

Academic Scholarship Information
Year 9 Entry



TONBRIDGE
SCHOOL

FROM APPLICATION TO AWARD



ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 2027

Scholarship criteria

Scholarships are awarded to candidates who demonstrate exceptional ability, passion, and potential.

Number of Scholarships available

Up to 21 scholarships are available across academic subjects, including one **Ainslie Scholarship** and up to three Knightley Scholarships. The School may award fewer scholarships if the required standard is not met.

Ainslie Scholarship

The most outstanding candidate will be awarded the Ainslie Scholarship, which carries a prize of **£4,000**, deducted from the first term's fees.

This scholarship is funded through a generous bequest from Old Tonbridgian **William Maurice Lafore Ainslie (JH 1904 – 1907)**.

Up to 20 additional scholars will each receive an award of **£2,000**, also deducted from their first term's fees, three of whom may receive a Knightley Scholarship.

Knightley Scholarships

Knightley Scholarships are awarded through the benefaction of an Old Tonbridgian to encourage the study of modern languages from an early age. To be eligible, candidates must demonstrate fluency in at least one foreign language.

Candidates wishing to be considered for a Knightley Scholarship must take French II, Spanish, or another European language if prior notice is given. Requests to sit an examination in any other language must be submitted and approved at least six months before the assessment.

How to apply

The scholarship application form will be available through each candidate's Tonbridge School applicant account.

Age requirement

Candidates must be under 14.0 on 1 September 2027.

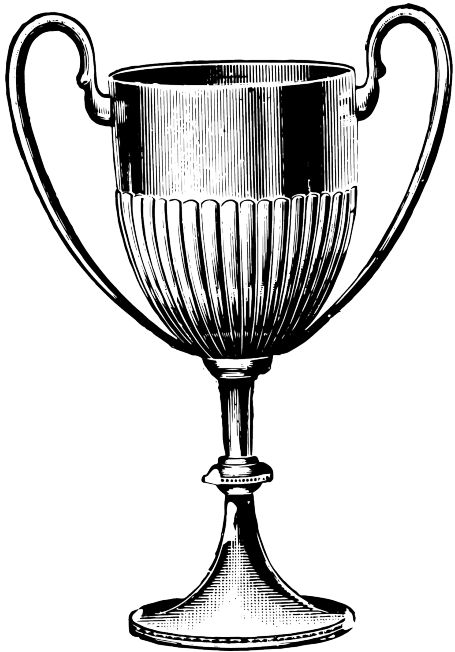
Key dates

- **1 March 2027:** Application deadline
- **28-30 April 2027:** Scholarship assessments

Accommodation

If you require accommodation during the assessment period. Please contact admissions:

Scholarships@tonbridge-school.org



ASSESSMENTS

Candidates are required to sit nine compulsory papers and at least two optional papers. Most candidates choose to take two or three optional papers, but we recommend taking no more than three.

Scholarships are not awarded solely on the basis of aggregate marks. Candidates are therefore encouraged to select only the optional papers in which they are likely to achieve grades of A*, A, or B.

To be awarded a Scholarship, candidates must demonstrate a strong standard across all compulsory papers, together with outstanding performance in one or more subjects. Scholarship projects are not required.

All candidates will take part in an informal interview as part of the assessment process.

Candidates who show particular promise in Music or Art may choose to be assessed in the relevant subject through a practical and oral examination, which will be scheduled as part of the assessment programme.

Candidates who already hold a Music or Art Award (awarded in January/February 2027) should not select that subject as one of their optional subjects. A candidate's age is taken into careful consideration when assessing performance.



Compulsory Papers

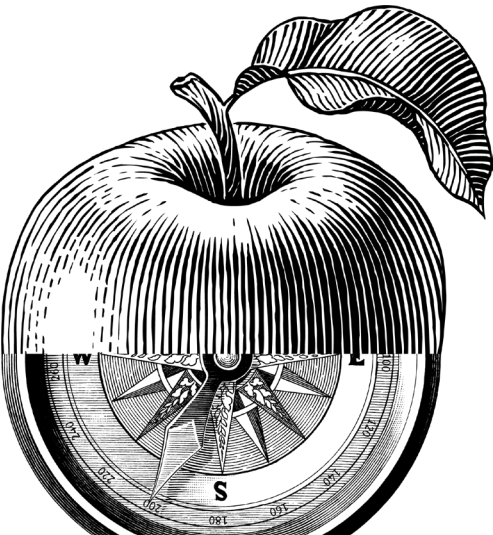
- English I and II
- Mathematics I
- Science I and II
- History
- Geography
- French I
- Latin I (boys who know no Latin should complete three optional papers)

Optional Papers

- Mathematics II
- Music
- Art
- Divinity
- French II
- Spanish
- Greek
- Latin II

Another language - if requested and approved at least six months before the examination.
In all papers, grades will be awarded as follows:

- A* - High Award standard
- A - Award standard
- B - Near Award standard
- C - Good, but below Award standard
- D - Common Entrance standard



SUBJECTS

ENGLISH

Paper I will consist of a poem for comprehension followed by a prose passage for comprehension. Questions will vary from close language analysis to more extensive thematic discussion, and the paper will last for one and a half hours. Paper II will require candidates to choose from a range of creative titles and write one piece over the period of an hour.

MATHEMATICS

Paper I aims to discover scholarship ability, whereas Paper II is set with the strong mathematical candidate in mind. In both papers, candidates will be asked to answer as many questions as they can, but they should be encouraged to aim for complete solutions rather than a series of fragments. Calculators may be used freely. In neither paper will any question presume formal teaching beyond the syllabus for the Additional Paper at 13+.

SCIENCE

There will be two papers which will test knowledge and understanding of the Common Entrance 11+ and 13+ syllabus at Level 2. No specific knowledge beyond the Common Entrance Syllabus is required, but candidates will be presented with questions which expect them to apply the science in novel and unfamiliar contexts. Paper I will consist of questions on areas of experimental design, data handling and problem solving including the manipulation of simple formulae. Questions could be set in scientific contexts relating to any of the three separate sciences, with the emphasis on skills rather than recall. Paper II will have sections for each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics with a greater emphasis on recall and application of knowledge.

HISTORY

There will be two sections. The first will consist of passages from primary and secondary historical sources for comment in a style similar to CIE IGCSE Paper 2; the second will require candidates to write an essay testing their understanding of broad historical themes. They will not be expected to have studied any specific period but to draw upon examples from any period they have studied.

GEOGRAPHY

Section A will require a response to some type of geographical stimulus material such as a map extract, with questions which in places may touch on areas of geography not previously studied by any candidates. Section B will require an essay answer; essay topics will be directly based on the Common Entrance syllabus. Consideration will also be given to any coursework submitted.

FRENCH

Paper I will consist of Section A, listening comprehension and Section B, reading comprehension, both of which will require candidates to answer questions in English. Section C will consist of a guided written task in French (120-150 words) based on one or more topics taken from Common Entrance defined topic areas. All candidates will also complete an oral examination, consisting of (i) a discussion of a picture card, for which guiding questions will be provided; and (ii) a discussion of at least two Common Entrance defined topic areas. In both the written task and the oral examination, candidates will be expected to present coherent ideas, provide opinions and examples, and demonstrate secure knowledge of the present, past and future tenses. An optional Paper II will require candidates to complete vocabulary, grammar and English-French translation exercises to further assess their use of French.

DIVINITY

There will be one section consisting of eight essay questions on general theological, ethical and philosophical themes. Candidates will be required to answer two questions and show their understanding of theology and philosophy in their arguments. There will be scope for candidates to display their knowledge and understanding of the bible, world religions, ethics and wider philosophical issues.

LATIN

Paper I will consist of unseen translation, grammatical questions, and either comprehension questions based on a passage of Latin, or English into Latin sentences. Paper II will consist of a more difficult unseen translation and either prose composition or further translation.

GREEK

The paper consists of translation from Greek to English and of grammatical questions. Further (optional) sections will consist of English sentences to be translated into Greek, and a harder passage from Greek to English. The paper is designed to be accessible to those who have only recently begun Greek, as well as to stretch those who have done more. Vocabulary etc. will be based on John Taylor Greek to GCSE: Part 1 (BCP): or the compulsory sections, it will be drawn from the first four chapters.

SPANISH

The paper will include both listening and reading comprehension questions, answered both in English and Spanish. In the reading section, candidates will need to answer questions on the text and complete tasks such as vocabulary and grammar exercises. There will also be a guided writing task (120-150 words), based on one or more Common Entrance topic areas. Candidates should present a clear argument, give opinions, and include examples from their own experience. All candidates will take an oral exam, discussing at least two topics from the Common Entrance list. In both the writing and the speaking, candidates will be required to confidently refer to the present, past and future tenses.

MUSIC

There are two parts to the Music assessment. One section will be a performance of one piece or two contrasting pieces on the candidate's chosen instrument, together with aural tests. The other section will consist of music theory and a short essay question. Time will be given to practice before the performance section. There is no need to bring an accompanist, but candidates will be expected to supply the accompaniments where appropriate. The Director of Music is happy to discuss this option with parents, before forms are submitted, and can be contacted via: jane.marsh@tonbridge-school.org

ART

Pupils applying for the Art option in the academic scholarship are required to submit a selected portfolio of up to 10 pieces of work that best demonstrates the pupil's creative skills and interests. They will be required to present this portfolio to the Head of Department in a short interview and to complete a brief visual analysis and practical response.



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ONLY CONNECT

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The information contained in the brochure is accurate at the time of going to press