in a range of productions through performance, design, or as a technician or stage manager. They are expected to continue with Drama as an academic subject up to at least GCSE level. Drama Scholars are enthusiastic and demonstrate a commitment to working in a team and developing their skills. We would expect Scholars to audition for recognised local drama groups such as Talent 1st or TV Workshop. In addition, Drama Scholars are expected to take part in projects and productions that are specifically chosen for them.

Assessment

The assessment will take place in the form of a **one and a half hour group workshop at 2:15pm on Thursday 18 January**. Candidates will take part in workshop activities, and will deliver a pre-prepared monologue.

The exact activities included in the workshop will not be published in advance, although candidates should expect to be assessed on areas such as working in a group context, performance confidence and ability to develop an idea. Candidates must **prepare and deliver a monologue lasting no more than 2 minutes**.

Candidates will also be asked to complete a **short questionnaire**, outlining their performance background, drama-related ambitions and giving the opportunity to tell us about their experience. This must be submitted by **Tuesday 09 January 2024**.

Although it is not a pre-requisite, pupils may also submit copies of any relevant accredited certification (for example LAMDA), teacher recommendations or other information to demonstrate previous experience in Drama.

How to Prepare

Preparation for the workshop itself is not essential. Children should be relaxed, enthusiastic and ready to get fully involved with all the activities.

The monologue will be performed to the whole group, so practise in front of family and friends is helpful. If children require help in selecting an appropriate piece, please contact Director of Drama, Mrs Donnaleigh Ward, for advice: donnaleigh.ward@trentcollege.net

Take a little time to go through the questionnaire and help your child compile their answers. If children want to bring copies of relevant accredited certification, it should be presented in a folder, with the questionnaire in the front. This must be submitted in advance.

Children can also speak to Mrs Lucy Colgan, Head of Dance & Drama at The Elms, for inspiration and guidance.

Music / Choral Scholarship

Expectations

Music is a key part of life at Trent College and Scholars are expected to make a strong contribution by leading others by example and playing in such ensembles and performances as the Music Department feels appropriate. Music (not Choral) Scholars are expected to continue with Music as an academic subject up to at least GCSE level, recognising Music as a point of difference in enhancing their academic ambitions. **Scholars are expected to study and make progress on their main instrument for the duration of their time at the School, and to sing in Chamber Choir, as this is essential for the development of aural skills.**

Assessment

For the assessment candidates should **play or sing two contrasting pieces**. They may offer one or more instruments of their choice and will be given **sight-reading and aural tests**. Accurate and expressive performances are expected. Pupils must select music that is **at least of Grade 4 standard on the main instrument or voice**. If a candidate chooses a piece of music that requires accompaniment, they must bring copies of the music for the School accompanist. Finally, candidates will be asked to talk about their musical experience and ambitions.

Candidates will also be asked to complete a **short questionnaire**, outlining their musical background and ambitions and giving the opportunity to tell us about their experience. This must be submitted by **Tuesday 09 January 2024**.

All candidates will be called for individual audition times between **10:00am and 4:00pm on Tuesday 23 January 2024**. There will be time available for a warm up in advance.

How to Prepare

Practise for the audition is essential. Children should choose something they enjoy playing or singing, and become deeply familiar with the piece. They should be able to explain what specifically they like about it. **Note:** children do *not* need to have passed a Grade 4 exam, but must play a Grade 4 piece of music.

If your child would like help in selecting an appropriate piece of Grade 4 music, please contact Director of Music, Mr Nick Parrans-Smith for advice: nick.parrans-smith@trentcollege.net. Mr Parrans-Smith can also arrange an informal consultation beforehand, at any point leading up to the audition.

Take a little time to go through the questionnaire and help your child compile their answers. This must be submitted in advance.

Children should notify their instrumental teacher or Miss Lesley Pattison, Director of Music at The Elms, of their intended application *prior to October half term*. Individual teachers will support the preparation process during individual lessons after half term offering inspiration and guidance.

Sport Scholarship

Expectations

Sports Scholars are expected to lead by example, showing commitment to the Department and the School through the PE programme, curricular sport and extra-curricular fixtures and sporting activity programmes. They are ambassadors for the school and exhibit the characteristics and actions recognised within the departmental values of Leadership, Honesty, Effort, Humility, Pride and Team Work.

Assessment

Sports Scholarships are only awarded to candidates who reach the desired level of performance in our Performance Sports; namely Rugby, Hockey, Cricket and Tennis for Boys; and Hockey, Netball, Cricket and Tennis for Girls. We appreciate that children may be heavily committed to other sports and this is to be actively encouraged, but for an application for a Sports Scholarship, children must **excel in at least two of our performance sports**, and be a competent performer in a third. They would be expected to represent the school in at least three sports for the duration of time as a sports scholar.

The Sports Department is looking for pupils who will stand out in a year group for their performance. In Hockey, Netball, Tennis and Cricket, there is already a 'performance pathway' and children *may* be representing a County in one or more of these sports. This is a good indicator of current level of performance, and one that the school would *like* to see in a potential scholar.

In Rugby there is no pathway at this age and determining performance levels is more problematic. Clearly, School and Club representation demonstrate commitment towards a sport and a certain level of playing experience, which will be taken into account. The selection process strongly considers the potential of a child and in particular, their all-round athletic potential. We highly value applicants who listen and who want to learn, through applying what they are told. 'Coachability', is therefore also a very important quality.

Scholarship assessments for Sport will take place from **9:00am to 12:00pm on Friday 12 January 2024**. Candidates will undertake a **fitness test** and will participate in **game activities** in all performance sports. Children will also be asked to complete a **short questionnaire**, outlining their sporting background and ambitions and giving the opportunity to tell us about their experience. This must be submitted by **Tuesday 09 January 2024**.

How to Prepare

Children need to arrive prepared to listen carefully, try their best, play as part of a team and apply any coaching direction they are given. Details will be given in advance about what to wear and what to bring.

Take a little time to go through the questionnaire and help your child compile their answers. This must be submitted in advance.

Children can also speak to Mrs Claire Penty, Director of Sport at The Elms, for inspiration and guidance.

Applying for a Trent College Scholarship

With a limited number of Scholarships available and a high standard of applications, we do ask parents to be realistic in their expectations and urge you not to be disappointed if your child does not receive a Scholarship. The skills, abilities and potential of all students is superb so there are difficult decisions to be made and we can assure you that all applications and assessments are judged on an individual basis by experienced Trent College staff.

Scholarships awarded at entry in Year 7 will normally be tenable until the end of Year 11. Higher expectations are placed on Scholars upon entry to Sixth Form; the applicable criteria will be available during Year 11.

The contribution, attitude and commitment and Scholars will be monitored by the appropriate Director who also reserves the right to recommend to the Head the withdrawal of scholarship status if the conditions are not being met. Additionally, as pupil's skills develop, there is the opportunity to be awarded a Scholarship at a later date, for example at the start of Year 9 or Year 12.

Students may apply for multiple Scholarships. To ensure pupil have enough time to dedicate to their academic studies, Trent College will award a maximum of two Scholarship Awards, one of which would be Academic, the other in Art, Drama, Music, Choral or Sport. If your child were to be assessed for a number of awards and excelled in many areas, we would work with you, our staff and your child to choose which key area of school they would like to focus their efforts on.

The award of one or two Scholarships would typically attract a 10% reduction off day fees, with further financial assistance available through our means-tested bursary scheme.

To apply for a Scholarship, register online by 30 November at:

<https://forms.office.com/e/x0jFbwuZr1>

For any further questions about the admissions process, please contact us.

Key Contacts

Head of Trent College Admissions:

Mrs Helen Pearce-McNeill

admissions@trentcollege.net

Deputy Head (Academic):

Mr Darren Brumby

darren.brumby@trentcollege.net

Head of Art:

Mrs Kate O'Hare

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Director of Drama:

Mrs Donnaleigh Ward

donnaleigh.ward@trentcollege.net

Director of Music:

Mr Nick Parrans-Smith

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Director of Sport:

Mr Richard Mahony

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