



ST ANDREW'S  
CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

# Scholarship

## *Information Pack*



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# A transformative education that builds character

## 1. Scholarships Overview

St Andrew's Cathedral School offers a high-quality academic programme and extensive opportunities to be involved in cocurricular activities, including sport, music, creative and performing arts and outdoor education. The School's Christian foundations drive a commitment to excellence and a focus on building the character and expertise of each student in the context of a strong community.

Our teaching and learning is led by expert teachers and driven by evidence-informed innovation. We have high expectations of our students who flourish as thoughtful, hopeful and purposeful individuals. Students on scholarships are expected to make a positive contribution to the School and its community.

## 2. Scholarship Types

St Andrew's Cathedral School offers scholarships for existing students and external candidates in the categories listed below.

Scholarship	Type	Year Group Entry
Junior School	Academic	Years 3 – 6
Year 7	Academic	Year 7
Claremont College	Leadership	Year 7
Senior College	Academic – HSC and IB	Years 10 & 11
Senior College	All-Round Achiever	Years 10 & 11
Music	Instrumental, vocal*	Years 4 - 11

\*Music Scholarships are open to all instruments, including singing (classical or contemporary), woodwind, piano (classical or jazz), brass, strings (including harp), percussion (drum kit and orchestral percussion) and composition.

## 3. Scholarship Duration

Scholarships are awarded in the year prior to the year of entry, and apply as follows:

- Junior School Academic Scholarship: Effective until the end of Year 6, after which students are required to re-apply for a Year 7 – 12 scholarship via the Year 7 Academic Scholarship exam;
- Year 7 Academic and Claremont Scholarships: Effective until the end of Year 12;
- Music Scholarships: Effective until the end of Year 12; and
- Senior College Scholarships: Effective until the end of Year 12.



Students can only hold one scholarship at a time. Scholarships cannot be added or combined to existing or other scholarships.

## 4. Scholarship inclusions

- Scholarships and discounts vary from 5% to 75%;
- Discounts of 100% are awarded on occasion, in circumstances of exceptional ability;
- Scholarships provide a discount to Tuition Fees only;
- Fees, such as the Enrolment Confirmation Fee, uniforms, compulsory and optional outdoor education camps, Resource Levy, and music tuition are full price.

## 5. Eligibility Criteria

### 5.1. Demonstrated achievement, work habits and behaviours

All scholarship students are expected to demonstrate:

- High academic achievement, potential and executive functioning skills;
- Aptitude across a range of areas, particularly literacy;
- High-levels of engagement with all curriculum and co-curricular activities;
- Consistent work habits (above average in comparison to year group);
- Ability to manage academic workload and scholarship requirements;
- Commitment to leadership within the school environment;
- Commitment to St Andrew's Cathedral School values;
- Excellence in one or more academic areas: STEM, arts, humanities with a focus on literacy; and
- High-levels of engagement with all curriculum and co-curricular activities and a commitment to leadership within the school environment.

### 5.2. Claremont Scholarship specifically:

- Demonstrated achievement and behaviours as per Section 5.1;
- The Scholarship applicant must be enrolled at Claremont College at the time of application and be continually enrolled to the completion of Year 6; and
- Demonstrated leadership and commitment to school life at Claremont College through music, drama, sport, or other school activities.

### 5.3. Senior College All-Round Achiever Scholarship specifically:

- Demonstrated ability, leadership, and achievement in one or more of the following areas:
  - Creative arts including visual arts, theatre, creative writing;
  - Sciences including biology, chemistry, physics, or environmental science;
  - Design including graphic design and/or fashion design;
  - Athletics or sport;
  - Innovation and entrepreneurship; and
  - Community service.
- High-level of engagement with all curriculum and co-curricular activities
- A commitment to leadership within the school environment.

### 5.4. Music Scholarship specifically:

Music Scholarship applicants are required to provide some, or all, of the following supporting documentation:

- Results of AMEB or equivalent examinations;
- Instrument proficiency levels: Music Scholarships are highly competitive, and candidates have often achieved at levels higher than the minimum grade standards listed below.

Scholarship	Years of Entry	Minimum AMEB Grade standard
Junior School	Years 4 – 6	Grade 3
Middle School	Years 7 – 9	Grade 6
Senior College	Years 10 – 11	Grade 7

## 6. Application Process

Scholarship information and important dates will be advertised and available on the School's website. Prospective families on the School's waitlist will be notified via email when scholarships open, and current families will be notified via the School newsletters.

To be considered for scholarship, applicants are to provide:

- A completed and submitted online Scholarship Application Form;
- Payment of the \$150 Scholarship Application Fee;
- Two most recent school reports and NAPLAN report;
- A recent photograph of the student;
- A short statement of introduction by the student;
- Year 7 and Senior College scholarship applicants:
  - a portfolio demonstrating academic excellence. The portfolio should be a maximum of 10 A4 pages, include at least two written work samples, and a letter of recommendation from their current classroom teacher or Principal;

- Junior School Academic Scholarship applicants:
  - a portfolio of student work. The portfolio should be a maximum of 10 A4 pages, include at least 2 (two) written work samples, and a letter of recommendation from their current classroom teacher or Principal;
- ICAS results, where applicable;
- Complete and full reports of any ability assessments e.g. WISC, WIAT, AGAT, WPPSI, if applicable (note Stanford Binet test not accepted);
- Student’s formal diagnosis / assessment / specialist reports;
- List of individual accreditations and achievements where applicable (copies of certificates) (submitted in one pdf document);
- Evidence of involvement in enrichment and extension competitions and/or events, for example ICAS, Maths Olympiad, Da Vinci Decathlon;
- Photos of medals or ribbons are not required.

Music Scholarship applicants are also required to upload some, or all, of the following supporting documentation:

- Results of AMEB or equivalent examinations;
- A signed reference from music tutor(s);
- A video that shows the student playing their chosen instrument or a vocal performance for up to 5 minutes (one instrument only). Video submissions will be reviewed by the School’s Music Scholarship Panel who will then make selections for students to be auditioned in person;
- Instrument proficiency levels: Music Scholarships are highly competitive, and candidates have often achieved at levels higher than the minimum grade standards listed below.

Music Scholarship	Years of Entry	Minimum AMEB Grade Standard
Junior School	Years 4 to 6	Grade 3
Middle School	Years 7 to 9	Grade 6
Senior School	Years 10 to 11	Grade 7

## 7. Selection Process

All scholarships are awarded on consideration of:

- The scholarship application;
- Results of the scholarship exam (for Academic and Senior College scholarships);
- Live audition (for Music Scholarships); and
- Scholarship interview and/or enrolment interview.

### 7.1. Scholarship examination

Standardised assessment for Academic and Claremont applicants is undertaken via an examination in Term 1 the year prior to commencement. Standardised assessment for Senior College Academic and Senior College All-Round Achiever Scholarship applicants is undertaken via an examination in July the year prior to commencement. The School utilises the Cognitive Abilities Test, which assesses the student’s verbal, quantitative, nonverbal, and spatial reasoning. The test also includes a writing component.



The examination is held in person, on-site at St Andrew's Cathedral School, Sydney Square. The exam is not available to be taken online and there are no catch up or alternate dates available.

## 7.2. Candidate short listing

- Following the application's close date and after the scholarship test (if applicable), the Scholarship Panel reviews each candidate's application, considering individual test results, together with submitted scholarship application and supporting documentation;
- Shortlisted candidates ONLY are notified by email and requested to proceed to interview. Unsuccessful applicants will be notified by email once the process is completed;
- If an applicant is shortlisted, they are contacted to book in a scholarship interview with the Panel. The interview is conducted in person, on-site at St Andrew's Cathedral School. The interview process will consist of a selection of questions asked by the Panel.

## 7.3. Music Scholarships

Music scholars may be invited to audition before the applications close date. Criteria for selection to audition includes:

- Performance standard as revealed by video submission and/or application documents;
- Demonstrated ability and achievement in chosen instrument;
- Identified talent and potential;
- Behavioural/social aspects as per student reports; and
- Overall academic standard as per school reports.

Short listed candidates are informed by the Performing Arts Administrator and a timeslot for audition is arranged.

## 7.4. Scholarship interviews

Scholarship interviews provide an opportunity for applicants to be assessed for their suitability and ability to meet the requirements and responsibilities of the scholarship. They also provide the chance for applicants to showcase their strengths, achievements, and personality. Applicants will meet with the Interview Panel and will be asked questions about their motivation and goals, their understanding of the scholarship and their commitment to their studies and school life in general.

### 7.4.1 Junior School

If students are shortlisted, they will be contacted to book in an interview with members of the Junior School Executive. While parents are most welcome to accompany their child on the day, parents *do not* attend the interview. The Scholarship Panel consists of members of the Junior School Executive staff who evaluate the student's responses and assess the student's suitability for the scholarship. During the interview the student will be required to deliver a short presentation - refer details below - followed by a selection of questions asked by the interviewers.

- Student Presentation:
  - Topic: Personal choice
  - Time limit: One minute speech
  - No visual props/ no PowerPoints

If successful, families will be invited to an enrolment interview with the Deputy Head of Junior School where enrolment and scholarship information will be discussed.

#### 7.4.2 Year 7

Shortlisted students are invited for interview with the Head of Middle School, Head of Gifted Education and the Registrar. Enrolment and scholarship information is provided during the interview.

#### 7.4.3 Senior College

Interview with the Head of Senior College, Head of Gifted Education and the Registrar. Enrolment and scholarship information is provided during the interview.

### 7.5. Music auditions

The live audition for each candidate is performed in front of a Music Scholarship Panel, consisting of the:

- Head of Performing Arts;
- Coordinator of Musical Talent Development;
- Coordinator of Strings (where relevant);
- Coordinator of Woodwind, Brass and Percussion (where relevant); and
- Head of Music K – 6 (where relevant);

The live audition consists of:

- Two contrasting pieces of the candidate's own choice;
- If a candidate auditions on two instruments, they will be required to play one (1) piece on each instrument;
- Sight-reading
- Aural tests; and
- Interview with the Music Scholarship Panel.

### 7.6. Scholarship Offers

Approximately two weeks after scholarship interview or audition, candidates are advised if they have been successful in receiving a scholarship offer. If successful:

- A formal offer of scholarship is issued confirming the scholarship amount and containing the terms and conditions of the scholarship;
- Successful applicants will be notified of their scholarship offer and the terms and conditions in writing. If applicants choose to accept the scholarship, they must do so via an online acceptance form within ten days;
- Music scholars must also attend an enrolment interview with the School's Registrar where enrolment and scholarship information will be provided;
- Parents must complete an online Application for Enrolment. Please note that the Application for Enrolment Fee is waived for academic scholars;
- A separate Offer of Enrolment will also be issued, confirming the student's start date and year group; and
- Parents and the student are to sign and return an Acceptance of Scholarship Offer, along with payment of the Enrolment Confirmation Fee.

It is the prerogative of the School to make the selection in the context of best fit for the cohort.

## 8. Scholarship Terms and Conditions

### 8.1. Expectations of scholars

All scholars are expected to demonstrate:

- Consistently high achievement across academic subjects;
- Continual demonstration of academic leadership through strong and consistent classwork and study habits, including attendance and punctuality to all subject lessons;
- School attendance record of 96% or above;
- Willing engagement in academic competitions<sup>1</sup> and other opportunities as provided;
- Satisfactory participation in school activities including sport, outdoor education and cocurricular and service activities;
- Student representative at School events<sup>2</sup> as requested;
- Responsible and consistent attitude and behaviours, acting as a role model to other students; and
- Commitment to St Andrew's Cathedral School values.

### 8.2. Standard of academic achievement Years 7 – 11

Academic scholars are to achieve consistently high standards of achievement across a range of subjects, particularly core subjects, including:

- Achieving Academic Honours each Semester. Academic Honours are awarded for achieving one of the following:
  - Years 7-10: Average of Grade 6.5+ in all reported subjects in a Semester;
  - Year 11 HSC: Averaging 90% or more across all reported subjects in a Semester;
  - Year 12 HSC: Averaging 90% or more across all SACS reported subjects in Semester 1;
  - Year 11 IBDP: Achieved at least 35 points across all Higher Level (HL) and Standard Level (SL) reported subjects in a Semester;
  - Year 12 IBDP: Achieved at least 38/45 points across all HL and SL reported subjects in Semester 1.

Refer to **Appendix 1 - MYP Assessment Guidelines** for an explanation of MYP assessment criteria.

<sup>1</sup> Competitions and activities may include AMT Math Challenge, AMT Math Enrichment, Math Games, Math and Science Olympiad, Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge, G.A.T.E.WAYS, Gateways8, Write a Book in a Day, Sydney Writer's Festival, Kids' Lit Quiz, National History Challenge, Sleek Geeks Science Eureka Prize, da Vinci Decathlon, World Scholar's Cup, Project Catalyst, IPSHA Debating, Australasian Philosothon and Ethics Olympiad.

<sup>2</sup> School events may include open days, orientation activities and the Independent Schools Expo. Note that school, class and academic commitments take priority over student representative duties.

### 8.3. Claremont College and Senior College All-Round Achiever Scholarships

- Demonstrate a combination of academic excellence, leadership skills, extracurricular involvement, and community service; and
- Continual demonstration of the St Andrew's Character Strengths and academic leadership through continual engagement in class work and study habits.

### 8.4. Music

Music scholars are expected to:

- Be leaders by example of commitment to the School's Music Programme (and the scholar's individual music scholar commitment schedule).
- Take music as an elective subject from Years 8 to 12.
- Participate in Junior, Middle School or Senior Choir, as applicable to their school year.
- Be on time and willing to participate positively in all rehearsals, such as morning rehearsals at 7.30am and afternoon rehearsals until approximately 5.30 pm, demonstrating initiative and an attitude of service.
- Perform at least once per term as a soloist in one of the School's weekly concerts, and as an ensemble member as requested by ensemble conductors.
- Undertake individual music tuition from a music tutor approved by the Director of Performing Arts, at the expense of parents.
- Attend relevant performances involving other music scholars irrespective of their own participation.
- Participate fully in school-life with satisfactory participation in school activities including sport, outdoor education, etc.
- Demonstrate academic leadership through strong and consistent classwork and study habits, including attendance and punctuality of all subject lessons;
- Music scholars are also expected make consistent progress in their academic studies.

### 8.5. Scholarship Conditions

- Scholarships are reviewed annually by the Head of Division, Head of Gifted Education and/or the relevant Director of Learning;
- Scholars agree to the publication of their HSC or IBDP academic results and ATAR in School communications;
- Parents/Carers and scholars agree that all details regarding Scholarship amounts and terms must be kept in the strictest confidence;
- The family desires a long-term relationship with the School;
- Parents/Carers undertake to make fee payments a priority;
- Parents/Carers agree to a Direct Payment method for school fees and will complete a Direct Debit Authority Form;
- Parents acknowledge that a scholarship does not guarantee placement in the Extension Classes; and

- It is expected that if the scholarship holder is struggling to meet the academic expectations that they would initiate support from the relevant Director of Learning or Head of Gifted Education well in advance of the assessment period/end of Semester review.

Scholarships may be decreased or withdrawn up to the final Term of Year 12 if the above behaviours and conditions are not met or fee payments are not kept up to date.

## 9. Maintaining Scholarships

To ensure scholars are achieving their best, meeting scholarship standards and making satisfactory progress, scholarships are reviewed each semester reporting period, usually every six months against the standard of academic achievement outlined in Section 8.2. Scholarships are reviewed by:

- Head of Division – i.e. Head of Junior School, Head of Middle School, or Head of Senior College;
- Relevant Director of Learning; and
- Head of Gifted Education.

Following the review, parents/carers of scholars will receive a letter from the relevant Head of Division to advise if the student has made:

- Good progress;
- Sound progress with specified areas of improvement; or
- Unsatisfactory progress – a scholarship review meeting is required.

If a review of ‘unsatisfactory progress’ has been made, a parent and student meeting will be arranged with the relevant Divisional Head, Director of Learning, and the Head of Gifted Education to discuss possible remedial strategies including Study Centre attendance, Maths Homework Club or goal setting and tracking.

## 10. For further information

If you have any questions regarding scholarship interview or process, please contact the relevant staff below.

Scholarship	Name	Phone	Email
Junior School	Mrs Jessica Wheeler, K-6 Enrolments Manager	9286 9500	<a href="mailto:enrolments@sacs.nsw.edu.au">enrolments@sacs.nsw.edu.au</a>
Year 7, Claremont, and Senior College	Mr Bruce Perry, Registrar	9286 9500	<a href="mailto:enrolments@sacs.nsw.edu.au">enrolments@sacs.nsw.edu.au</a>

## 11. Disclaimer

All scholarships are awarded, varied, or withdrawn at the discretion of the Head of School.

## Appendix 1 - MYP Assessment Guidelines

St Andrew's Cathedral School delivers the NSW curriculum via the MYP framework.

All students commencing Year 7 undertake the Middle Years Programme (MYP) of the International Baccalaureate under the curriculum of NESA, an internationally recognised framework for learning, specifically designed for students aged 11 to 16, representing best practice in Junior Secondary schools. Students continue to follow the content of NSW syllabuses, while the MYP provides the framework for learning.

MYP assessment is different to more traditional ideas of assessment in that it is a criterion-based assessment. Credit is given to what they know and can do. Each subject has four criteria, each rated out of 8. Year 7 and 8 use the same criteria, so learning is seen as a continuum, with results expected to be higher in Year 8 than Year 7. Assessment tasks may contain two, three or four of these criteria.

An Assessment Notification is uploaded onto the School's learning management systems, Edumate and Schoology two weeks prior to the due date, along with the assessment criteria. Marks should not be totalled for an assessment but looked at in terms of what was achieved in each criterion. At the end of each semester, students will receive a report for each subject with the four MYP criteria and NESA outcomes. They also receive an overall MYP Grade out of 7, in line with the IB Diploma Programme, and a NESA Grade. On the report will be a Grade distribution graph to allow students and parents to see where a student is sitting in their cohort, and a teacher comment. Details of the assessment criteria is outlined below.

1. Every subject (Mathematics, English, Science etc) in Year 7 – 10 is assessed twice a year: once in Semester 1 and once in Semester 2.
2. Each subject is assessed in according to four assessment criteria – named A – D.
3. Each criterion is assessed out of 8 – i.e., 8 is the top grade and 1 is the bottom grade.
4. The grades from the four assessment criteria are put together to get a mark out of 32.
5. This then translates to an overall grade for that subject out of 7:
  - 28 – 32 = Grade 7
  - 24 – 27 = Grade 6
  - 20 – 23 = Grade 5
  - 16 – 22 = Grade 4
6. In the student's report, they are also given a comment on each criterion, i.e. what they did well and what they could do better.

The emphasis on assessment is on learning and progress as the criteria stay the same across Years 7 to 10. There are eight check-in points across the four years to track how the student is progressing in each criterion in each subject.