



RUGBY SCHOOL

16+ PERFORMING ARTS SCHOLARSHIP FOR ENTRY IN SEPTEMBER 2024

Assessment date: Wednesday 11 October 2023

THE CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS AND BURSARY AUGMENTATION IS FRIDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2023
FOR APPLICANTS AT SCHOOL OVERSEAS THE CLOSING DATE IS FRIDAY 25 AUGUST 2023

The Performing Arts Scholarship auditions will take place on Wednesday 11 October 2023, starting at 10am and will be led by the Artistic Director.

Awards will be made to candidates who are outstanding performers amongst their peers. In audition they will demonstrate excellent physical and vocal control and creative flair as well as ensemble skills, the ability to respond to direction. We will also expect a high level of academic engagement with all aspects of performing arts which will be tested through interview and discussion on texts studied and performed.

Please note that in the academic year prior to audition, candidates may wish to arrange an informal *pre-audition* with the Artistic Director where they can perform a short monologue and get feedback, as well as asking any questions they may have about drama at the school. Please contact the Artistic Director, Dr Tim Coker directly on tdc@rugbyschool.net if you would like to arrange this.

The audition in October is held in conjunction with the Sixth-form Entrance Examinations. Candidates sit three academic examinations, one of which **must** be the Theatre Studies paper, together with a Verbal Reasoning Test. If a Drama Scholarship is awarded, the pupil will be expected to take Theatre Studies as an IB Higher subject or an A-level subject.

The Audition Process

There are three parts to the audition.

Part 1

All candidates will be asked to participate in a practical group theatre workshop with current Drama Scholars. They will also be given a short piece of 'unseen' script which they will have time to work on during the morning, ready to perform in their practical assessment.

Part 2

During the group workshop, candidates will be invited individually to perform **TWO** contrasting audition speeches of approximately two minutes each, from published plays as well as the 'unseen' extract which they will have worked on individually during the morning session. The prepared speeches should be committed to memory, but the 'unseen' extract will be performed with the script in hand. No costumes are required, but *small* props can be used if helpful. Candidates should be prepared to respond to direction on at least one of their prepared pieces.

If you would like to discuss the appropriateness of any particular speech you are more than welcome to contact the Artistic Director in advance of the audition, but the hope is that candidates will select contrasting pieces that reveal their real strengths as performers. And be able to discuss their choices and

their own personal approach to the text. They should have read the entire play from which each prepared extract is taken and be able to justify verbally, decisions made on their interpretation.

Part 3

The last stage of the audition process is to have an informal interview with a member of the drama department. This is an opportunity for candidates to share with the interviewer their enthusiasm for the subject and offer any evidence they have of their prior commitment to drama. Typically candidates present a portfolio that includes past programmes, production photos, Speech and Drama certificates and so on, although this is not obligatory.

They will also be asked to critically discuss a piece of professional live theatre reflecting on key moments in the production as an informed member of the audience. This discussion is an important part of the selection process and we are looking for a detailed recollection of specific moments from a live theatrical production which the candidates are able to analyse in detail from a range of perspectives including:

- Actors' performance skills in specific scenes/moments
- Design elements (lighting, sound, staging, costume, props) in specific scenes/moments.

These analytical skills are crucial for candidates as it is a requirement that all Performing Arts award holders and candidates should be aware that Drama award holders are expected to follow an academic option in Theatre Studies at GCSE/A-Level/IB.

Throughout the audition process we are looking for evidence of candidates who have:

- A genuine enthusiasm for theatre and the dramatic arts
- A desire to develop their theatre knowledge and acting talent in the full knowledge that this takes time and commitment
- A willingness to involve themselves in all aspects of drama undertaken at Rugby School
- An academic and critical understanding of the creative processes in, and intended audience impact of live theatrical performance

Application

Parents of intending candidates should fill in a Scholarship application form returning it to the Admissions Registrar, The Admissions office, Temple House, 1 Barby Road, Rugby CV22 5DW by the relevant closing date.

Applications should be supported by a detailed reference from the candidate's current school.

In further support of the application, any additional references from theatre societies or drama clubs that the candidate belongs to are also welcome.

All awards are conditional upon the academic entrance requirements of Rugby School being met. Awards may be reviewed from time to time and are conditional upon satisfactory progress and attitude being maintained.

Award and Augmentation

The value of a Scholarship award is a fee concession of 5% which parents or legal guardians of the awardee may elect to accept. More than one Scholarship can be awarded to a candidate although the total fee reduction available is limited to 5%.

The level of fee concession provided 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.

For details of the additional benefits and opportunities available to Performing Arts Scholars following the Advanced Performers' Programme (including LAMDA & Dance tuition, showcase performance opportunities, workshop and masterclasses etc.) please see our brochure or contact The Artistic Director - Dr Tim Coker tdc@rugbyschool.net for further information.