

HIGHGATE

MUSIC AWARDS AT HIGHGATE SCHOOL: 2024 ENTRY

The Governors offer Music Awards to pupils who have gained a place through the normal entry process (tests and interviews). The scale of the award is made at the discretion of the Head and Governors, depending on the strength of the field (maximum 10%), and this has been combined with means-tested bursarial support with successful candidates where appropriate. Music Exhibitions and Music Potential Awards are also offered without fee remission. All Music Scholars, Exhibitioners and Potential Award Holders are offered free tuition on either one or two of the instruments auditioned (including voice) with the school's music teachers during school time. Music Awards are normally tenable throughout a pupil's time at the School, provided progress and conduct remain satisfactory.

Award holders are expected to contribute regularly and fully to the musical life of the school throughout their career and their progress is monitored by the Director of Music.

There are regular concerts during term-time and many opportunities for solo performances. The House Music Competitions, solo instrumental and vocal competitions and masterclasses provide opportunities for pupils to work with distinguished visiting professionals.

Music at Highgate

Highgate music has a long and distinguished tradition, and many former pupils are now leading musicians. They include John Tavener (composer), John Rutter (composer and conductor), Howard Shelley (pianist and conductor), Jan Latham-Koenig (conductor) and Daniel Hope (violinist). Pupils are offered a wide range of musical opportunities with participation and excellence central to the ethos of the department.

School activities in recent years have included:

- Performances of Duruflé Requiem and Bach's *St Matthew Passion* at Southwark Cathedral; Tippett's *Child of Our Time* and Tchaikovsky's *Romeo & Juliet Overture* at the Royal Festival Hall for our 450 Anniversary Celebration. Bach's *St John Passion* and *Missa in F*; Fauré's Requiem; Handel's *Messiah* and *Zadok the Priest*; Haydn's "*Nelson*" Mass; Mendelssohn's Symphony No. 2, "*Lobgesang*"; Mozart's "*Coronation*" Mass; Rutter's Requiem and Vivaldi's Gloria in Southwark Cathedral and St John's, Smith Square
- Regular orchestral concerts; highlights include: Beethoven's Symphony No. 5; Elgar's Introduction and Allegro and *Serenade for Strings*; Holst's Suite in F; Ravel's *Bolero*; Schubert's Unfinished Symphony; and Schumann's Symphony No. 4 performed by the Chamber Orchestra, Symphonic Band and Symphony Orchestra
- Regular chamber and solo concerts and music competitions
- Performances of the musicals *Sweeney Todd*, *Les Misérables*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Cabaret*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Oklahoma*, *West Side Story* at RADA and *Guys and Dolls* and *Legally Blonde* at the Arts Depot
- Choirs singing services at St Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, St Peter's Rome, Southwark, St Albans, Llandaff and Chichester cathedrals
- Past music tours include Northern France, Belgium, Venice, Rome, Czech Republic, Paris and Vienna

MUSIC AWARDS: SCHOLARSHIP, EXHIBITION AND POTENTIAL AWARDS 11+

Candidates should choose the award most suited to their playing standard/experience and apply for ONE of the following categories at 11+

11+ : Music Scholarship or Exhibition

Requirements: Candidates of Exceptional ability presenting **2 instruments**. Grade 5-8 standard on first instrument, grade 3+ on second instrument

11+ : Music Potential Award

Requirements: Candidates who show exceptional musical ability on an orchestral instrument at grade 3-5 standard.

For all 11+ Award types the same 2 step process is applied – see below. Please make sure you clearly indicate which of the Award Types you are applying for, either Scholarship/Exhibition (2 instruments) OR Music Potential (1 instrument)

KEY DATES

Application Deadline: Wednesday 8 November, 12 noon

First Round Musical Discovery Day: Thursday 11 January 2024

Second Round Auditions: Thursday 18 & Friday 19 January 2023

Musical Discovery Day (first round): Thursday 11 January 2024

Candidates who are invited for an academic interview after our 11+ entrance tests, and who wish to be considered for a music scholarship an exhibition award or a music potential award, are invited to spend a morning at Highgate School where they will be involved in a wide variety of musical activities. Candidates will arrive at the school at **9.00am** with their instruments (if appropriate) and will spend the morning with the Music Department.

The morning will include a whole group session that includes singing in a choir rehearsal, some musical games and a rhythmic percussion composition. After a short break, there will be an orchestra and a music lesson in which there will be some further singing, theory and aural activities. The morning will conclude with candidates performing the music they have learnt during the morning in a short concert. Parents are invited to collect their children at **12.00pm**.

Following the Musical Discovery Day, around 10-20 candidates will be invited back to audition.

Auditions (second round): Thursday 18 & Friday 19 January 2024

The Audition:

- will take around 20 minutes.
- no more than 10 minutes of music should be offered.
- candidates are encouraged to perform two short contrasting pieces/extracts on their principal instrument/voice and one piece on their second instrument/voice (where a second option is presented).
- will include sight-reading & aural tests (**we do not ask for scales**)
- candidates will be asked by the Director of Music about their musical experiences and knowledge to discover how much interest the candidate has in music.

16+ AWARDS: MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP AUDITIONS

Requirements: Grade 8+ standard on first instrument, Grade 5+ standard on second instrument

16+ Award process: **2 step assessment on a single day, comprising Recital & Interview**

Recital

Candidates are asked to present a 12 minute recital of their choice demonstrating attainment on each instrument offered*.

Interview

Following the recital, candidates will have a short panel interview to discuss their musical experiences and knowledge.

**An accompanist will be provided by Highgate School*

KEY DATES:

Application Deadline: Friday 20 October

Audition Dates: Tuesday 5 November or Thursday 7 November (between 1pm -4pm each day)

How to Apply for 11+ and 16+ Music Awards:

Please note, we want to offer a positive experience for all candidates auditioning. Please review our guidance for indicative grade standards. It is not necessary to have formal exam results, but performances presented at audition should be at/above the levels given for the experience to be worthwhile for the candidate.

Music Award Application Forms will be emailed to you to complete after you have completed your 11+ or 16+ application form through the Highgate website.

11+

Please indicate on your main online application form for a place at the school that you wish to apply for a music award. You will be then emailed the music award application form to complete. This must be submitted by Wednesday 8 November.

16+

Please indicate on your main online application form for a place at the school that you wish to apply for a music award. You will be then emailed the music award application form to complete. This must be submitted by Friday 20 October.

For further information about music at Highgate, please see <https://www.highgateschool.org.uk/senior-school/the-arts/>

If you would like to discuss the music audition process further or would like any advice, please feel free to contact the Music Department Manager, Rachael Williams at musicoffice@highgateschool.org.uk

Revised May 2023