



CHELTENHAM  
LADIES'  
COLLEGE

# SIXTH FORM ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP

## FOR ENTRY INTO SIXTH FORM IN SEPTEMBER 2027

Being a Scholar is a position of honour at College. Those who earn the title will play a key role in the life of College and will enjoy a world of opportunities from which they can enrich and expand their talent and level of performance.

Being named an Academic Scholar at College is a mark of distinction that recognises not only outstanding academic ability but also a deep commitment to curiosity, critical thinking, and the life of the mind. Our Scholars are at the heart of intellectual life at College. They are leaders of thought, contributors to lively debate, and drivers of progress. They shape our culture as much as they are shaped by it.

At College, we are deeply invested in the Academic Scholarship Programme and continue to evolve it to reflect the fast-moving world of ideas. We want every Scholar to unlock their full potential, not only in their subjects but as thinkers, innovators, and global citizens.

## THE ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME

Our programme is designed to stretch, challenge and inspire. Scholars are given access to a rich landscape of opportunities designed to cultivate intellectual risk-taking, resilience, and independent thought.

In the classroom, teachers are encouraged to tailor their teaching to stretch our most able pupils. Departments provide unique opportunities to explore beyond the curriculum, and Scholars are recognised for their ability to question, debate, and expand the learning of those around them.

Beyond the classroom, Scholars engage in a vibrant programme of enrichment activities under the banner of **Forum42**. Weekly TED-style talks given by pupils spark discussion and debate on topics ranging from *"Should the UK still have an army?"* to *"Can science disprove free will?"* Our much-loved *Three Humans on a Sofa* event sees staff debating provocative questions—recent examples include *"Can science ever be separate from politics or economics?"* and *"Do prisons work?"*

Scholars also attend masterclasses led by young academics, with recent themes including *"Who owns health?"* and *"How fiction shapes real life."* Inspirational guest speakers, artists, scientists, activists, and entrepreneurs, join us regularly, with pupils invited to host them for supper. Recent talks have included *"Art Behind Bars,"* *"Tracking Gorillas,"* and *"Adding Colour: Diversity in British Cinema."*

Opportunities also include national essay competitions, MOOCs, and podcasts, alongside a bespoke six-week academic mentoring project. Past mentees have explored how to code a Mars lander's descent or written policy recommendations to improve the law for children in care. Most importantly, Scholars are encouraged to reflect on their journey, build confidence in their voice, and contribute to the intellectual life of the College community.

**Please note: Academic Scholarships are honorary and do not carry any fee remission.**

## **HOW TO APPLY & ASSESSMENT**

All applicants are carefully considered as part of a competitive selection process. Following the completion of entrance assessments, applications are reviewed in detail, taking into account academic potential, engagement with their chosen subjects, and suitability for the programme. Selected candidates will then be invited to take part in a further stage of assessment.

### **Shortlisted candidates will be asked to:**

- ▶ Attend an online interview with a Head of Department, providing an opportunity to discuss their academic interests.
- ▶
- ▶ Take part in an academic discussion on a subject chosen in advance by the Head of Department. Candidates will be provided with a question or stimulus material beforehand, allowing them time to prepare their thoughts and develop their ideas.
- ▶
- ▶ Demonstrate their enthusiasm for learning, intellectual curiosity, and ability to engage critically with new concepts and perspectives during the discussion.

**OUTCOMES WILL BE COMMUNICATED ALONGSIDE OFFER DECISIONS.**