



**MUSIC AWARDS &
SCHOLARSHIPS
at 14+ & 16+**

Music Awards at 14+ & 16+

The following Music Awards are generally available to current U4 (Yr 9) pupils about to enter the L5 (Yr 10), or current U5 (Yr 11) pupils about to enter the L6 (Yr 12) – or those entering the school into these year groups – but those from other year groups may be considered, and should seek the Director of Music’s advice. Auditions are held in the June of the academic year before the awards commence. It is possible to apply for both the Scholarship (see p5) and an Award, but they may not be held concurrently.

Instrumental Award 3 (IA3)

This Award is to encourage girls of proven ability who have already made considerable progress towards higher levels of achievement.

Number available:	2 per year group
Instrument:	Any (except voice)
Duration:	Remaining school life at St. Catherine's
Offered to:	L5 or L6 (see above)
Award:	Free tuition (one single lesson per week), free examination entry in that instrument up to and including Grade 8 and free music for that instrument.

Entry

1. Candidates are generally expected to be at least Grade 6 Merit standard.
2. Entry is by open competition, on a single day, annually.

Conditions

1. Holders must take relevant music examinations when judged ready by their teachers, generally studying towards Grade 8 and beyond.
2. Holders must have firm intentions to stay on into the Sixth Form at St Catherine’s.
3. Holders must be prepared to take part in any relevant ensembles, and to perform in any competitions and concerts in or out of School, as directed.
4. Holders are expected to set high standards for other instrumentalists in School to emulate.

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Choral Award (CA)

This Award is to encourage high standards of singing in both solo and choir work. It is also of great benefit to those intending to try for Choral Scholarships at universities.

Number available:	2 in the L5 & 2 in the L6
Duration:	2 years
Offered to:	L5 or L6 (see above)
Award:	Free tuition (one single lesson per week), free vocal examination entries and free vocal music.

Entry

Entry is by open competition, on a single day, annually.

Conditions

1. Holders must have firm intentions to stay on into the Sixth Form at St Catherine's.
2. If the girl has been at St Catherine's for any of years U3-U4, she should ordinarily have been in the Fourth Form Choir and Middle Chamber Choir.
3. Holders must sing in the Senior Choir and Senior Chamber Choir. If she is a boarder (weekly or full), she must also sing in the Boarders' Chapel Choir on relevant days.
4. Holders must perform at concerts, competitions and services as directed.

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Organ Award (OA)

This Award is designed to encourage girls to learn the organ, and to gain experience and insight into liturgical work and accompaniment. It is also of great benefit to those who might intend to try for Organ Scholarships at universities. It should be noted that there may be Sunday duties on occasions.

Whilst this is intended for beginners, girls who have been learning the instrument for less than a year at the time of audition, and who have made good progress in their studies in a relatively short period, are also eligible.

Number available:	4 maximum
Duration:	4 years or remaining school life at St Catherine's, whichever is the shorter
Offered to:	Any year group
Award:	Free tuition (single lesson), free use of instrument, free music, free examination entries up to and including Grade 8 for organ and piano, provided piano is also studied at School. (NB piano tuition is not provided free.)

Entry

1. Candidates must have proven ability on the piano (approximately Grade 5 standard).
2. Entry is by open competition; **either** (for a beginner) based initially on performance of two contrasting piano pieces, aural tests and interview with the Director of Music followed by three trial lessons; **or**, if a girl has already started the organ, by performance of a piece, sight-reading, aural test, a short interview with the Director of Music and teacher's report.
3. Where there appears to be more suitable candidates than Awards available, each will receive an agreed period of free trial lessons before the Award is finalised.

Conditions

Holders must be prepared to assist at services, practices and concerts and to play occasionally for School assemblies. The assistance may consist of playing or helping in the organ loft.

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Instrumental Award 1 (IA1) (*This is an Award designed primarily for girls entering the school at 11+, but occasionally one might be available – please check before applying*)

This Award is to encourage girls to take up less familiar or more expensive instruments. It might also be used where, for instance, a girl who has started on the violin may now be showing potential on the viola. Whilst this is intended for beginners, girls who have already started learning the instrument at the time of audition, and who have made good progress in their studies in a relatively short period of time, are also eligible.

Number available:	2 per annum
Instruments:	Viola, Double Bass, Bassoon, French Horn, Trombone, Tuba, Euphonium, Oboe
Duration:	3 years
Award:	Free tuition (single lesson), free use of instrument (when available), free music and free examination entry up to and including Grade 8

Entry

By open competition; **either** (for a beginner) based initially on performance of aural tests and an interview with the Director of Music, followed by three trial lessons; **or**, if a girl has already started the instrument, by performance of a piece, sight-reading, aural, viva voce and teacher's report.

Conditions

1. Holders must take relevant music examinations when judged ready by their teachers, generally studying towards Grade 8 and beyond.
2. Holders must have firm intentions to stay on into the Sixth Form at St Catherine's.
3. Holders must be prepared to take part in any relevant ensembles, and to perform in any competitions and concerts in or out of School, as directed.

Music Scholarships

St Catherine's offers two Music Scholarships for this age group – the general Sixth Form Music Scholarship and the Jennifer Bate Organ Scholarship. Applications are normally made when a student is in L5 (Yr 10) but students in U5 (Yr 11) are also eligible to apply.

The **Sixth Form Music Scholarship** is awarded annually to the value of 20% of current School fees, whether boarding or day, plus one weekly period of free instrumental tuition on one instrument/voice, sheet music for that instrument, and exam entries (up to and including Grade 8) on the same instrument. This is awarded to a girl of proven high musical ability (approaching Grade 8 in her first instrument/voice would be expected as a minimum). Ability in a second instrument/voice would be a distinct advantage. The holder would be expected to take a full and active part in the School's music, and it is expected that she will study AS and A Level music.

The **Jennifer Bate Organ Scholarship with Guildford Cathedral** is offered to girls who are already advanced organists and who are intending to apply for organ scholarships, or further their organ studies, at university, conservatoire, or cathedrals post-18. Although the St. Catherine's Sixth Form Music Scholarship is typically for 20% of School fees payable, funds exist for the Jennifer Bate Organ Scholarship to support up to a 100% fee boarding bursary for the right applicant. This would be means-tested and interested applicants should see the Governors' Bursary and Hardship Awards Policy and application form on the School website.

<http://www.stcatherines.info/bursaries-and-scholarships>

As with the Sixth Form Music Scholarship, the holder would be expected to take a full and active part in the School's music, and it is expected that she will study AS and A Level music.

Music Scholars at St. Catherine's have long enjoyed a particularly close and successful working relationship with the Music Department. They tend to be found in the Music School at regular intervals, either practising, rehearsing or taking part in activities which promote the Department and encourage other musicians. They can actively share in the success of the Music Department and take pride in it alongside the staff, with whom they have traditionally tended to form strong working relationships. This is in keeping with music-making at the highest level.

In return for this loyalty and leadership by example, the Music Department offers lots of personal support and encouragement to its Scholars, respects that they have a busy programme, and offers advice, guidance and support over time-planning whenever it is needed.

As beacons of excellence, all Music Scholars are expected to make a full, active, and willing contribution to music-making at St Catherine's. Scholars are expected to make music-making their primary extra-curricular activity and to give priority to it, leading other pupils by their example. Specifically, they are expected to take part first and foremost in appropriate core activities, those being:

- Symphony Orchestra;
- Concert Band;
- Senior Choir.

Dependent upon the specialisms (e.g. voice/instruments etc) of the individual Scholars, they will be expected to audition for, or be invited to take part in, a selection of ensembles throughout their time at St Catherine's, including (but not limited to):

- Camerata (the School's Senior String Ensemble);
- Jazz Band;
- Chapel Choir; Senior Chamber Choir; Cantores;
- Specialist ensembles such as Brass Ensemble, Flute Choir and Cello Ensemble.

Scholars are also expected to be keen to take part in the Chamber Music programme with girls of similar ability and, when appropriate, age. They usually gain great musical camaraderie from this activity, often, though not exclusively, with fellow Music Scholars.

Scholars may be encouraged to take part in local Music Festivals to help them develop their performance skills, but this is not mandatory.

Scholars will be given the opportunity to perform an appropriate concerto movement once during their time at the school, usually in the Upper Sixth. Should their performance level be outstanding from a young age, it is likely that there would be other opportunities for solo work. The Music Department balances this programme of solo work in order to distribute it fairly among the Scholars at appropriate times and for appropriate venues.

Scholars will periodically meet formally with the Director of Music to discuss their extra-curricular commitments, and how they should best dovetail these with their individual music lessons, practice and academic and other commitments. The Director of Music will also liaise with the Scholars' Mentor, to whom Music Scholars also have access, to help them with balancing their academic and musical commitments.

General Conditions for Awards and Scholarships

1. All applications for Awards and Scholarships must be made through the Director of Music.
2. A girl may hold only one Award or Scholarship at any one time.
3. Occasionally, if a Scholarship applicant is not felt to have reached the required level to be awarded a Scholarship, but has shown a high level of potential on one of her instruments, the school might offer an Award, if available, even though it was not initially applied for.
4. Lessons on the instrument for which the Award has been given must ordinarily take place at St Catherine's School with one of the School's Music Teachers.
5. All continuing Awards are reviewed during each academic year, by performance to the Director of Music or his/her appointee, and by report. Good progress, attendance and regular committed practice are expected automatically.
6. Ensembles and choirs in which holders are directed to take part may take priority over any other activities, in or out of School, which may run at the same time as normal rehearsals. Also, as far as possible, priority should be given to concerts and events planned for those ensembles.
7. If it is felt that a girl is failing to live up to the expectations of an Award or Scholarship, she and her parents/guardians will be advised of this in the first instance, and strategies put in place before this is reviewed after a fixed period of time by the Director of Music. Continued failure to meet the expectations is likely to result in the Award or Scholarship being removed.
8. Awards and Scholarships are not automatically given because they happen to be available. If it is felt that the standard expected for an Award is not reached by any candidate, it will not be offered.

9. In the event of a brass or wind instrument Award Holder requiring dental treatment which will interfere significantly with the playing of her instrument (i.e. intrusive and permanently fixed braces), the Award may be suspended for the duration of such a situation. A term's notice would be required from the parents to the Director of Music or that term of the Award would have to be sacrificed. As dentistry of this kind is usually planned far in advance of the start of treatment, this should be feasible. It is advisable that parents discuss the possibility of dental treatment with the Director of Music. The School will be supportive in helping the pupil to resume her Award and her playing as soon as possible.

10. If discontinuation of an Award is required by parents before its normal date of termination, A FULL TERM'S NOTICE IN WRITING IS REQUIRED AS FOR NORMAL INSTRUMENTAL LESSONS, otherwise a term's fees at the current rate will be charged in lieu. For those Awards extending into the U6 year, they will normally be expected to cease at the end of the Spring Term; however, they can be continued into the Summer Term by agreement with the Director of Music if, for example, there is a music examination to be taken then, or the girl will be taking up a University Choral or Organ Scholarship.

11. Awards and Scholarships begin in September, at the start of the academic year and, with the exception of 7, 9 and 10 above, normally end in July.

12. If notice is given that a girl is to leave St. Catherine's, the Award or Scholarship will cease immediately.

Format of the Audition

The Audition Panel will normally consist of the Director of Music and one other person, who may be another senior member of the Music Department or an external adjudicator.

The audition will comprise the following.

- Two contrasting solo pieces on your principal instrument/voice (10 mins total)
- One solo piece on your second instrument/voice, if appropriate (5 mins maximum)
- Scales and arpeggios applicable to the standard you have reached on your principal instrument (or on the second instrument, for those offering voice as their principal instrument)
- Quick Study piece: a piece of music will be provided for you to study privately for 5 minutes prior to the audition; those offering voice as their principal instrument will prepare their Quick Study during the audition with support from a pianist
- Aural tests and sight-singing of an appropriate standard
- A short interview where the members of the Panel will chat to you to get an idea about your level of general musical knowledge and musical interests, and will discuss your future aims

It is important to remember throughout the audition that we are interested in what you know, rather than what you are unable to answer, and that we acknowledge that different applicants will have a variety of musical backgrounds. The aural tests are designed to indicate the overall ability of a candidate, rather than demonstrate specific skills required. The questions in the short interview will be designed to put you at ease and to encourage you to speak passionately about your music-making.

Good luck!

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