



LEWESTON  
SHERBORNE

# SCHOLARSHIP GUIDE 2025



# INTRODUCTION

**Leweston has a long tradition of offering scholarships to recognise and encourage pupils with talent and potential.**

For 2025 entry, awards are available in the following areas:

- Academic Excellence
- Art and Design
- Drama
- Equestrian
- Music
- Sport
- Pentathlon

The **Headmaster's Award** may be given to a pupil who narrowly misses out on an award in one specific area but who nonetheless demonstrates high levels of talent, ability, dedication and community spirit based on their performance in the scholarship assessment, interview and reference from their current school. It is not possible to make a specific application for this, as it is given at the discretion of the Headmaster and will not necessarily be awarded every year.

The **St Antony Award** is made to a student entering Sixth Form who demonstrates leadership, enthusiasm, community and service to others.

**Applications for scholarship are invited at the following points:**

- On entering the school at Years 7, 9 or Sixth Form
- On transition from Prep 6 to Year 7
- On transition from Year 8 to Year 9
- On transition from Year 11 to Sixth Form

Please note that all Sixth Form applicants are expected to achieve 6 GCSEs at Grade 5 or above with a Grade 7 or above in the subjects they wish to pursue at A Level or BTEC.

Whilst scholarships are offered to those joining the school, we recognise that some pupils flourish at a later stage. In these cases, an honorary scholarship may be awarded. These are at the discretion of the Headmaster and cannot be applied for.

The award of a scholarship requires a positive commitment to the life of the school. Scholars are expected to make a significant contribution to their department. For this reason, candidates may apply for a scholarship in **one** discipline only.

Typically, one award is made for each discipline in each age group however an exhibition may be awarded to a candidate who shows promise but is not yet at the full scholarship standard.





The school will request a reference from your current school prior to assessment.

Before considering a scholarship application, parents are advised to seek advice from the Head of their child's current school about whether their child is likely to meet the required standard.

Once gained, a scholarship lasts until the end of Sixth Form. However, all scholarships are subject to continued satisfactory progress and a scholar's commitment, performance and behaviour are regularly reviewed.

If no candidate demonstrates the required standard, a scholarship may not be awarded in that discipline. As the application is a competitive process, scholarships are assessed at a set time of year so that the relative merits of all candidates can be fairly judged.

Scholarships are not means tested and the awards given represent the honour rather than a significant monetary value. **If you require financial assistance beyond the value of the award you may also apply for a bursary. Scholarship candidates are given priority in these applications. Bursary applications must be made in full prior to the scholarship deadline so that any offer made can consider both.** Please note that families in receipt of the MoD's Continuity of Education Allowance (CEA) will not be eligible to receive the fee reduction, the candidate will hold the award in name only.

Should parents feel that they do not require the monetary award associated with a scholarship, the money released will be used to help other talented pupils.

All scholarship candidates must be registered with the school to pursue an application.

Scholarship application forms are available on the website at

**[www.leweston.co.uk/admissions/scholarships](http://www.leweston.co.uk/admissions/scholarships)**

If you have any questions about scholarships or the application process please contact the Registrar, Mrs June Smith on +44 1963 211015 or **[smithj@leweston.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:smithj@leweston.dorset.sch.uk)**

## ADMISSIONS PROCESS FOR YEARS 7 AND 9

All applicants for Years 7 and 9 are asked to complete the Independent Schools Examinations Board Common Pre-Tests (ISEB Pre-Tests) as part of our standard entry process. The ISEB Pre-Tests are online, multiple-choice assessments that incorporate Verbal Reasoning, Non-Verbal Reasoning, English and Maths. Many pupils complete the tests at their own Prep School in the November of Year 6. Those who are not able to do this will be invited to sit the ISEB tests at Leweston at the same time.

Applicants are then invited to join our Assessment Day in the January of Year 6. On the day they will participate in a series of group team-building exercises and meet with the Headmaster and Deputy Head. We request a preliminary school report from your current school at this stage.





# WHEN CAN I APPLY?

Scholarship application forms are available on the school website and can be submitted at any time. Application deadlines and assessment days are given below. We recommend candidates contact the admissions team to express interest well in advance of the relevant deadline.

**Candidates must make themselves available on the relevant assessment date or their application will not be considered.**

## **11+ Scholarships (Year 7 Entry)**

Application deadline: Monday 6 January 2025

Assessment days: Monday 20 and Tuesday 21 January 2025

## **13+ Scholarships (Year 9 Entry)**

Application deadline: Monday 6 January 2025

Assessment days: Monday 20 and Tuesday 21 January 2025

## **16+ Scholarships (Year 12 Entry)**

Application deadline: Monday 11 November 2024

Assessment days: Monday 25 and Tuesday 26 November 2024





# ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

**Award - One award is available for each age group offering a fixed price remission of £3000 per annum.**

Academic scholars participate in relevant workshops, seminars, discussions, societies and lectures some of which are reserved for the most able students. They are expected to attend the scholars' club, Rhetoric, and the Head's Essay Society. They enter subject relevant competitions and deliver presentations at various symposia. They are expected to achieve high academic standards and set an example to other pupils.

## **11+ and 13+ Scholarships (Year 7 and Year 9 Entry)**

Candidates sit papers in Maths and English. In both papers, a wide choice of questions are available and no revision is required for the assessments.

Candidates are also asked to give a 5-minute pre-prepared presentation on a topic of their choice drawn from one of their favourite academic subjects. The presentation is given to the relevant Head of Department or Deputy Head. They should be adequately prepared to take questions. They also have a short interview with the Headmaster.

## **16+ Scholarships (Year 12 Entry)**

Candidates are invited to apply based on their predicted GCSE performance. Candidates are required to sit scholarship papers in two academic subjects, normally drawn from those which they plan to study in Sixth Form. Candidates offering a modern foreign language need to complete an additional oral examination.

In addition to the assessments, candidates give a 5-minute pre-prepared presentation on a topic of their choice drawn from one of their chosen academic subjects. The presentation is given to the relevant Head of Department or Deputy Head. They should be adequately prepared to take questions. They also have a short interview with the Headmaster.





# ART AND DESIGN SCHOLARSHIPS

**Award - One award is available for each age group offering a fixed price remission of £1000 per annum. A second award may be given if two outstanding candidates present themselves specialising in different disciplines.**

Please note that this scholarship is given for Art and Design. Candidates should indicate on the application form which areas of Art and Design they are most interested in: Fine Art, 3D Design, Ceramics, Fashion and Textiles, and Photography.

Art and Design are popular subjects at Leweston and candidates must demonstrate evidence of exceptional ability and commitment. Art and Design Scholars participate in scholars' projects and attend workshops run by the Department. Award holders produce art for display in the school and for school-wide creative endeavours. They attend additional classes and assist with workshops and art clubs.

Scholars are expected to maintain commitment to and involvement in the Art and Design Department. Art and Design Scholars are expected to study Art and/or Design throughout their school career. All Sixth Form candidates must study Art or Design as part of their Sixth Form course. If a scholar chooses to withdraw from studying Art or Design they may lose their award, unless the Head of Art is content that their leadership of extra-curricular Art and Design meets the requirements of the scholarship.

Candidates submit a portfolio of work for discussion and assessment by the Head of Art which can be brought with them on the assessment day. The portfolio should include:

- a range of observational drawing, painting and sketch books
- work in different mediums including digital, photography, collage, print and textile
- a three-dimensional work for example: clay, plaster, wood, card or other constructional material

Photographs can be used as a substitute for items difficult to transport.

Candidates should also bring a sketch book of work produced outside of school in any media.

During the assessment candidates are asked to complete a piece of work using various materials. They attend a short interview with the Headmaster.







# DRAMA SCHOLARSHIPS

**Award - One award is available for each age group offering a fixed price remission of £1000 per annum.**

Drama scholars play an active role in the life of the Department taking a leading role in school productions. Award holders will have the opportunity to audition for a number of productions each year as well as take LAMDA lessons as a solo, duo or group. They will have the opportunity to attend theatre trips and take part in a range of theatre skill workshops. They will be expected to be good ambassadors for Drama around the school and take an active part in House activities and school assemblies. They should demonstrate a genuine interest in theatre and the dramatic arts.

Scholars are usually expected to take Drama at GCSE and Sixth Form candidates must study Drama and Theatre as part of their Sixth Form course. If a Drama scholar chooses to drop the subject they may lose their award unless the teacher in charge of Drama is content that their leadership of extra-curricular Drama meets the requirements of the scholarship.

Candidates are assessed by the Teacher in Charge of Drama. They should be able to demonstrate a proven track record of achievement and interest in Drama, in or outside of school. Candidates prepare two, 2-minute extracts from different plays which they perform. The chosen pieces should demonstrate their vocal and physical skills as well as their ability to interpret a role.

Hard copies of the scripts should be brought to the audition.

Candidates also attend an interview with the Teacher in Charge of Drama to discuss their understanding of and interest in Drama, reflect on plays they have seen and their own experiences of performing. In addition, there is a short interview with the Headmaster.







# EQUESTRIAN SCHOLARSHIPS

**Award - One award is available for each age group and take the form of a financial grant of £1000 per annum to be used for:**

- Entry fees for school organised equestrian competitions
- Stabling costs where the recipient is representing the school and staying away at an event
- School organised training, lectures, equestrian trips and visits
- School organised personal fitness strengthening classes if charged
- Private training sessions and external competition fees (in consultation with the Equestrian Manager)

Equestrian scholars must compete for the school at least six times during the academic year, they are required to liaise closely with the Equestrian Manager about competitions and training and keep a concise training and competition diary. Award holders receive individual mentoring and have access to specialist coaching opportunities and training programmes. They attend relevant workshops and lectures are given the opportunity to attend online seminars.

If a scholar chooses to withdraw from participation in school teams, they will be required to resign the scholarship.

## 11+ Scholarships (Year 7 Entry)

Candidates at 11+ are expected to be a Pony Club or Riding Club Member or competing BD, BS or NSEA.

## 13+ and 16+ Scholarships (Year 9 and 12 Entry)

Candidates at 13+ and 16+ are expected to be a Pony Club or Riding Club Member or competing BD, BS or NSEA and BE, if appropriate.

As part of the application candidates are required to send an equestrian CV, including all previous awards, achievements, responsibilities and qualifications as well as a letter of reference from a current trainer, instructor, mentor or Pony Club DC. They should also submit six minutes of video or online footage showing competition or training in preferably more than one discipline.

Candidates are invited to an interview with the Equestrian Manager and Director of Sport where they discuss the footage provided. They should also be conversant with rules, tactics, training schedules and current topics of debate, relative to their age and standard, and prepared to answer questions. In addition, candidates attend a short interview with the Headmaster.







# MUSIC SCHOLARSHIPS

**Award - One award is available for each age group offering a fixed price remission of £750 per annum and free lessons on the first instrument.**

Music holds a special place at Leweston and it permeates all aspects of school life. Music scholars are expected to make a full and active contribution to the musical life of the school. Award holders have the opportunity to perform regularly as members of musical groups and as soloists, with a dedicated Scholars' Concert every term. Scholars also attend music trips and benefit from specialist individual instrumental teaching and masterclasses from high-class professional musicians. They receive individual mentoring from the Director of Music.

Music scholars must maintain a commitment to either academic music or their instrument throughout their school career and are usually expected to take Music at GCSE. If a scholar chooses to withdraw from the Department, they may lose their award.

Music candidates are strongly encouraged to book a pre-audition with the Director of Music at which time they will be advised about their suitability for an application. Candidates are required to provide confidential reports from their current instrumental teachers.

## 11+ Scholarships (Year 7 Entry)

Candidates at 11+ are expected to offer two instruments (including voice), they should be Grade 3 Associated Board standard on their

principle instrument and Grade 2 on their second.

## 13+ Scholarships (Year 9 Entry)

Candidates at 13+ are expected to offer two instruments (including voice), they should be Grade 5 Associated Board standard on their principle instrument and Grade 4 on their second.

## 16+ Scholarships (Year 12 Entry)

Candidates at Sixth Form are expected to offer two instruments (including voice), they should be of Grade 7 or above Associated Board standard on their principle instrument and Grade 5 Associated Board standard on their second.

Candidates are assessed by the Director of Music on their achievement to date as well as their potential. Candidates should prepare two contrasting pieces of their choice on their principle instrument and one piece on their second. During the assessment they are asked to practise a previously unseen piece of music on their principle instrument for 20 minutes before completing a short lesson based on the piece. There is also a comprehensive aural test. In addition, candidates attend a short interview with the Headmaster.







# PENTATHLON SCHOLARSHIPS

**Award - One award is available for each age group offering a fixed price remission of £1000 per annum.**

Pentathlon Scholars are expected to train and compete in the full Modern Pentathlon programme as well as represent the school at national and local events. Award holders receive individual mentoring and have access to specialist coaching opportunities and training programmes. They attend relevant workshops and lectures are given the opportunity to attend online seminars. Scholars have a monthly one to one meeting with the Head of Pentathlon as well coaching with fencing and shooting professionals and the opportunity to work towards their riding certificate.

Pentathlon scholars are expected to represent the school throughout their school career. If a scholar chooses to withdraw from participation in school teams they will be required to resign the scholarship.

Candidates are expected to offer at least one of the major sports to a high standard, preferably County standard or above, and be part of an existing Pentathlon programme. As part of the application candidates are required to send a sports CV, including all previous sporting achievements, responsibilities and qualifications as well as letters of reference from two coaches.

Candidates attend an assessment day with members of the PE Department where they are expected to show excellence and flexibility in performance, stamina and coordination. Where appropriate, they will compete against, or with, existing students.

They is also required to demonstrate their technical skills and tactical knowledge of their chosen sports. Applicants should be conversant with rules and training schedules for their sports, relative to their age and standard, and as well as with current topics of debate and be prepared to answer questions in an interview with the Director of Sport and Head of Pentathlon. Candidates should bring all their own kit and equipment for the day. In addition, candidates attend a short interview with the Headmaster.





# SPORT SCHOLARSHIPS

**Award - Two awards are available for each age group offering a fixed price remission of £1000 per annum.**

Leweston has an exceptional Sport Department offering a wide range of different opportunities. Pupils applying for a Sport scholarship are expected to show outstanding ability and potential, demonstrate a good level of fitness and be able to play as part of a team.

Award holders are expected take part in sports activities with total commitment and enthusiasm. They must attend practices and matches throughout the year as well as represent the school at national and local events.

Sport scholars represent the school throughout their school career. If a scholar chooses to withdraw from participation in school teams they will be required to resign the scholarship.

Candidates are expected to offer at least at least two of the following as their sport: pentathlon hockey, netball, cross-country, tennis, athletics, swimming and rugby. For players of exceptional talent sports outside of this list may be considered. At least one of these should be played to a high standard, preferably County standard or above.

As part of the application candidates are required to send a sports CV, including all previous sporting achievements, responsibilities and qualifications as well as letters of reference from two coaches.

Candidates should attend an assessment day with members of the PE Department where they are expected to show excellence and flexibility in performance, stamina and coordination. Where appropriate, they compete against or with existing students.

They are also required to demonstrate their technical skills and tactical knowledge of their chosen sports. Applicants should be conversant with rules and training schedules for their sports, relative to their age and standard, as well as current topics of debate, they should be prepared to answer questions in an interview with the Director of Sport. Candidates should bring all their own kit and equipment for the day. In addition, candidates attend a short interview with the Headmaster.





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# GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

## Duration of a scholarship

Awards are made on the expectation that scholars will remain at Leweston for the duration of their studies. Scholarships continue into Sixth Form provided that the pupil is still active in the awarding Department. Scholars who leave at the end of Year 11 may be asked to pay back the value of the scholarship award. Sixth Form Scholarships are awarded for the two-year course.

## Accepting an offer

If a scholarship offer is made it must be accepted in writing within two weeks and, for external candidates, accompanied by the a deposit which will be returned when the pupil leaves the school. This deposit is non-refundable should the candidate later decide not to take up the place.

## Financial Specifications

Scholarships are awarded at a fixed amount which is deducted from the pupil's bill in three termly increments. Any bursarial award will be applied after the value of the scholarship has been taken into account. Pupils in receipt of the Continuity of Education Allowance (CEA) or any other substantial discount may be made an honorary award which confers the status of a scholarship but has no financial value.

## Obligations of the pupil

Scholars are required to make a substantial contribution to the awarding Department. They are required to work hard, contribute positively to the life of the school and set a good example to others.

Although it is extremely unusual for an award to be removed, a significant decline in commitment or performance would bring into question its continuance. If a scholar chooses to drop the awarding subject, they may lose their award unless the Headmaster and Head of Department decide otherwise.

## Obligations of the parents

Parents of scholars are expected to support and encourage their children to uphold their obligations. Parents should understand that children who choose to give up their awarding subject, do not represent the school, or fail to show academic application may lose the scholarship. Parents of scholars are expected to pay the balance of their school accounts by the first day of term in accordance with the parent contract.

## Withdrawal of a scholarship

Scholarships may be withdrawn by written notice if, in the opinion of the Headmaster, acting in good faith, pupils or parents have not complied with the obligations set out in the Scholarship Contract. Prior to withdrawal the Headmaster will warn pupils and parents of his intent and give them a reasonable period to rectify the situation. Withdrawal of an award will typically take effect from the start of the following term. Awards may be withdrawn by written notice if accounts remain unpaid 28 days after a written reminder has been sent to parents.





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