

13+ Oundle Scholarship Information

September 2025 entry

Oundelians do! They seize the opportunities around them and make the most of all that is on offer, inside the classroom and out. Oundle Scholars epitomise that ethos: pupils who throw themselves into life, give of their best to the benefit of others, and crucially, set the example for their peers to follow. Enthusiasm, commitment and curiosity characterise an Oundle Scholar. They are your pupils with a real energy and zest for School life. They commit to activities, particularly in the co-curricular sphere, and persevere until completion: whether that be in a cast upon the stage, an ensemble, a sports team (not always in the A or 1st team), or a project in the workshops. They exhibit an excitement and love of learning, not just in the classroom, but of new skills, ideas and experiences.

In return, our Oundle Scholarship programme aims to engage and inspire them. It spans the whole co-curriculum and exposes Scholars to the wide range of opportunities around them, sparking new interests and encouraging early participation in the breadth of Oundle life.

Scholarship Assessment: what to expect

It is an Oundle Scholar's personal characteristics and qualities that define them, as much as any skill or talent. In time they are likely to be heavily represented on our Prefect body and Heads of Houses. Our assessment programme is held over two days at Oundle in March, and involves a broad range of opportunities for potential Scholars to exhibit the qualities we seek: enthusiasm, teamwork, leadership potential and that indefinable spark and zest for life. The assessments involve formal and informal activities, as well as a one-to-one interview with a member of staff. It should not be a daunting experience, and candidates should come away having enjoyed a taste of Oundle life. Activities include a Drama workshop at the Stahl Theatre, an introduction to Debating, a Sports session, and a Leadership exercise with the CCF. We try to accommodate pupils in their prospective boarding House where possible.

Our programme for Award holders

During the Third Form (Year 9) we run a programme of activities to engage and inspire Oundle Scholars. Gathering twice every term, pupils are exposed to the wealth of opportunities on offer, with the Heads of Sport, Music, Drama and Debating all running bespoke sessions to seize and engage the pupils. We also run an Oundle Scholars trip to reward their engagement and encourage further participation. Where they have a particular talent in a main co-curricular discipline, we ensure that Oundle Scholars are given regular access to the specialist Scholar programmes, for example Music, Drama or Sport.

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