



## McAuley Scholarship Programme



**OLA**  
OUR LADY'S  
ABINGDON

# Introduction

Each academic year, OLA makes available a range of Scholarship awards under the McAuley Scholarship Programme. The programme, which is named after our school founder, Catherine McAuley, recognises and supports students with exceptional talents, both in academic and extra-curricular activities. In this brochure you will find details of all of our Scholarships.

The programme is open to both OLA and external candidates.

It is expected that those in receipt of Scholarships will make a significant contribution to school life through their enthusiasm and commitment to the particular area for which they have been recognised.

To support students in their Scholarship, regular review meetings take place to discuss progress and future goals. The continuation of the Scholarship is dependent upon good school reports for effort, achievement and behaviour. Scholarships are not means tested.







# Academic Scholarships

*Years 7 and 9 (See page 14 for the Sixth Form Academic Scholarship)*

OLA is renowned for the 'value added' it provides for students through its nurturing ethos, small class sizes and exceptional teaching. Results in public examinations have been consistently outstanding, and students regularly proceed to Oxford, Cambridge and Russell Group universities.

Academic Scholarships are assessed by application. Assessment is by:

- Scholarship examination
- Scholarship interview
- School reports

Students will be required to demonstrate:

- Excellence in written papers
- Initiative, drive and a lively mind
- That they are good all-round students with a strong interest in one or more subjects
- They have a desire and ability to contribute to the ethos and life of OLA

The Academic Scholarship award is 10% of school fees and continues until the end of Year 11.





# Sports Scholarships

*Years 7, 9 and Lower Sixth*

OLA offers an extensive programme of sports that encourages students to excel in their chosen disciplines. In recent years OLA alumni have included an international athlete, a tennis player and a county cricketer. Netball, badminton and swimming are other sports in which OLA students have excelled in regional and national competitions.

The Sports Scholarship recognises sporting excellence, achievement and potential. Candidates who apply must demonstrate:

- High levels of performance and ability in one or more of OLA's competitive sports
- A desire and ability to contribute to the ethos and life of OLA

Candidates will be required to attend a fitness circuit trial and interview.

The Sports Scholarship continues until the end of Year 11 or, if granted in the Lower Sixth, to the end of Sixth Form.



# Music Scholarships

*Years 7, 9 and Lower Sixth*

Music is at the centre of all that OLA offers. Students regularly go on to study music at university having achieved the highest grades in their public exams. Through our ensembles, orchestra and choirs, students have regular opportunities to turn practice into performance.

The Music Scholarship provides help to nurture young talent, reward excellence and support musical potential. Candidates must demonstrate:

- Innate musical skills
- That they are working towards or beyond the ABRSM standards applicable for the award: Year 7 – Grade 4, Year 9 – Grade 5, and Lower Sixth – Grade 7
- A desire and ability to contribute to the ethos and life of OLA

Candidates will be required to attend an audition and interview.

The Music Scholarship award provides free individual tuition for one instrument at school by one of the school's visiting music staff. For exceptionally gifted students this may be extended to two instruments. The award continues until the end of Year 11 or, if granted in the Lower Sixth, to the end of Sixth Form.







# Drama Scholarships

*Years 7, 9 and Lower Sixth*

Our impressive drama studio and auditorium regularly stage outstanding works which have recently included *Grease*, *Romeo and Juliet* and *Hairspray*.

The Drama Scholarship rewards students who demonstrate excellence in and passion for the Dramatic Arts. Candidates must demonstrate:

- Superior vocal and movement skills
- An appreciation of the content and style of performance material
- A desire and ability to contribute to the ethos and life of OLA

Candidates are required to attend an audition and interview. If selected, they must participate in the annual school play.

The Drama Scholarship continues until the end of Year 11 or, if granted in the Lower Sixth, to the end of Sixth Form.



hairs





# Art Scholarships

*Years 7, 9 and Lower Sixth*

OLA has long been renowned for the quality of the art its students produce. The main entrance to OLA's Senior School, the Mall Gallery is always vibrant with GCSE and A-level artwork.

The Art Scholarship rewards artistic excellence.

Candidates are required to:

- Submit a portfolio of work
- Attend an interview where they will be asked to discuss work in a range of media
- Demonstrate a desire and ability to contribute to the ethos and life of OLA

Successful candidates are expected to study art at GCSE or A-level, as appropriate.

The Art Scholarship continues until the end of Year 11 or, if granted in the Lower Sixth, to the end of Sixth Form.



# Sixth Form Academic Scholarship

OLA's Sixth Form offers a broad range of A-level options with all subjects being delivered in small class sizes by expert practitioners.

Students in Year 11, whether internal or external, may apply to be entered for the Sixth Form Academic Scholarship interview process.

Candidates must demonstrate:

- Excellence in their academic studies
- Initiative, drive and a lively mind at interview
- A desire and ability to contribute to the ethos and life of OLA

The Academic Scholarship award is 10% of school fees and continues until the end of Sixth Form. As well as the Academic Scholarship, students in Year 11 can also apply for the Sports, Music, Drama, Textiles, DT and Art Scholarships. See pages 6–19 for further details.







SAMPLES

design

Design Brief

Kearney Safaya  
Centre for 2013  
Candidate for 2013

Internally Set Back  
"Mirror"  
Reflection

SIGN &  
DEVELOP

The Secret  
Centre for 2013  
Candidate for 2013  
Project/Assignment

DEVELOPMENTS

CAUTION  
SHIT  
UP!  
CAUTION

# Textiles Scholarships

## *Lower Sixth*

The Textiles department has benefited from significant development and investment in recent years. As a result, students can use top of the range facilities and industrial equipment. The department also has its own dedicated Computer Aided Design room where all students are taught to use Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator to complement their creativity.

The Textiles Scholarship rewards students who demonstrate an aptitude and passion for Textiles. Candidates will be expected to:

- Show and discuss a portfolio of their design work along with a textiles product that they have previously produced. Candidates are encouraged to present work carried out both at school and in their own time
- Demonstrate a desire and ability to contribute to the ethos and life of OLA

If selected, candidates must then go on to study Textiles at A-level.

The Textiles Scholarship award continues until the end of Sixth Form.





# Design Technology Scholarships

## *Lower Sixth*

Design Technology Scholarships awards are offered to help nurture emerging creativity and reward dedication, application and ambition in the subject.

Candidates will be expected to:

- Show and discuss a portfolio of exemplar design work along with a product that they have previously manufactured. Candidates are encouraged to present and discuss work carried out both at the school and in their own time
- Be willing to participate and pursue the subject with dedication while making a significant extra-curricular commitment in a range of areas associated with the subject
- Act as ambassadors for the subject and encourage and inspire other students
- Demonstrate a desire and ability to contribute to the ethos and life of OLA

Candidates must have studied Design Technology at GCSE and are expected to study the subject at A-level. They need to demonstrate a passion and dedication for the subject and are expected to become involved in Design Technology opportunities throughout the school year including the summer Design Exhibition. If granted the award will continue to the end of the Sixth Form.





# All Rounder Scholarship

*Year 9 and Lower Sixth*

All Rounder Scholarships are awarded to OLA students in Year 9 or Lower Sixth on the recommendation of the School's staff and at the discretion of the Principal.

The All Rounder Scholarship:

- Requires no formal application
- Recognises students who have achieved well academically and made a substantial contribution to the life of the school

The All Rounder Scholarship award is 10% of school fees and is reviewed annually.





To apply for an OLA Scholarship:

Visit [www.ola.org.uk/Scholarships](http://www.ola.org.uk/Scholarships) to download the  
Scholarship application forms.

You will also find details of key dates for your application.

If you have any questions about our Scholarships  
or require further details, please contact our Admissions  
on 01235 544808 or email [scholarships@ola.org.uk](mailto:scholarships@ola.org.uk).



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