



St Albans  
High School  
for Girls



# AMB TION

UNLEASH  
YOUR

SCHOLARSHIPS

# WELCOME



## Dear Potential STAHS Scholar,

STAHS is ambitious. The pursuit of bold ideas in an environment where creativity, innovation and success are encouraged and celebrated is central to our values. At STAHS, we challenge ourselves and each other to strive for excellence in all we do.

The STAHS Scholarship Programme embodies this spirit of challenge and ambition. STAHS Scholars play a vital role in demonstrating, modelling and

championing the values that are at the core of making us one of the UK's leading independent schools.

We have high expectations of our Scholars, and rightly so; they are highly capable and talented pupils in tireless pursuit of their passions. We provide them with a tailor-made programme, including mentoring guidance, collaborative and independent project and development opportunities and specialist support in their chosen field.

We have a number of specialist areas of scholarship available and various points at which incoming or current pupils can apply to become a STAHS Scholar. Although STAHS Scholars specialise in one or more areas of scholarship, we expect them also to maintain their interests in other aspects of School life beyond their scholarship subject, giving full commitment to the range of opportunities on offer at our vibrant School.

We award scholarships to those who strive to be the very best they can be and who set

an example for our other pupils. We look for sportswomen who not only succeed on the pitch, but also carry themselves with integrity, representing the spirit of teamwork off the pitch. We seek skilled artists, passionate musicians and confident actors who produce the highest quality work and whose technical and artistic prowess can be clearly demonstrated on stage or in an exhibition. We are in search of academics whose interests and talent cannot be confined to the taught curriculum. If these statements apply to you, I encourage you to apply to become a STAHS Scholar and wish you the very best of luck in your application.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amber Waite".

Amber Waite  
Head



# PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

## WHO IS A STAHS SCHOLAR?

A Scholar at STAHS is likely to have innate ability and talent, but far more importantly, she has a genuine love of learning and a strong commitment to her area of specialism. She regularly goes above and beyond in her work – not out of a sense of duty, but because she feels compelled to strive to achieve the very highest of standards. She demonstrates her passion and enthusiasm for learning and

improving through the challenges she takes on, the super- and co-curricular activities she participates in and – particularly in the Sixth Form – the leadership opportunities she has seized. She may or may not have career aspirations in her specialist area, but she is keen to develop her skills because she loves what she does.

## WHAT TYPES OF SCHOLARSHIP ARE THERE?

Candidates may put themselves forward for as many scholarships as they meet the criteria for; the exception being Year 7 Academic Scholarship candidates who are identified based on their admissions examinations and are invited to the Academic Scholarship Assessment Day. Entry points for STAHS scholarships are in Year 7, Year 10 and Year 12, with assessment taking place the preceding academic year. The number and type of scholarships awarded each year will be at the School’s discretion, and information may be found in the STAHS Admissions Policy document ‘Bursaries and Scholarships’, which is available on our website at [stahs.org.uk/admissions](http://stahs.org.uk/admissions) or by request from the Admissions team ([admissions@stahs.org.uk](mailto:admissions@stahs.org.uk)).

It is recommended that internal candidates speak with their relevant subject teachers or the Assistant Head Academic Development for advice on whether to apply for a scholarship.

Candidates are reminded that there are numerous opportunities for all pupils to demonstrate scholarship even if they are not formally named a Scholar. STAHS is proud of the wide range of impressive accomplishments our pupils achieve, and we encourage and support all pupils in developing their skills, interests and leadership regardless of whether or not they have been awarded a scholarship.

SCHOLARSHIP	YEAR 7	YEAR 10	YEAR 12
Academic	●	●	●
Art		●	●
Design and Technology		●	●
Drama	●	●	●
Music – Du Cane Instrumental	●	●	●
Music – Du Cane Choral	●	(available from 2023)	(available from 2025)
Sport	●	●	●

# THE 1889 CLUB

**Academic Scholars at STAHS become members of a learned society: *The 1889 Club*, named in recognition of the School's founding year. The 1889 Club has three divisions, each of which has a lively and distinctive programme.**

## **The Atkins Scholars (Year 7 to Year 9)**

Vera Atkins was a talented linguist who joined the Special Operations Executive (SOE) in the 1940s, a branch of British Military Intelligence responsible for training and sending agents overseas. Our Year 7 to Year 9 Academic Scholars are named after Atkins in honour of her remarkable efficiency and intelligence, which was accompanied by deep humanity and a sense of responsibility to protect the agents she was sending to possible death. A clever cryptographer, she would often interpret seemingly indecipherable messages that had defeated all the efforts of official decoders.

In addition to their participation in the wide range of 1889 Club activities and events, Atkins Scholars are introduced to high level academic thinking skills and begin learning techniques in research methodology that will be used by Scholars throughout their time at STAHS. Their work towards independent research culminates in the production of an individual project to be presented publicly as a poster at the annual 1889 Club Conference in Year 9.

## **The Hodgkin Scholars (Year 10 and Year 11)**

Dorothy Hodgkin won the 1964 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for her work on the structures of vitamin B12 and penicillin. She remains the only British woman to have won a Nobel Prize in science, yet rejected the idea that she was a role model for other women or that her career was held back because she was a woman. Our Year 10 and Year 11 Academic Scholars are named after her because she was a real polymath who acted with integrity. Not just a scientist, but also a humanitarian, Hodgkin was awarded the Lenin Peace Prize in recognition of her efforts to bring together scientists from the East and West in pursuit of nuclear disarmament.

Hodgkin Scholars continue to engage with the broader 1889 Club programme, whilst also furthering their research and critical thinking skills with the support of the Hodgkin Lead Teacher. The annual STAHS TEDx-style event features Hodgkin Scholars presenting their work to a live audience, in addition to showcasing their research at the annual 1889 Club Conference in Year 11.

***Being an Academic Scholar has given me more confidence, as well as enabling me to engage more deeply in academia through the Scholarship Programme and interact with students who have similar interests. Through the Scholarship Programme, I have been able to take my academic studies beyond the curriculum, while gaining new perspectives and ways of thinking.***

Natasha Fox, Mary Lucey Academic Scholar, Year 13



## **The De Beauvoir Fellows (Sixth Form)**

'One is not born, but rather becomes, a woman', wrote existentialist philosopher Simone de Beauvoir in her work *The Second Sex*, published in 1949. It was an immediate success and inspired thousands of women at the time. Its publication is considered the starting point of second-wave feminism. In a key exam to allow her to teach philosophy, she came second only to Jean-Paul Sartre – and he was re-sitting the exam! The two went on to become both romantic and intellectual partners. STAHS Sixth Form Academic Scholars are named in her honour as de Beauvoir inspires us to persevere with having our voices heard, as well as reminding us of the importance of debate in refining one's views.

The De Beauvoir Fellowship is the pinnacle of the 1889 Club, with Fellows leading on many of the Club events and activities. From the Oxford Union-style debates to 'The Fix' team challenge to solve a real-world social problem, De Beauvoir Fellows are models of intellectual pursuit. Like the Atkins and Hodgkins Scholars, De Beauvoir Fellows produce an in-depth individual project, extended essay or original research, which is showcased at the Scholars' Conference in Year 12 and at the Scholars' Symposium in Year 13. The Symposium is attended by guest judges and prestigious prizes are awarded for the best work, which is then published in the STAHS annual Scholars' Anthology.



# THE STAHS ATKINS SCHOLARSHIP

Available from Year 7

**Atkins Scholars are members of the exclusive 1889 Club and have access to the myriad scholarly activities, workshops and events on offer through the Club each year. The research, critical thinking and debating skills learned through the Atkins Scholarship not only prepare girls to take on ambitious academic challenges later in life, but also provide the solid foundation on which the Hodgkin Scholarship is built.**

## Atkins Scholars ...

- Demonstrate intellectual curiosity, dexterity of thinking, independence and integrity.
- Enjoy listening to and learning from others.
- Can quickly understand and master complex concepts.
- Can clearly and persuasively articulate their ideas.
- Work equally well collaborating with others or independently.
- Are academically ambitious, with high levels of achievement and attainment.
- Typically place within the top 10% of the STAHS cohort in terms of baseline academic testing and cumulative examination results.

## Assessment process for Atkins Scholarships

- Atkins Scholarship applications are by invitation only:
  - » STAHS Prep School pupils are selected by the Head of Prep, based on current and recent academic data, to attend the Academic Scholarship Assessment Day.

- » External candidates are automatically considered for an Academic Scholarship when they sit the STAHS entrance assessments – there is no need to apply separately for an Academic Scholarship. Typically, the top 10 to 15% of the candidate cohort are invited to attend the Academic Scholarship Assessment Day.
- Pupils invited to attend the Academic Scholarship Assessment Day will participate in a number of interesting and stimulating activities ranging from discussion and debate to team problem-solving. Through these activities, we will assess the candidates' mathematical and critical thinking skills, ability to process and assimilate complex information, literacy and expositional skills. We gather a lot of information – but the children simply have fun!
- As part of the Academic Scholarship Assessment Day, all candidates will participate in a short group interview with a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

## Opportunities for Atkins Scholars

- Invitation to attend the 'Atkins Residential Workshop' in August prior to Year 7.
- Attendance at workshops and competitions both within the School and on a regional, national and even international level.
- Invitation to engage in community projects.
- Support in the completion of an individual project.

- Invitation to present independent work at the annual 1889 Club Conference.
- Additional super-curricular support in areas of academic interest.
- Awards and recognition events.
- 10% tuition fee remission.

## Expectations of Atkins Scholars

- Maintain above-average Effort and Engagement in Learning grades.
- Routine attendance at Scholars' taught sessions (colloquia).
- Act as ambassadors for the School, the 1889 Club and STAHS academics, for example by assisting with Open Days and other events.

- Full engagement in workshops, competitions and 1889 Club events.
- Completion of an individual project in Year 9 (following appropriate progress made towards this project in Years 7 and 8) to an acceptable standard.
- Maintain a positive behaviour record, including good attendance, punctuality and excellent personal and academic conduct.
- Act as a role model to other pupils and be a credit to the School.

# THE STAHS HODGKIN SCHOLARSHIP

Available from Year 10

**Hodgkin Scholars are members of the STAHS learned society, the 1889 Club. Hodgkin Scholars begin to work more closely with staff and De Beauvoir Fellows through participation in workshops, single- and multi-day off-timetable conferences and events and charitable activities. The Hodgkin Scholarship programme builds on the academic skills learned through the Atkins Scholarship (although being an Atkins Scholar is NOT a prerequisite to becoming a Hodgkin Scholar) and continues to develop high-level thinking and analytical skills, debating and public speaking skills and offers increased academic freedom to independently explore their own areas of interest.**

## Hodgkin Scholars ...

- Demonstrate intellectual curiosity, dexterity of thinking, independence and integrity.
- Enjoy listening to and learning from others.
- Can quickly understand and master complex concepts.

- Think across disciplines, drawing on their knowledge to formulate new ideas and solve problems.
- Can clearly and persuasively articulate their ideas.
- Work equally well collaborating with others or independently.
- Are academically ambitious, with high levels of academic attainment.
- Have an impressive record of achievement both in and out of school.

## Assessment process for Hodgkin Scholarships

- Atkins Scholars retain their Scholarship status and become Hodgkin Scholars, provided they continue to meet the requirements to maintain their scholarship. No additional application is required, but current Scholars are expected to understand and adhere to the requirements of the Hodgkin Scholarship.
- Current pupils are invited to apply for Hodgkin Scholarships during Year 9,

by submission of an application form. Typically, Hodgkin Scholarships will be awarded only to those pupils in the top 10 to 15% of their year group in terms of attainment and approach to learning. The best applications will be shortlisted for interview.

- Prospective pupils are invited to apply for scholarships when they register for a place at STAHS.
- If invited to interview, candidates will present to the selection panel (consisting of the Head, Deputy Head Academic and Assistant Head Academic Development) on a pre-agreed scholarly topic of their choice. This presentation will be followed by questions from the panel, including a general interview assessing academic behaviours, mindset and potential.
- A review by the selection panel of the candidate's academic (including co-curricular and super-curricular) engagement and achievement to date.

## Opportunities for Hodgkin Scholars

- Invitation to attend Scholars' trips and visits.
- Attendance at workshops and competitions both within the School and on a regional, national and even international level.
- Leadership in community projects.
- Support in the completion of an individual project and presentation of TEDx-style talk.

- Invitation to present independent work at the annual 1889 Club Conference.
- Additional super-curricular support in areas of academic interest.
- Awards and recognition events.
- 10% tuition fee remission.

## Expectations of Hodgkin Scholars

- Maintain above-average Effort and Engagement in Learning grades.
- Routine attendance at Scholars' taught sessions (colloquia).
- Full engagement in workshops, competitions and 1889 Club events.
- Act as ambassadors for the School and STAHS academics, for example by assisting with Open Days and other events.
- Act as ambassadors for the 1889 Club, including participating and leadership in Atkins Scholars' events and trips, as appropriate.
- Completion of an individual project in Year 10 to an acceptable standard.
- Presentation at STAHS TEDx-style event in Year 11 to an acceptable standard.
- Maintain a positive behaviour record, including good attendance, punctuality and excellent personal and academic conduct.
- Act as a role model to other pupils and be a credit to the School.



# THE STAHS DE BEAUVOIR FELLOWSHIP

Available from Year 12

**De Beauvoir fellows work closely with staff and Scholars in younger year groups, leading workshops, single- and multi-day off-timetable conferences, events and charitable activities. The De Beauvoir Fellowship programme builds on the academic skills learned through the Hodgkin Scholarship (although being a Hodgkin Scholar is not a prerequisite to becoming a De Beauvoir Fellow). The Fellowship continues to develop high-level thinking and analytical skills, debating and public-speaking skills and offers increased academic freedom to independently explore ideas.**

**Each year, one Year 12 student with exceptional attainment and potential demonstrated in the academic scholarship assessment is awarded the title Mary Lucey Scholar.**

### **De Beauvoir Fellows ...**

- Demonstrate intellectual curiosity, dexterity of thinking, independence and integrity.
- Enjoy listening to and learning from others.
- Can quickly understand and master complex concepts.
- Can clearly and persuasively articulate their ideas.
- Work equally well collaborating with others or independently.
- Are academically ambitious, with high levels of academic attainment.
- Have held or are in pursuit of leadership positions in or outside of School.

### **Assessment process for De Beauvoir Fellowships**

- Hodgkin Fellows retain their scholarship status and become De Beauvoir Fellows provided they continue to meet the requirements to maintain their scholarship. No additional application is required, but current Scholars are expected to understand and adhere to the requirements of the De Beauvoir Fellowship.
- Pupils are invited to apply for De Beauvoir Fellowships during Year 11, by submission of an application form. Typically, Fellowships will be awarded only to those pupils in the top 10 to 15% of their year group in terms of attainment and approach to learning. The best applications will be shortlisted for interview.
- Prospective pupils are invited to apply for scholarships when they register for a place at STAHS.
- If invited to interview, candidates will present to the selection panel (consisting of the Head, Deputy Head Academic and Assistant Head Academic Development) on a pre-agreed scholarly topic of their choice. This presentation will be followed by questions from the panel, including a general interview assessing thinking skills and intellectual curiosity.
- A review by the selection panel of the candidate's academic (including co-curricular and super-curricular) engagement and achievement to date.

### **Opportunities for De Beauvoir Fellows**

- Invitation to current and prospective pupils awarded scholarships to attend the 'De Beauvoir Retreat' weekend in February of Year 11.
- Attendance at workshops and competitions both within the school and on a regional, national and even international level.
- Leadership in community projects.
- 1:1 support from an Academic Mentor.
- Opportunities to work with and learn from leading experts in their areas of academic interest.
- Completion of an undergraduate-style research project and participation in an externally judged research symposium.
- Participation in Scholars' trips and visits.
- Invitation to present independent work at the annual 1889 Club Conference.
- Additional super-curricular support in areas of academic interest.
- Awards and recognition events.
- 10% tuition fee remission.

### **Expectations of De Beauvoir Fellows**

- Maintain above-average Effort and Engagement in Learning grades.
- Act as ambassadors for the School and STAHS academics, for example by assisting with Open Days and other events.
- Act as ambassadors for the 1889 Club, including participation and leadership in Atkins Scholar and De Beauvoir Fellow events and trips where appropriate.
- Routine attendance at Scholars' taught sessions (colloquia).
- Full engagement in workshops, competitions and 1889 Club events.
- Completion of an individual project in Year 13 and presentation of research in the Symposium.
- Maintain a positive behaviour record, including good attendance, punctuality and excellent personal and academic conduct.
- Act as a role model to other pupils and be a credit to the School.



# THE STAHS ART SCHOLARSHIP

Available from Year 10

Art at STAHS supports a pupil's creativity, independence and expression and – especially at A level – encourages risk-taking, critical thinking and extensive research. Art is celebrated throughout the School and over the entire academic year: from gallery showings and exhibitions to work with our Artist in Residence, there is always something going on. STAHS artists enjoy a bright, naturally-lit and spacious specialist study space to work in, with access to all manner of media and equipment with which to produce their work.

## STAHS Art Scholars ...

- Demonstrate high levels of technical skill and potential in Art.
- Will take GCSE Art (Year 10 Scholars) and A level Art (Sixth Form Scholars).
- Display an enthusiasm for and dedication to Art that surpasses regular expectations, including independent work and study through participation in clubs, competitions and events outside School.
- Have a keen desire to further refine and improve their skills in painting, drawing and the use of other media.
- Are likely to be considering pursuing Art beyond Sixth Form.

## Assessment process for STAHS

### Art Scholarships

- Candidates must submit a portfolio of recent work that they have completed both in and outside of School (including highlights of their GCSE work where applicable) along with their application form.
- Candidates will participate in an in-person assessment of their portfolio, where they will be asked to discuss the technical and academic aspects of their work.
- Candidates will be interviewed by the Head of Art and another member of the Art Department.

## Expectations of Art Scholars

- Engagement in both curricular and co-curricular Art lessons, workshops and activities.
- Commitment to participation in annual exhibitions both in and out of school.
- Act as ambassadors for the School and the Art Department, for example by assisting with Open Days and other events.
- Engage with and contribute to STAHS Art Outreach programmes.
- Maintain a positive behaviour record, including good attendance, punctuality and excellent personal and academic conduct.
- Act as a role model to other pupils and be a credit to the School.

## Opportunities for Art Scholars

- Invitations to attend exhibitions, professional workshops and lectures.
- Free admission to trips run by the Art Department (Sixth Form Scholars).
- Receipt of specialist 1:1 or small group training in their area of specialism.
- Attend courses, for example portfolio and life drawing workshops and courses.
- 10% tuition fee remission.

*I've become a lot more confident in my artistic abilities and leadership skills. As part of running Sketchbook Club, I was able to work on my communication and presentation skills. My best memory from my time as Scholar was definitely when I saw the finished sketchbooks made by the Year 8s in the Club. It was really amazing to see how their work had developed and improved over the year.*

Esme Robinson, Art Scholar, Year 13





# THE STAHS DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY SCHOLARSHIP

Available from Year 10

**At STAHS, provision of Design and Technology education is second to none. We genuinely value the range of opportunities and the breadth of skills that can be developed through the study of Design and Technology. From Food Preparation and Nutrition, to Product Design and Textiles, STAHS pupils are able to try their hands at a number of creative and technical pursuits through our Design and Technology curriculum. The cross-curricular links between Design and Technology, Art, Maths and the Sciences are particularly strong at STAHS – it's no wonder so many of our pupils go on to win highly sought-after places at prestigious universities studying courses such as Architecture, Engineering, Fashion and Textiles and Nutrition and Food Science.**

### **STAHS Design and Technology Scholars ...**

- Demonstrate talent, passion and potential in Design and Technology.
- Will take GCSE Design and Technology or GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition (Year 10 Scholars) and A level Design and Technology (Sixth Form Scholars).
- Display an enthusiasm for and dedication to Design and Technology that surpasses regular expectations.
- Have a keen desire to refine and improve further their product and textile design, food preparation and nutrition and/or engineering skills.

- Are likely to be considering pursuing Design and Technology or Food Preparation and Nutrition beyond Sixth Form.

### **Assessment process for STAHS Design and Technology Scholarships**

- Scholarships will be considered for any of the three disciplines of Food Preparation and Nutrition, Textiles and Product Design.
- Candidates must submit an application form to include details of competitions, clubs and events that they have been independently involved in outside of School.
- Candidates must also submit a portfolio of their current and recent work in any of the three disciplines.
- Candidates will participate in an in-person assessment of their portfolio, where they will be asked to discuss the technical and academic aspects of their work.
- GCSE candidates will be interviewed by the Head of Design and Technology and a specialist teacher for the discipline of their choice.
- A level candidates will be interviewed jointly by the Head of Design and Technology and the Head of Art.

### **Expectations of Design and Technology Scholars**

- Engagement in both curricular and co-curricular Design and Technology lessons, clubs, workshops and activities, e.g. STEM week, TEDx-style talks.



*I have a real passion for Design and Technology and would like to carry on my studies in this subject at university. When applying for the Scholarship, I saw it as an opportunity for me to demonstrate my ability and enthusiasm for the subject, as well as inspire others to join the Design and Technology path. I believe it is a subject that is often misinterpreted as less academic than others and, for me, when applying for the Scholarship I thought of it as a way for me to help to raise awareness for the academic achievements that can come from the subject, as well as the amazing opportunities that can come from carrying it forward into GCSE and A level.*

Nicole Weisfield, Design and Technology Scholar, Year 13

- Act as ambassadors for the School and the Design and Technology Department, for example on Open Days and events, kickstarting initiatives and supporting younger pupils with tasks, Robotics Club, and streaming videos onto the Design and Technology corridor monitor.
- Since there is no Food A level, the Food Preparation and Nutrition Scholars must at the time they enter Sixth Form take on the role of organising the Sixth Form Food Committee, as well as helping to run food clubs and competitions (e.g. the inter-house cooking competition). Additionally, they should seek to undertake the Open Learn online nutrition course and use this to promote and help run healthy eating activities, such as the BNF healthy eating week.
- Maintain a positive behaviour record, including good attendance, punctuality and excellent personal and academic conduct.
- Act as a role model to other pupils and be a credit to the School.

### **Opportunities for Design and Technology Scholars**

- Free admission to trips run by the Department, which include workshops run by local STEM ambassadors, or speakers exhibitions, professional workshops and lectures.
- Automatic entry onto the Rotary DT and Young chef competitions (Years 10 and 11).
- Involvement in the Robotics Team.
- Receipt of specialist 1:1 or small group training in their subject specialism.
- Inclusion in attending a Key Stage 4 and 5 SOLIDWORKS club after school, building up to sit the exam and gain official accreditation, for which the school will pay the exam entrance fee.
- Contribution towards materials for final prototype.
- 10% tuition fee remission.

# THE STAHS DRAMA SCHOLARSHIP

Available from Year 7

**Drama at STAHS values both academic and performance disciplines. Students access a rich, diverse programme, gaining experience and drawing inspiration from professional theatre practitioners. Drama scholars are proactive participants, leading projects, mentoring others and embracing challenges – they are theatre makers of tomorrow, whether as playwrights, directors, performers or technicians, and thrive on the freedom this affords them. As well as acting, stagecraft and technical theatre skills, the transferable skills of creativity, problem-solving, teamwork and leadership are developed over a variety of theatrical genres.**

**There are ample opportunities for actors, directors, choreographers, stage managers and others to showcase their talents throughout the academic year through a number of large- and small-scale productions and competitions. From radio plays to monologues to full-blown musical productions, there are so many ways in which pupils can see and take part in theatre at STAHS.**

### STAHS Drama Scholars ...

- Demonstrate talent, passion and potential in Drama.
- Will take GCSE Drama (Year 10 Scholars) and A level Drama (Sixth Form Scholars).
- Display an enthusiasm for and dedication to Drama that surpasses regular expectations, including independent performance experience through participation in clubs, drama groups, competitions and events outside the School.

- Have a keen desire to refine and improve further their acting, performance, stagecraft and technical theatre skills.
- Are likely to be considering pursuing Drama beyond Sixth Form.

### Assessment process for STAHS Drama Scholarships

- Candidates must submit an application form. A supporting portfolio is encouraged, but this is not a requirement for Year 7 and Year 10 applications.
- External candidates must submit one reference from their current school or an outside drama group.
- Candidates will be expected to perform a prepared two-minute monologue, followed by a feedback session in which they will be

*As well as taking part in the School production of 'Fame' and directing my own production of 'Dracula' for this year's House Drama, I have been able to have access to lots of other great things. For example, I was really eager to put on a four woman show of the play 'Shakers' and I was able to bring this to the Department as the Scholar and get their support and funding to do so.*

Sasha Jagsi, Drama Scholar, Year 13

asked about their piece, and will be expected to take direction on their performance.

- Candidates will be interviewed by the Director of Drama.
- Candidates will participate in a Q&A session with current Sixth Form Drama Scholars.

### Expectations of Drama Scholars

- Routine attendance at rehearsals.
- Routine participation in masterclasses and training workshops.
- Performance in School productions and commitment to the rehearsal schedule for these.
- Demonstration of high standards of professionalism and support of other pupils in the Drama programme.
- Ongoing support of STAHS Drama, including assistance and attendance at productions in which they may not have a performing role.
- Act as ambassadors for the School and the Drama Department, for example by assisting with Open Days and other events.

- Engage with and contribute to STAHS Drama Outreach programmes.
- Maintain a positive behaviour record, including good attendance, punctuality and excellent personal and academic conduct.
- Act as a role model to other pupils and be a credit to the School.

### Opportunities for Drama Scholars

- Receipt of specialist training.
- Opportunities to perform in School productions.
- Invitation to attend professional productions across a wide variety of genres.
- Participation in theatre masterclasses and workshops, including projects such as 'Write the Girl' and working with our Artist in Residence.
- Awards and recognition events.
- 10% tuition fee remission.



## MUSIC

STAHS Du Cane Scholarships are named after Mollie Du Cane who was a great enthusiast for and supporter of the musical life of St Albans. Born in 1909, Mollie was grand-daughter of Dean Walter Lawrance, one of the founders of the High School, attended the School and went on to become a long-serving governor and Chairman of the Old Girls' Association.

# THE STAHS DU CANE INSTRUMENTAL SCHOLARSHIP

Available from Year 7, Year 10 and Year 12

Music is integral to daily life at STAHS. Our curricular and co-curricular music programme enables pupils to develop into well-rounded musicians who possess both excellent musical and aural skills as well as technical proficiency on their instruments. Across the Senior School, approximately half of all pupils participate in ensembles and orchestras, and they have numerous opportunities to perform together and individually in our many concerts, masterclasses and solo performance evenings. We have a commitment to developing chamber musicians and pupils have the opportunity to perform with and lead chamber ensembles from Year 7.

STAHS offers Instrumental Scholarships in Year 7, Year 10 and Year 12.

Often, pupils applying for a scholarship in Year 7 are offered a Music Exhibition Award rather than a scholarship. These Exhibition Awards provide pupils with free tuition on up to two instruments and enable them to make enormous progress through Years 7, 8 and 9. Those offered an Exhibition Award may be invited by the Director of Music to re-audition for a Du Cane Instrumental Scholarship prior to joining Year 10.

*“One of my favourite memories is the Scholars' Concert and Recital. I love solo performances, so being able to play in a concert with the other Scholars and have it recorded onto a CD is a great experience every year. Performing for the public is a great opportunity to increase your skills in performing while also allowing others to enjoy your music.”*

Joan Alabi, Music Scholar, Year 10



### STAHS Du Cane Instrumental Scholars ...

- Have obtained at least Grade 5 on their principal instrument and Grade 3 on a second instrument OR Grade 7 on one instrument.
- Demonstrate a high ability in sight-reading and aural tests.
- Are passionate about developing their musical skills further in performance, composition and listening and appraising.
- Are committed to performing regularly in School ensembles and concerts and attending other events hosted by the Music Department.

### Assessment process for STAHS Instrumental Scholarships

- Application is by submission of an application form.
- Instrumental Scholarship candidates must perform one piece on each of their instruments and sing an unaccompanied song.
- Candidates will be tested in sight-reading and aural ability.
- Candidates will be interviewed by the Director of Music.

### Expectations of Instrumental Scholars

- Adequate progress is made on instruments (targets are set and worked towards with the support of the Director of Music).
- Routine attendance at rehearsals.

- Performance in most of the major concerts and events throughout the school year, with any absence agreed in advance with the Director of Music.
- Act as ambassadors for the School and the Music Department, for example by assisting with Open Days and Events.
- Positive engagement with masterclasses and individual tuition.
- Maintain a positive behaviour record, including good attendance, punctuality and excellent personal and academic conduct.
- Act as a role model to other pupils and be a credit to the School.

### Opportunities for Instrumental Scholars

- Participation in the Symphony Orchestra (and possibly Chamber Orchestra) and various choirs.
- Participation in a variety of ensembles and chamber music.
- Performing in a range of concerts.
- Receipt of specialist tuition and masterclasses.
- Invitation to professional concerts and recitals.
- Performance in School services, including those held off-site, for example at St Albans Abbey.
- Awards and recognition events.
- 10% tuition fee remission (although truly exceptional musicians may be awarded up to 25% tuition fee remission).



# THE STAHS DU CANE CHORAL SCHOLARSHIP

Available in Year 7 only

**Du Cane Choral Scholarships are currently awarded in Year 7, but as these cohorts move through the school, we will offer Choral Scholarships in Years 10 and 12.**

### **STAHS Choral Scholars ...**

- Demonstrate good intonation and a good developing vocal tone.
- Demonstrate a high ability in sight-singing and aural tests.
- Are passionate about developing their musical skills further in performance, composition and listening and appraising.

### **Assessment process for STAHS Choral Scholarships**

- Application is by submission of an application form.
- Candidates must perform two contrasting songs of their choice in any genre, which should have piano accompaniment. They will also have an opportunity to play a piece of their choice on an instrument.
- Candidates should also prepare a verse of one unaccompanied song such as a folk song.
- Candidates will be tested in sight-singing and aural ability.
- Candidates will be interviewed by the Director of Music.

### **Expectations of Choral Scholars**

- Adequate progress is made in music (targets are set and worked towards with the support of the Director of Music).

- Routine attendance at rehearsals.
- Performance in most of the major concerts and events throughout the school year, with any absence agreed in advance with the Director of Music.
- Act as ambassadors for the School and the Music Department, for example by assisting with Open Days and events.
- Positive engagement with masterclasses and individual tuition.
- Maintain a positive behaviour record, including good attendance, punctuality and excellent personal and academic conduct.
- Act as a role model to other pupils and be a credit to the School.

### **Opportunities for Choral Scholars**

- Participation in at least two of the School choirs.
- Participation in a consort group.
- Performing in a range of concerts.
- Receipt of specialist tuition and masterclasses.
- Invitation to professional concerts and recitals.
- Performance in School services, including those held off-site, for example at St Albans Abbey.
- Awards and recognition events.
- 10% tuition fee remission.





# THE STAHS SPORT SCHOLARSHIP

Available from Year 7



*As a Sport Scholar, I am part of the EASP programme that involves talks from external sporting experts – these are all really interesting and range from sports psychology to professional athletes. You also get allocated a mentor who you are able to work closely with and develop a great relationship with. You chat about your performance, set goals with them and break these goals into smaller steps. All of this really adds an extra focus that helps you develop and improve within your sport(s).*

Josie Sherman, Sport Scholar, Year 13

At STAHS, our philosophy is one of 'Sport for All', coupled with a pursuit of excellence. There are so many opportunities for pupils to enjoy recreational and competitive sport, both at the team and individual level. Whether attending strength and conditioning sessions through our Elite Athlete Support Programme, trying out new games in PE sessions, or playing in fixtures after school or at the weekend, sport is something that all STAHS pupils are involved in and benefit from. We know that competitive sport isn't for everyone, which is why we ensure that there are ample opportunities for girls to enjoy keeping fit and build healthy exercise habits for life.

Our primary sports are netball, lacrosse, cricket, swimming, aesthetics (gymnastics, trampolining and dance), tennis and athletics. The competitive Sports programme offers regular fixtures against other local and regional schools. STAHS both hosts and attends several tournaments throughout the year in various sports. The co-curricular programme also offers additional sports amongst other physical activities. We have a thriving inter-House sports competition and a brilliant annual Sports Day in which every girl is involved.

#### STAHS Sport Scholars ...

- Demonstrate an exceptional level of ability or potential in Sport.
- Display an enthusiasm and dedication to Sport that surpasses regular expectations.
- Have a passion and enthusiasm for learning and improving.

- Are reliable and make the most of opportunities for leadership in Sport.
- Are both individually motivated and excellent team players.
- Are actively participating in sport and playing at a competitive level (typically performing in their school's 'A team' for at least one of the major competitive sports available at STAHS, and for Sixth Form, typically playing at county level or above in at least one of the School's major competitive sports) or, for Year 7 Sport Scholars, in possession of significant potential.
- Are likely considering pursuing Sport beyond the Sixth Form.

#### Assessment process for STAHS Sport Scholarships

- Candidates must submit an application form and personal statement.
- Candidates must also submit a sporting portfolio and two sporting references (from a sports coach, Headteacher, Director of Sport or PE teacher who knows and can reliably comment on the candidate's sporting ability).
- Candidates will be assessed for motor ability and games sense and will also have a practical assessment in one or more of the main STAHS team sports.
- All candidates will have an individual or group interview with the Director of Sport or another member of the PE Department.
- Year 7 candidates will have a Q&A Session with the Sixth Form Sports Scholars and members of the STAHS Elite Athlete Support Programme.

#### Expectations of Sport Scholars

- Routine attendance at training sessions.
- Routine participation in fixtures and tournaments.
- Continued demonstration of exceptional sporting ability (for example, routinely represent the School in a Winter and Summer sport, one of which must be in an A team/equivalent).
- Demonstration of high standards of sportsmanship, both in routine training and games sessions and when representing the School at fixtures.
- Act as an ambassador for the School and for STAHS Sport, for example by assisting with Open Days and being welcoming to visiting sports teams at STAHS-hosted fixtures and events.
- Maintain a positive behaviour record, including good attendance, punctuality and excellent personal and academic conduct.
- Act as a role model to other pupils and be a credit to the School.

#### Opportunities for Sport Scholars

- Receipt of specialist 1:1 or small group mentoring and support.
- Opportunity to represent the School in a number of local, regional and national competitions.
- Participation in the Elite Athlete Support Programme.
- Sports leadership opportunities.
- Awards and recognition events.
- 10% tuition fee remission.

# APPLICATION AND ASSESSMENT

## YEAR 7

### STEP 1

- Prospective pupils should complete the standard registration form, pay the registration fee, and, where applicable, submit the application form for the scholarship they are pursuing by the deadline date in the autumn of the year preceding entry.
- Current STAHS pupils should complete the appropriate application form for the scholarship they are pursuing by the deadline date in the autumn of the year preceding the scholarship entry point.

### STEP 2

- School entry assessments for external candidates take place in January. Candidates will be informed of whether their scholarship application is being progressed to assessment stage by the end of December.
- Scholarship Assessment Days are held throughout January for both internal and external candidates.

### STEP 3

- Offers of School places for prospective candidates will be made in February and these will include the outcome of scholarship applications.
- Current STAHS pupils will receive the outcome of their scholarship applications in February.

### STEP 4

- External candidates: Acceptance of a place at STAHS and acceptance of any scholarship awarded, along with acceptance deposit, must be made by the deadline date in March.
- Internal candidates: Acceptance of any scholarship awarded must be made by the deadline date in March.

## YEAR 10

### STEP 1

- Prospective pupils should complete the standard registration form, pay the registration fee, and, where applicable, submit the application form for the scholarship they are pursuing by the deadline date in the autumn of the year preceding entry.
- Current STAHS pupils should complete the appropriate application form for the scholarship they are pursuing by the deadline date in the autumn of the year preceding the scholarship entry point.

### STEP 2

- Scholarship Assessment Days are held in November and December for both internal and external candidates. School entry assessments for external candidates take place in January.

### STEP 3

- Offers of School places for prospective pupils will be made in February and these will include the outcome of scholarship applications.
- Current STAHS pupils will receive the outcome of their scholarship applications in January.

### STEP 4

- External candidates: Acceptance of a place at STAHS and acceptance of any scholarship awarded, along with acceptance deposit, must be made by the deadline date in March.
- Internal candidates: Acceptance of any scholarship awarded must be made by the deadline date in January.

### YEAR 12

#### STEP 1

- Prospective pupils should complete the standard registration form, pay the registration fee, and, where applicable, submit the application form for the scholarship they are pursuing by the deadline date in the autumn of the year preceding entry.
- Current STAHS pupils should complete the appropriate application form for the scholarship they are pursuing by the deadline date in the autumn of the year preceding the scholarship entry point.

#### STEP 2

- Candidates will be informed of whether their scholarship application is being progressed to assessment stage by early November.
- Scholarship Assessment Days are held in November for both internal and external candidates.
- School entry assessments for external candidates take place in November.

#### STEP 3

- Offers of School places will be made in December and these will include the outcome of scholarship applications.
- Current STAHS pupils will receive the outcome of their scholarship applications in November.

#### STEP 4

- External Candidates: Acceptance of a place at STAHS and acceptance of any scholarship awarded, along with acceptance deposit, must be made by the deadline date in January.
- Internal Candidates: Acceptance of any scholarship awarded must be made by the deadline date in December.

# FAQS

Many common questions are addressed here, but should you require any additional information, please contact our Admissions team on [admissions@stahs.org.uk](mailto:admissions@stahs.org.uk) or 01727 792 509.

#### 1 Who can apply?

Scholarships are available to both internal and external candidates for entry into Year 7, Year 10 and Year 12 (Sixth Form). Most scholarships are available at all entry points, but Art and D&T Scholarships are only available for entry into Year 10 and Sixth Form. In exceptional circumstances, pupils may be considered for scholarship outside these entry points. We welcome scholarship applications from all interested families; however, even if your child meets the application criteria, this may not result in an invitation to attend the Assessment Days. Please provide as much detail as you can in the application form about your child's current performance to aid us in our selection process.

#### 2 What does a scholarship include?

Scholars are recognised by award of a tuition fee remission and access to the specific development pathway associated with the scholarship(s) awarded.

This provides additional support and opportunities for pupils to develop their passion for their subject or pursuit, to challenge them to set and achieve ambitious goals, and ensure their wellbeing by providing support with balancing the many competing demands on their time.

#### 3 Is there a scholarship assessment fee?

No. You only need to pay the registration fee at the point of initial application to STAHS. The scholarship assessment itself is considered part of the application procedure and is offered at no additional charge. Current STAHS pupils will have no application fee.

#### 4 Can a child apply for more than one scholarship?

Yes. It is possible to apply for more than one scholarship, provided the candidate meets the stated criteria for each. Successful pupils may hold the status of a multiple scholar. Any candidate applying for more than one scholarship may need to attend assessments on more than one day. The tuition fee remission associated with scholarships is non-cumulative; therefore, multiple scholarship holders will only receive the fee remission for one of their awards.

#### 5 How much funding will I receive?

STAHS scholarships carry a nominal tuition fee remission of 10%, in recognition of excellence in a pupil's particular area of scholarship. Many families very kindly donate this 10% tuition fee remission to the STAHS Bursary Fund, thus enabling us to offer a STAHS education to bright and talented young women for whom an independent education would otherwise be impossible. Families are encouraged to apply for Bursary funding should they require additional financial support for their child to attend STAHS. Bursary Awards are granted on the basis of financial need and offer support of up to 100% of tuition fees. For more information, please see the Bursaries page in the Admissions section of our website [stahs.org.uk/admissions](http://stahs.org.uk/admissions) or contact the Admissions team for details ([admissions@stahs.org.uk](mailto:admissions@stahs.org.uk)).

## FAQS

### 6 How long will the Awards last?

Once in receipt of a scholarship, a pupil is expected to retain the award for as long as they remain at STAHS and provided they continue to meet the requirements to keep their award. Scholarships are reviewed annually and pupil progress with respect to their scholarship is reported home.

### 7 What do I need to supply with my scholarship application?

Please read the application requirements carefully and ensure that all required references and portfolios are submitted with the application. If you are unsure of the requirements, please contact [admissions@stahs.org.uk](mailto:admissions@stahs.org.uk). Portfolios may be digital or physical, and all physical portfolios will be returned in good time.

### 8 My child is a pupil at STAHS Prep, but has not been selected for Academic Scholarship assessment – can I appeal this decision?

There is no ability to appeal this decision. However, if you would like your child to be considered for an Academic Scholarship and she has not been selected by the Prep School for assessment, you can ask for her to sit our entrance assessment. Your child will then be considered for invitation to the Academic Scholarship assessment based on her results in the entrance assessment.

### 9 If my child's scholarship application is not successful, will they have another opportunity to apply?

Yes. If your child is unsuccessful in obtaining a scholarship in Year 7, she may apply for any of the available scholarships ahead of joining Year 10 or Year 12. Past applications are not considered when assessing pupils for Year 10 or Sixth Form scholarships.

### 10 If my child's scholarship application is not successful, will this impact on their chance of admission to STAHS?

No. Admissions decisions and scholarship decisions are independent processes and are decided by separate panels.

### 11 If my child is offered a Scholarship Assessment, does this mean that they have been successful in their admission application for STAHS?

No. STAHS Scholarship Assessments are sometimes held before the Admissions Panel has met to make their admissions decisions. Therefore, it is possible that a child may be assessed for a scholarship and subsequently not be offered admission to STAHS.

### 12 Can I appeal the decision not to award my child a scholarship?

No. There is no scholarship appeals process.

### 13 Can I negotiate or appeal the level of funding awarded with my child's scholarship?

No. All STAHS scholarships are offered a nominal tuition fee remission of 10%, apart from a very small number of Du Cane Music Scholarships (typically only one per year across all entry points), which receive 25% tuition fee remission. If additional funding is required, families are encouraged to seek Bursary support. Additional information can be obtained from the Admissions team.

### 14 If my child is not awarded a scholarship, can she still participate in the scholarship activities?

There are numerous opportunities for all pupils to demonstrate scholarship even if they are not formally named a Scholar. STAHS is proud of the wide range of impressive accomplishments our pupils achieve, and we encourage and support all pupils in developing their skills, interests and leadership regardless of whether or not they have been awarded a scholarship.

Further details regarding the Terms and Conditions of STAHS scholarships can be found in the Admissions Policy and in the Bursaries and Scholarships related document available on the School's website at [stahs.org.uk/admissions](http://stahs.org.uk/admissions) or on request from the STAHS Admissions team ([admissions@stahs.org.uk](mailto:admissions@stahs.org.uk))





## **St Albans High School for Girls**

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