



HOLMEWOOD HOUSE SCHOOL

'Kindness, aspiration & self-belief'

Policy Holder	Deputy Head
Date Approved	April 2024
Approval	Bursary Committee
Date for next review	April 2025

Scholarship Readiness Awards and Bursaries

Scholarship Readiness Awards

Holmewood House hosts an initiative to promote excellence and participation across a variety of disciplines. This programme is referred to as the Holmewood House 'Scholarship Readiness Award'. It is available to children entering Year 7 (11+) having been assessed in the Spring Term of Year 6. In order to support families who need it, where appropriate, this initiative is tied to access to our bursarial support. School welcomes enquiries from families about the Scholarship Readiness Programme and subsequent bursary opportunities available to them.

Our Scholarship Readiness Programme supports excellence across the following subjects:

- Academic
- Art
- Design Technology/Engineering
- Drama
- Music
- Sport

Pupils who successfully demonstrate outstanding ability, dedication and potential are invited to participate in one or more of the above areas. Invitations to apply to the Scholarship Readiness Programme are sent in the Spring Term of Year 6 to pupils at Holmewood. Prospective pupils are also invited to apply at this time via the registrar.

Each discipline has a variety of criteria which need to be observed in order to invite pupils to participate in the 'Scholarship Readiness' scheme. We intend to promote excellence, while encouraging participation, and therefore all disciplines expect to see work which evidences a level of commitment, dedication and maturity in approach to learning. For each discipline, we expect to see evidence of high levels of consistent effort and motivation, as well as evidence of high standards of performance. The Scholarship Readiness Programmes are rigorous and, as such, they are intended for pupils who are passionate and enthused within their chosen discipline. Pupils are expected to dedicate

time and effort into their course. As a result, we recommend pupils participate in only one creative/performance-based discipline. If appropriate we consider a maximum of two disciplines, one being Academic.

Our Heads of Department, in liaison with Senior Schools, create, manage and review the provision available to pupils who are on the programme. We pride ourselves on being forward thinking, while also responding to the entrance requirements of Senior Schools. Therefore, the programme is constantly evolving. A participant within any discipline can expect to participate in a weekly Scholarship club (such as 'Strength and Conditioning' for Sport, 'Drama Scholarship' for Drama, 'Intellectual Curiosity Club' for Academics etc.). We host enrichment opportunities which are available as a priority to those on the Scholarship Readiness Programme. These include trips off site as well as visiting speakers to Holmewood House. All pupils on the programme are expected to evidence their championing of their discipline and develop their leadership skills. There are a variety of subject-appropriate methods for this, such as mentoring younger pupils, showcasing talent to parents and the local community, performing in concerts and supporting lower year concerts, and taking assemblies for the school.

We are committed to supporting our pupils pastorally and recognise that there are inherent pressures which could be acutely felt by a pupil in any excellence scheme or programme. As such, the programme includes opportunities for check-ins with subject leads. These serve to provide space for pupils to talk through their development and how they are finding the programme. We are dedicated to promoting enjoyment through excellence, and these check-in points are an important element of our bespoke provision, in keeping with the high-quality pastoral provision available to all pupils at Holmewood House.

There is no remuneration for participation on the Scholarship Readiness Programme. Instead, pupils are invited to access and benefit from a variety of enriching opportunities at no extra cost.

Parents of children who have been awarded a place on the Scholarship Readiness programme, are eligible to apply for a Bursary (see Bursaries Policy below), Details on how to apply for a Bursary are included on the Scholarship Readiness offer letter which you will receive from Admissions.

Bursaries

The Governors of Holmewood House are committed to broadening access to the school by offering means-tested financial support with school fees to eligible parents. This support is known as a Bursarial Award.

In order to meet the requirements of the Charity Commission, bursaries are means-tested. The assessment of need is undertaken by an external company to ensure transparency and fairness. This company will, following their assessment, make a recommendation to the school for their consideration.

Bursaries are usually offered for twelve months (occasionally 24 months) at a time after which time the family is required to provide fresh information about their financial circumstances. Bursary applications for the new academic year start in April, for review by the Bursary Committee in June and Bursarial Awards are then given in September for the following academic year. Levels of support may vary with fluctuations in income and/or demand from other applicants to the Bursarial Award as there is a limited Bursary pot.

Eligible Parents:

- New parents whose child has been awarded a place on the Scholarship Readiness Programme.
- Existing Holmewood families who experience a change in financial circumstances, such as redundancy can apply for a Bursary, these are available from Year 3, and requests should be made to the Finance Bursar FinanceBursar@holmewoodhouse.co.uk

Entitled Concessions

Pupils who are siblings of a child registered at Holmewood are eligible for a concession as outlined below:

Sibling	5% for a third child
	15% for a fourth child

These discounts are applied to the eldest child.

There is also an Old Holmewoodian concession which equates to 5%.

Parents should contact the Registrar, Mrs Caroline Mulley with any admissions queries or for further information about the Scholarship Readiness Programme. admissions@holmewoodhouse.co.uk

Parents should contact the Finance Bursar, Mrs Emma Bradshaw with any Bursary queries. FinanceBursar@holmewoodhouse.co.uk