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Entry Requirements and Information

Pupils wishing to join either the First Form (Year 7) or Third Form (Year 9) at Sutton Valence School will be required to take the relevant online entrance examination.

Junior Entrance Examination (11+)

(For entry to First Form)

Sutton Valence Preparatory School candidates: Friday 18th November 2022
All other candidates: Saturday 19th November 2022

The examination consists of four multiple-choice online tests:

Maths 50 minutes Non-calculator

English 25 minutes Comprehension

Verbal Reasoning 36 minutes

Non-verbal Reasoning 32 minutes

Prospective pupils must be registered with the School in order to take the entrance examination.

Third Form Entry (13+)

All candidates wishing to join the Third Form (Year 9) at Sutton Valence School should sit the ISEB Pre-Test at their current preparatory school during the Michaelmas term of Year 6. This is an online test that follows the same format as the Junior Entrance Examination.

Prospective pupils must be registered with Sutton Valence School for a Deferred-Entry place in order to take the entrance examination.

Successful candidates will be offered Deferred-Entry Third Form places.

For any Third Form candidates who did not sit the ISEB Pre-Test in Year 6 at their current prep school, places will be offered (dependent upon availability) following academic scholarship assessments and Common Entrance (or equivalent) exams in the calendar year of entry to the School.

Common Entrance Examinations

(for September 2022)

Monday 5th - Friday 9th June 2023

Sutton Valence Scholarship Interview Dates

Junior Academic Scholarship interviews Saturday 10th December 2022

Senior Academic Scholarship (13+) Monday 20th February 2023

Sport (11+) Friday 7th October 2022 Sport (13+ and 16+) Friday 20th January 2023

Drama (11+) Saturday 8th October 2022 Drama (13+ and 16+) Saturday 28th January 2023

Music (11+) Saturday 8th October 2022 Music (13+ and 16+) Saturday 28th January 2023

Art (11+) Friday 7th October 2022 Art (13+ and 16+) Friday 27th January 2023

Design and Technology (11+) Friday 7th October 2022
Design and Technology (13+ and 16+) Friday 27th January 2023

Candidates may enter a maximum of two non-academic assessments.

Please note that the closing dates for applications are as follows:

11+ Scholarships Friday 23rd September 2022

13+ and 16+ Sport Scholarships Friday 6th January 2023

13+ and 16+ Scholarships Friday 13th January 2023

Art, Design and Technology, Drama and Music

13+ Academic Scholarships Monday 6th February 2023

Sutton Valence Scholarships

Scholarships are awarded to those pupils who show outstanding ability and potential in one or more of the following areas - Academic, Art, Drama, Design and Technology, Music or Sport. Further details of expectations and assessments are shown on the following pages.

Junior Academic Scholarships may be offered to those pupils who perform well in the Junior Entrance Examination. These pupils will not have to sit another examination, but they may be required to attend an Academic Scholarship interview.

The closing date for all scholarship applications is two weeks before the relevant assessment date. To obtain the necessary application form, please see the Admissions section of the School website or contact Mrs Kathy Webster on 01622 845206 or email websterk@svs.org.uk.

Academic Scholarships

During their time at Sutton Valence School, Academic Scholars are guided to meet their full potential in terms of examination results at GCSE and A Level. With the expert assistance of their Tutor, Housemaster or Housemistress and individual Heads of Department, they will be challenged and encouraged to excel.

Academically their progress is also monitored by the Head of Academic Scholars to ensure that appropriate levels of effort and achievement are being maintained.

In the cultural and social sphere of School life, their experience and knowledge is extended through the Kingdon Society. Our excellent pupil to staff ratio aims to guarantee our Scholars the personal and professional attention their talents deserve.

The Head of Academic Scholars provides leadership and support for all Academic Scholars. Consequently, the School builds a strong sense of community amongst its Scholars; developing a sense of pride in their academic achievements and enhances and promotes their profile within the whole School community, where all delight in their achievement. In addition, the Head of Academic Scholars acts as the 'champion' of these students and of all high-achieving students within the School by creating and sustaining positive attitudes towards them and ensuring good provision for them.

The School has the following expectations of Academic Scholars:

- To achieve the highest possible academic standards across the range of disciplines which will be demonstrated through consistently high effort and attainment grades over monitoring periods;
- To set a positive example to their peers regarding dress, punctuality and demeanour. Scholars will be respectful and helpful to all students, staff and visitors to the School;
- To arrive to every lesson promptly with all of the appropriate equipment and be ready to take a leading role within the classroom environment and in the year group generally;
- To be able to undertake independent work to support their studies in the classroom;
- To participate in 'in-house' and national academic competitions at appropriate times of the year.

In return for their efforts, Academic Scholars will be:

- Invited to attend the Kingdon Society to hear guest speakers on various topics once per term;
- Provided with a programme that stretches and monitors their academic progress whilst also nurturing their broader development;
- Invited to attend the annual Scholar's Dinner.

In addition, individual subject Scholars are expected to:

- Achieve the highest possible academic standards;
- To plan and be available for all scholarship subject commitments;
- To put School before outside activities.

Sports Scholarships

Candidates who wish to be considered for a Sports Scholarship or Exhibition will be invited to attend an assessment day where they will be expected to undergo a variety of tests in several sports – the aim being to examine both skill and fitness. Additionally, they will attend an interview with a specialist member of the Games Department.

Sports Scholarships are competitive and are likely to be won by very strong sportsmen and sportswomen with strong performances in more than one sport. Sports Exhibitions may be awarded to candidates who have demonstrated the potential to reach county standard in one major sport.

Recommendations from current headmasters, school PE staff and/or club coaches will be requested.

All candidates will have a short meeting with the Headmaster who will decide upon the value of each scholarship, which may be offset against day, full and part-boarding fees.

The Director of Sport, Mark Howell, will be happy to discuss any of the above information or to meet prospective scholarship candidates and their parents.

Email: howellm@svs.org.uk

Art Scholarships

Sutton Valence School continues to provide exciting opportunities for Art Scholars and consistently high grades at GCSE and A Level have provided good foundations for future progression. There are permanent displays of pupils' work throughout the School and regular visits to exhibitions and galleries provide interest and inspiration.

The value of each scholarship is at the discretion of the Headmaster and can be offset against day, full and part-boarding fees.

All awards will be dependent upon:

- A demonstration of considerable natural talent in drawing and painting from familiar experience rather than fantasy. Cartoon work or other forms of copying will not be regarded as favourable. Examples of craft work e.g. weaving, model making will also help make a good impression;
- An above average academic performance in the Junior Entrance Examination.

Candidates will be asked to come to School for a short practical session and interview with the Head of Art. They will be expected to bring with them a portfolio of their own work as well as any 3D pieces. This session would last about an hour and would take place prior to the Junior Entrance Examination.

The Head of Art, Martin Thompson, will be happy to discuss any of the above information or to meet prospective scholarship candidates and their parents.

Email: thompsonm@svs.org.uk

Drama Scholarships

All applicants are required to prepare two pieces from the list below, one of which must be a play:

- Two contrasting pieces (not Shakespeare);
- Post-1900 plays;
- Musical excerpt or extract (whichever is preferred);
- Dance.

Candidates must provide their own music where appropriate.

Pieces must be performed from memory and should give the opportunity for dramatic interpretation. Each entire performance must last no longer than five minutes.

All applicants will be required to:

- Participate in a group workshop;
- Perform their pieces before the group;

and may be asked to:

- Participate in a viva voce on their chosen extracts;
- Sight-read a short piece.

The chosen pieces should be contrasting, in order to allow applicants to show a wide range of performance skills. If a musical excerpt or dance is presented, it must show a sense of character. Poetry is not recommended as this often leads to a static presentation.

Please bring with you comfortable clothing which is suitable for the workshop (for example jeans and soft shoes). In addition, please bring simple costume for your piece, if you wish, together with a copy of your play extract(s).

All candidates will have a short meeting and/or interview with the Headmaster who will decide upon the value of each scholarship, which may be offset against day, full and part-boarding fees.

The Head of Drama, Ben Fewson, will be happy to discuss any of the above information or to meet prospective scholarship candidates and their parents.

Email: fewsonb@svs.org.uk

Music Scholarships

All Music Scholars will be expected to actively participate in the School's wide range of musical activities. These will include Chapel Choir for both instrumental and choral award holders and Orchestra for instrumental award holders. Involvement in Chamber Ensembles, where appropriate, will be encouraged. The value of each scholarship is at the discretion of the Headmaster and can be offset against day, full and part-boarding fees.

Instrumental Awards

Candidates are expected to be of Grade 4 standard.

Orchestral players will be particularly welcome. Ideally candidates will offer either two instruments or one instrument and voice.

The audition will comprise:

- Performance of one piece on principal instrument;
- Sight reading and aural tests;

- Performance of one piece on second instrument or voice;
- General music interview including discussion of past musical activities and future ambitions.

Choral Awards

Candidates are expected to be of Grade 3 standard.

Please note that we are aware that many children do not take formal singing lessons. It is suggested that the Associated Board syllabus for the appropriate grade is consulted when selecting audition pieces. Successful candidates must show clear potential.

The audition will comprise:

- Performance of one accompanied piece (accompanist will be provided);
- Performance of one unaccompanied folksong;
- Sight reading and aural tests;
- General musical interview, including discussion of past musical activities and future ambitions.

All candidates will have a short meeting or interview with the Headmaster.

The Director of Music, Philip Horley, will be happy to discuss any of the above information or to meet prospective scholarship candidates and their parents.

Email: horleyp@svs.org.uk

Design and Technology Scholarship

Candidates will be expected to have had an introduction to the following topics at a level appropriate to the National Curriculum requirements:

- Materials and components;
- Mechanisms;
- Structures;
- Simple electronics;
- Energy.

It is expected that candidates will have acquired their capability through a series of related tasks which will include:

- Product analysis and evaluation (Disassembly);
- Focussed tasks in which designing and making skills are developed (Resource tasks);
- Practical projects in which pupils design and make quality products (Capability tasks).

Candidates should have exceptional ability in the following areas:

- Creativity, imagination and innovation;
- Graphical presentation and communication;
- Problem solving;
- Care and attention to detail when working with a range of materials.

In addition, candidates will be expected to compile a body of work, prior to interview, which will form part of the discussion with the Head of Design and Technology.

This work should be made up from coursework undertaken at school, as well as any work compiled as part of a hobby or interest. It may cover any topic or topics and be presented in any appropriate format.

All candidates will have a short meeting and/or interview with the Headmaster who will decide upon the value of each scholarship, which may be offset against day, full and part-boarding fees.

The Head of Design and Technology, Simon Kirk, will be happy to discuss any of the above information or to meet prospective scholarship candidates and their parents.

Email: kirks@svs.org.uk

Frequently Asked Questions

Who can apply?

Scholarships and Exhibitions are available to candidates entering at 11+, 13+ and 16+. Applicants will need to be available to come to the School on specific dates for assessment during the academic year prior to entry. Internal candidates cannot apply but can be recommended by the respective Head of Department.

How do I apply?

All candidates must be registered with the School before applying for a Scholarship. A Scholarship application form can then be downloaded from the School website. The completed and signed application form should be returned to the Admissions Office. Please note that the closing date for applications is two weeks before the assessment date.

Do I need to speak with my child's current Headteacher?

We recommend that applications have the support of your child's Headteacher or Head of Department. Just before the assessment date we will write to your child's school for a reference.

Can my child apply for more than one scholarship?

Candidates may apply for up to two individual subject assessments: Sport, Music, Drama, Art or Design and Technology. Candidates joining the School at 13+ may also apply for an Academic Scholarship. Assessments will include a brief interview or meeting with the Headmaster. Any candidate applying for more than one scholarship may need to return to the School on more than one occasion. Junior Academic Scholarships may be offered to those pupils who perform well in the Junior Entrance Examination. These pupils will not have to sit another exam but they will be required to attend for interview.

Is there a fee?

No. You only need to pay the Registration Fee at the point of initial application to the School.

How much funding will I receive?

Individual subject awards are generous. The value of each scholarship is at the discretion of the Headmaster with the percentage offered being applicable to either day, full or part boarding fees. Holders of an Academic Scholarship who also gain an individual subject award may have their total percentage increased to up to twice the value of the individual subject award. Any further financial assistance may be available via a means-tested bursary.

How long will the awards last?

The scholarship awards will last for the duration of the pupil's time at the School, provided they fulfil the criteria of the award.