



RUGBY SCHOOL

## **13+ MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP FOR ENTRY IN SEPTEMBER 2026**

**THE CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATION FORMS AND BURSARY AUGMENTATION  
IS FRIDAY 2 JANUARY 2026**

The Music assessments will take place during the week beginning Monday 26 January 2026.

### **Guidance**

- For the 13+ Music Scholarship it would be normally expected that a candidate would demonstrate ability on their principal instrument at approximately Grade 5/6 standard, though it is not mandatory for candidates to have passed an examination at this level.
- We are looking for musical potential and commitment, candidates are advised to perform music that they are comfortable with - more credit is given for an outstanding performance of a piece of reasonable difficulty than for a mediocre performance of a very difficult piece.
- Candidates who play one instrument only are encouraged to apply.
- We place considerable emphasis on singing in the department and it is possible for a scholarship to be awarded to a candidate who only offers voice.
- An accompanist will be available for the scholarships, though candidates are very welcome to bring their own pianist if they prefer. All accompaniment parts must be provided by the candidate.
- Before submitting their application, candidates are encouraged to meet the Director of Music for an informal discussion and also to experience taster lessons with the vocal/instrumental teachers. This is an ideal opportunity to talk about aspects of music at Rugby School and for the candidates to meet some of the music staff who will be involved in the Scholarship audition.
- To arrange an opportunity for a pre-application visit to the department or for general enquiries please call 01788 556274.

### **Application**

- Parents of intending candidates should submit a **13+ Music Scholarship Application Form** by Friday 2 January 2026.
- You should also submit a report from each of the candidates individual instrumental/singing teachers with information about their musical ability and experience.

### **Audition**

- Performance: candidates should prepare two contrasting pieces on their principal instrument/voice and, if applicable, one piece on another instrument(s)/voice. Rehearsal time with the accompanist will be provided prior to the audition.
- Sight reading: a short test on an instrument, or instruments, of their choice.

- Aural tests: these will include pitch and interval recognition, melodic and rhythmic memory, sight singing, musical and historical understanding.
- Discussion: an opportunity for candidates to talk about their musical interests and experience. Candidates are welcome to bring along any evidence of their musical activities, although this is not required. If a candidate composes, they are strongly encouraged to bring any work they have.
- Candidates from overseas or who attend a school that does not prepare for Common Entrance will be required to sit our entrance tests in English and Maths on the same day as the audition.

### Expectations

- All awards are conditional upon the academic entrance requirements of Rugby being met. All award holders **must** take the Music Option in the F block within the academic timetable and choose Music as an option for GCSE. They are also able to select music as an additional option to give more time for music lessons and practice.
- Awards are regularly reviewed and are conditional upon satisfactory progress and attitude being maintained.
- Involvement in an ensemble of like-minded musicians is one of life's great experiences and pleasures. Music Scholars are expected to make the most of the musical opportunities offered, take part in a variety of musical groups, and will be expected to perform regularly in public as required by the Director of Music

### Musical life

The Music Department offers its Scholars support and access to a range of activities designed to develop and extend their experience and skills.

- Music Scholars are given extra tutorials by members of the Music Department to support and encourage their musical development.
- Music Scholars will have the opportunity to attend and participate in workshops and masterclasses by visiting professional musicians.
- Music Scholars have free music lessons (unless otherwise specified) and may be offered free singing lessons. They are encouraged to try out other instruments of their choice. We cater for all levels of ability, from beginner to post-diploma performers in a wide range of instruments.

### Award and Augmentation

**If a scholarship is awarded, fees may be augmented by means-tested bursary support up to 100% of the boarding or day fees.**

**Bursary applications are made via an online system, please complete the [Bursary Application Form](#) to start an application. In order for your bursary application to be considered, your child must be registered with the School and the Registration Fee (if applicable) paid in full. Applications submitted after the closing date may not be assessed until after the result of a scholarship application is known.**

**Additionally, at the Head Master's discretion, exceptional awards with a fee concession may be made where, during the assessment process, we identify exceptional potential.**