



# FOREST SCHOOL

## 11+ Art Scholarships at Forest School

### Frequently asked questions

#### **How do I register?**

When you register your interest in Forest there is a box to tick on the form to indicate that you would like your child to be considered for an Art Scholarship. You will then be contacted by the Admissions office who will ask you to complete a form giving information about the details of your son/daughter's experience in Art and an option to submit photographs of any of their work.

This submission of work is not compulsory as due to the breadth of medium your child may be proficient in; we understand that may not always be possible. The form also gives them an opportunity to write about their passion for Art and why they believe an Art Scholarship is right for them.

The assessments will take place over two days, one on December 7th and if your child is successful at this first-round, they will be invited to a second-round assessment on Monday 23 January following the entrance exam. The Admissions team will be in touch with the successful candidates and arrange a time for their second assessment.

#### **What can be awarded? What is the difference between an Exhibition and a Scholarship?**

There are two types of awards: Exhibitions and Scholarship. An Exhibition is a monetary award that pays for the cost of Art supplies for their use at home to continue their artistic development.

It is equal to £200 and will be given in the form of vouchers for a designated art shop. This sum, in the form of art supplies vouchers will be given each year for the duration of their time at Forest. If the pupil chooses to no longer pursue their development in art and does not want the specific vouchers no monetary alternative will be offered.

Scholarship is remission from fees. We can award up to a maximum of 20% remission. Some candidates will be offered both Scholarship and Exhibition(s), some just Scholarship, and some only Exhibitions.

Both Exhibitions and Scholarships are recognition of true potential within the spectrum of Art and will afford the pupil access to the scholarship programme supporting their development as artists as well as overall Forest Scholars.

**How many places are available?**

There is not a fixed number of places for Art Scholarships. The Head of Art makes recommendations after the assessment process. If no candidates meet the standard no offers will be made; if there are many strong candidates, then a panel of senior staff will decide how to divide up the offers.

**Can I combine Scholarships, and can that extend beyond the 20% limit?**

Scholarship awards can be combined. Many pupils have, for example, both Academic and Music Scholarship/ Sport and Music Scholarship or a combination of all disciplines offered as awards. However, the total combined award cannot extend above 20% remission.

**What happens at the assessment?**

The first-round assessment will last for two hours as they will be invited to partake in an art workshop. The candidates do not need to prepare for the first assessment as we are truly looking for potential and ability rather than prepared portfolios at this point. The workshop will be fun and relaxed, exploring their artistic ability and eliciting art appreciation and understanding of the subject.

**What experience does my child have to have?**

This is really the wrong question to be asking. Better would be what art skills and qualities are you looking for? We are looking for ability, skill, and potential. Of course, experience will help develop a child's skills and confidence, however extensive experience of Art clubs/ lessons does not always translate to an aptitude for creating art.

A successful candidate will be able to confidently approach the assessments with curiosity and a desire to learn new skills and demonstrate a true passion for art.

**What if my child hasn't had dedicated Art lessons before?**

That is fine. In the application form we will ask some questions that will allow you and your child to tell us why art (in whatever form) is their passion and why they believe that an Art scholarship would be right for them and their personal development at Forest.

**What is required of an Art Scholar?**

We ask our Art Scholars and Exhibition holders to participate in at least two art exhibitions during their time at Forest (although most of them are in more!) Of course, there are many pupils, not just Art Scholars who want to be in the exhibitions so your child may not be selected to display their work in every show, however we do ask that they contribute in some way to at least two exhibitions.

By doing so and championing the artistic life of the School, they will be our leading lights, setting an example of enthusiasm, curiosity and dedication to the many other Forest pupils who are interested in art but not award holders.

**What is your best advice for preparation for the assessment?**

For the first-round assessment- nothing. We want to see their potential, love of art and ability to create, confidently explore a medium, and enjoy the work. For the second round, should they be selected, they will be asked to prepare a short portfolio of their work to bring in to show us.

We will give further information in the invitation letter; however, our general advice would be not to try to collate too much, just a few examples of work so that we can talk to them and explore their thoughts and reasons for their art. They will have an interview with the Head of Art and an opportunity to create a piece of work that suits their artistic style.

**I don't want to put my son/daughter under too much pressure – what should I do?**

We want to make the assessment process as positive and welcoming as possible. We appreciate that the pupils will be nervous, but we will do what we can to put them at ease and give them encouragement.

Ultimately, the decision to go for an award must be taken between you and your son/daughter. To gain advice about whether your child should apply you can arrange a pre-discussion with the Head of Art.

*To arrange a pre-discussion please contact*

**Isabella Gilpin**

*Co-curriculum Manager*

*Email: [igilpin@forest.org.uk](mailto:igilpin@forest.org.uk)*

**When will we find out if we have been successful?**

All offer letters are sent out during February half term. The letter informing you that you have a place at Forest School will indicate whether your place comes with a scholarship award for Art.



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