



Admission at 13+

We welcome applications from pupils at Preparatory Schools or from parents who wish to transfer their child from Secondary Schools into Year 9. The School uses its own admissions tests rather than the Common Entrance.

Scholarships and Bursaries are available to children entering the School in Year 9.

Deferred Entry

Hereford Cathedral School offers a Deferred Places scheme for 13+ candidates seeking entry into Year 9. Pupils are invited to sit the 11+ entrance assessment at the same time as candidates for 11+ entry in late January/early February. Pupils offered a deferred place for 13+ will not be committed to take up that place until they reach their year of entry, when an acceptance fee of £400 will be required at the same time as other Year 9 entries. (Please see below for details).

Pupils offered a deferred place are still required to sit the School's own 13+ Entrance Examination for the purpose of setting. These pupils are also eligible to sit 13+ scholarship exams and other awards as detailed in this booklet. Hereford Cathedral School's policy on deferred places at 13+ aims to offer parents and pupils the peace of mind that there is a place available at 13+, whilst at the same time being able to enjoy the benefits of continued education in Preparatory Schools. Further details are available from the Admissions Officer.

Candidates from Secondary Schools

Hereford Cathedral School sets its own Entrance Examination for 13+ candidates. This takes place at the same time as the 11+ Entrance Examination in late January/early February. Candidates will normally be in their second year of secondary schooling and be under 14 on the 1st September of the year they are intending to enter. All candidates will be required to attend an interview and a reference from the pupil's current school will also be required. All candidates will be required to sit written tests in English, Mathematics and Verbal Reasoning. Sample papers in English and Mathematics are available from the Admissions Officer.

The English test lasts 60 minutes and consists of reading and composition and seeks to identify imagination as well as good grammar, punctuation and spelling.

The Mathematics test lasts 60 minutes and is based mainly upon work involved in levels 5, 6 and 7 of the National Curriculum. The Mathematics Test is two parts; a written paper of 40 minutes and a Mental Maths test of 20 minutes.

The Verbal Reasoning test lasts 50 minutes. A practice paper to familiarize candidates with the style of questions involved precedes the test.

The Reference

The School will require a reference from your child's current school. The Admissions Officer will request a reference from your child's present school, usually prior to the pupil sitting the entrance examination. The School will also ask whether all outstanding fees have been met by those attending another independent school. We regard this as an integral part of the assessment procedure.

Offers of Places

Offers of places are made in writing by the Headmaster as soon as possible after results are known. These will be based upon the reference provided by your child's current school, the results of the Entrance Examination and the School's judgement about the pupil's ability to benefit from the education we provided by the Senior School.

For pupils currently at independent schools we will ask the existing school for a confirmation that there are no outstanding fees due.

Acceptance of a place

Parents are asked to confirm acceptance in writing to the Headmaster. When a place at the School is accepted, we require an acceptance fee of £400; (£150 of this will be retained in the school funds until the pupil leaves. It will then be repaid by means of a credit without interest to the final payment of fees or other sums due to the School. The remaining £250 is non-refundable and will be added to the "HCS Charitable Bursary Scheme").

Cheques made payable to Hereford Cathedral School.

Scholarships at 13+

The School offers academic, artistic, drama, musical, sporting and all-rounder scholarships. Scholarships are guaranteed for the total number of years the child is at the School, subject to good progress. If, however, effort, progress or behaviour is judged to be unsatisfactory, the School reserves the right to withdraw the Scholarship. Where a pupil has achieved two scholarships or more, the value of the highest award will apply and additional scholarships will be awarded in name only. In general, scholarships are only awarded to pupils entering the school at age 11, 13 and 16. Pupils that enter at intermediate ages may be able to apply for a scholarship at a later stage. Pupils that have had the opportunity to apply for a scholarship at 11+ are not allowed to make a subsequent application at 13+. The only exceptions to this are those pupils applying for an Art Scholarship at 13+, as these awards are not made at 11+.

Dean's Scholarships

Dean's Scholarships are academic awards for outstanding results in the 13+ entrance examination, each with a value of 15% of school fees.

Art Scholarships

Up to two Art Scholarships are available. They are assessed by the Head of Art, with a value of 10% of school fees. At least one award will be available to internal applicants as Art Scholarships are not available in Years 7 and 8.

The Art Scholarship examination is held on a Saturday morning in mid-January and consists of a three hour observational drawing. On the day of the examination candidates will hand in a portfolio of work before the examination starts. The candidates' portfolios will be assessed and a written critique produced. A copy of this assessment will be sent to parents, together with the Headmaster's letter announcing the results of the examination.

The portfolio should reflect samples of both schoolwork and work reflecting a personal interest in the subject. Candidates' personal work will demonstrate particular areas of interest such as painting, drawing, photography, model making. The Head of Art will be happy to give advice to any candidate about the nature of his/her portfolio.

Drama Scholarships

Up to two Drama Scholarships are available. They are assessed by the Head of Drama, with a value of 10% of school fees. At least one award will be available to internal applicants as Drama Scholarships are not available in Years 7 and 8.

The Drama Scholarship examination is held on a Saturday morning in mid-January and consists of a 30 minute audition (a speech – which will be sent out to applicants), in addition to a short performance and discussion on a piece of unseen text (which will be available 15 minutes prior to the audition) to/with the Head of Drama.

Parents of candidates will receive a letter from the Headmaster announcing the results of the audition, together with comments.

The Head of Drama will be happy to give advice to any candidate prior to the audition.

Music Scholarships and Exhibitions

The Director of Music assesses candidates for awards. The top candidates may be awarded a Music Scholarship, with a value of 10% of school fees.

Other candidates may be awarded a Music Exhibition, in which case they will be given free music lessons on an instrument and in exceptional circumstances, on their second instrument.

Music Scholarship candidates are normally expected to offer two instruments, of which one should be the equivalent to Grade 6 of the Associated Board.

The Director of Music would recommend that candidates visit before the audition period for an informal pre-interview. This can be of substantial benefit on the day of the interview.

Sports Scholarships

Sports Scholarships are assessed by the PE Department, in the first half of the Spring Term each with a value of 10% of fees.

Candidates should have regularly represented their school's first team and will often be at least of the standard required for county selection in one of the major sports offered by the School. Alternatively, external applicants may come with a very strong recommendation from their school. All candidates will also be required to give a demonstration of their sporting skills.

All-rounder Scholarships

All-rounder Scholarships are assessed by the Headmaster, each with a value of 10% of fees. It is not possible to apply for an All-rounder Scholarship. They are usually awarded to pupils who have been entered for two of the other scholarships, but narrowly failed to gain an award. Typically, they are awarded to a pupil who has also applied for either a Music or Sports Scholarship.

Notes

Where an award is not made for a given scholarship, the School may wire funds to increase the above awards or increase bursary funds. It is possible to be awarded a scholarship and still be eligible for bursarial support. Scholarships are retained throughout the school life of the pupil, subject to satisfactory performance. Further details concerning the awards of music and sport awards can be obtained from the Admissions Officer.

On occasions where standards of applications are extremely high but financial constraints limit the number of Scholarships offered, Honorary Scholarships are awarded. These attract no financial remuneration but are accorded the same status as other Scholarships.

Only pupils who join the school after the 11+ main entrance examination, are eligible to enter the 13+ scholarship examination.

DEADLINES AND KEY DATES FOR ENTRY AT 13+

2017/18 (<i>September entry into Yr 9</i>)	Deadline for Applications by:	Date of Scholarship /Examination Day:
REGISTRATION FORM & FEE	December 2016 (year 8)	
BURSARY APPLICATIONS	December 2016	
ENTRANCE INTERVIEWS		Saturdays 14 & 21 January
ART/DRAMA SCHOLARSHIP	December 2016	Saturday 21 January 2017
SPORTS SCHOLARSHIP	December 2016	Tuesday 24 January 2017
MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP	December 2016	Thursday 26 January 2017
ENTRANCE EXAM DAY		Saturday 28 January 2017
ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP	n/a (all candidates considered subject to entrance examination results)	