

Music Awards for 16+ Candidates



For candidates to be considered for a Music Scholarship or Exhibition, an application form must be submitted to the Admissions Team by email before 1 September in the year prior to September entry. A report from each of the candidate's individual teachers with information about her musical ability and experience, together with details of any music examinations taken must also be emailed to admissions@wycombeabbey.com. Awards in any combination are limited to free tuition on a total of two instruments. Music Scholarships will be awarded at the same time conditional offers for entry to the School are made.

Please note: if a candidate is offering voice as her first study, she should apply for the Choral Award. However, the Director of Music may still consider her for a Music Scholarship if she additionally offers an instrumental study of a suitable standard.

Music Scholars are expected to make the most of the musical opportunities offered by the School, and to embrace fully the wide range of musical activities. They will normally be involved in orchestra, chamber ensembles and choir, and will be expected to perform regularly in public. Music Scholars are encouraged to consider the option of pursuing Music at A level.

An award will normally be for the candidate's two-year A level programme at Wycombe Abbey, but will be regularly reviewed and is conditional on satisfactory musical and academic progress.

Process

The Scholarship audition, conducted by the Director of Music and Assistant Director of Music, will be held at Wycombe Abbey in November at the same time as the entrance examinations.

Candidates are tested for musical potential as well as achievement and evidence of musical flair, which is as important as technical accomplishment. The pieces performed will need to demonstrate both technical and expressive capabilities in the choice of music. The total duration of all pieces performed must not exceed 15 minutes.

The audition will comprise:

- **First instrument:** Candidates will perform two contrasting pieces, lasting a total of seven to ten minutes. If they wish to present a longer piece, they are welcome to select a suitable excerpt.
- **Second instrument** (if applicable): Candidates will need to perform one piece lasting three to five minutes.
- **Sight-reading:** Candidates will take a short test on their first instrument of a standard corresponding to their most recent examination grade.
- **Aural tests:** These tests will include pitch recognition, melodic and rhythmic memory, musical and historical understanding.
- **Viva:** Candidates will be asked about their musical experience and interests.
- **Accompanist:** The School will provide its own accompanist.