



CHELTENHAM
LADIES'
COLLEGE

LC3 SPORT SCHOLARSHIP

FOR ENTRY IN SEPTEMBER 2026

achieving the position of sport scholar is a significant honour and recognises students with exceptional talent but also exemplary attitude. Those who earn the title will play a key role in shaping the sporting culture of College and receive support to enrich and expand their talent and level of performance.

We are continuously reviewing and enhancing the scholarship programme to ensure pupils develop and fulfil their potential during their time with us. Our opportunities are designed to empower pupils to maximise their sporting journeys. Delivered by a range of professionals, we pride ourselves on underpinning all our interactions with contemporary research.

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

We know that the view of talent in any given sport is an ever-changing landscape. National Governing Bodies of Sport (NGBs) are consistently evolving their talent pathways and programmes. What counts as talent one year may differ to the next. Equally, most sporting disciplines have athlete development models that explicitly require young athletes to specialise later, making sport specific talent harder to discern effectively, especially at the younger age groups. There are a wide range of factors that influence the rates at which young people develop sporting talent, for example physical maturity with a single year cohort based on date of birth (relative-age effect). In short, it's a complex picture and not as simple as who is stronger, faster and 'better' at 12, 13 or 14 years old.

At CLC, our view is that every pupil has potential. We are committed to supporting all pupils to explore and fulfil this potential, with lifelong engagement in activity at the heart of this. We will support all pupils through this journey whether they go on to become a confident gym user, a committed club competitor or an Olympic/Paralympic champion. Our approach to fulfilling potential becomes more specialised as they mature, and their sport specific talent develops.

Those gaining a scholarship for entry to Sixth Form would need to demonstrate significant athletic ability. As a guide when considering whether to apply, we would expect potential sports scholars to be a strong regional performer in at least one sport or physical activity. However, we know that 'regional' level differs greatly between activities, and in some cases there is no designation of 'regional' level. This expectation should therefore be considered as a guide and not a fixed requirement.

CLC offers a diverse range of sports and activities, but we generally prefer scholars to excel in sports where we have stronger involvement. This allows us to effectively provide ongoing support to scholars. These sports include hockey, lacrosse, netball, tennis, athletics, dance, equestrianism, skiing and swimming.

However, our sports offerings are continuously expanding, and there isn't a fixed list of sports we consider for scholarships.

What matters to us most is our ability to support a scholar in reaching her potential in her chosen sport(s), and therefore, each case is evaluated on its unique merits. If you have questions regarding specific sports, please contact our sports scholar leads, Miss H Clarke (clarkeh@cheltladiescollege.org) and Mr S Padley (padleys@cheltladiescollege.org).

EXPECTATIONS OF AND FOR SPORT SCHOLARS

Scholars will have the opportunity to train and perform regularly both as team members and as individuals. Specialist teachers are available for a range of different activities and a comprehensive programme of events that enhances the sporting life of college are planned each year. Scholars will receive additional support, not limited to; 1:1 mentoring, strength and conditioning support, workshops and seminars, discounted physio and paid places on pre-season training camps.

Scholars will champion their sport by participating in college, and inter-house matches alongside external clubs and national pathways. Their conduct in sport, in competition and in training must be of the highest order. They should lead by example by being ambassadors to guests, opponents and peers. It is important that a sport scholar has the leadership skills, motivation, temperament, character and mind-set to cope with, and excel, in this high-profile role.

We set out with an expectation that those successful will retain the 'scholar' designation throughout their time at CLC. This reflects our belief that a journey in sport has its 'ups and downs' and we are not predisposed to judge periods of turbulent sporting performance. This echoes back to our central premise of supporting both ability and potential.

That said, we reserve the right to remove the scholar designation, and this will be reviewed annually, based on a Sports Scholar fulfilling the above responsibilities and satisfactorily meeting the criteria below:

- Achieving the mutually agreed targets set out at termly mentoring sessions; and
- Continuing to uphold College's sporting ethos and values

HOW TO APPLY AND ASSESSMENT

To apply you will need to complete the following application form. Please complete it as fully as possible. This document, alongside further diligence from us, allows us to determine who we will invite to an assessment day.

Applications should be submitted to the Admissions Department (Y9admissions@cheltladiescollege.org) by **3rd November 2025**. Late applications will not be considered.

The assessment day is the second part of our decision-making process and allows us to put the applicants in an environment to examine their sport specific ability. They will also undertake a series of activities that allow us insight into both their wider physical and mental attributes, including, but not limited to; physical competency and fundamental movement skills, strength and flexibility, attitude, motivations, ability to respond to feedback ('coachability') and self-reflection.

All Sport Scholarship candidates will be invited to attend an assessment day at CLC week commencing **Monday 9th February 2026**.

LC3 SPORT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM

FOR ENTRY IN SEPTEMBER 2026

College will process this form in accordance with our Privacy Notice: www.cheltladiescollege.org/privacy

Applicant's first name:	
Applicant's surname:	
Current school:	

SPORTING BACKGROUND

For the sport(s) that you are regularly compete in and consider to be your strongest discipline(s), please complete the more detailed information sections with regards to these.

MAIN SPORT:

Playing level:

- School:*
- County:*
- Regional :*
- National:*
- International:*
- Other (Please State)* _____

Please indicate playing position / ranking / rating / stroke / times / distance etc. (where appropriate)

Representative honours and / or notable achievements

Details of any other sporting experiences in this sport

What do you want to achieve in this sport?

SECOND SPORT:

Playing level:

- School:*
- County:*
- Regional :*
- National:*
- International:*
- Other (Please State)*

Please indicate playing position / ranking / rating / stroke / times / distance etc. (where appropriate)

Representative honours and / or notable achievements

Details of any other sporting experiences in this sport

What do you want to achieve in this sport?

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Are there any other sports in which you have trained and play regularly?

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Please summarise, within a 500-word limit, your performance targets for the future. We expect to see plans for the 2026/27 academic year, a five-year outlook, and a lifetime ambition.

What do you believe you would offer to CLC as a Sport Scholar?

Signature of applicant: _____ Date: _____

Signature of parent: _____ Date: _____

WHAT TO DO NOW

Please send the completed application form and two Coach references, via email, to:

Y9admissions@cheltladiescollege.org

If you have any queries or questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Sport Scholar Lead, Miss Hannah Clarke (clarkeh@cheltladiescollege.org).

The closing date is **3rd November 2025**.



YEAR 9 (LC3) SPORT SCHOLARSHIP REFERENCE FORM – CONFIDENTIAL

To whom it may concern:

One of our Sport Scholarship applicants has named you as a referee. In order to progress their submission, we would be grateful if you could complete the questions below and include anything else which you feel might be of importance. Thank you for your time.

Applicant's name:	
Name of referee:	
Name of school or club:	
Email address:	

INFORMATION ON THE CANDIDATE

How long have you known the applicant and in what capacity?
What is their current playing standard in their main sport(s)?
How often is the applicant involved in these activities each week?

Please comment on the candidate's sporting ability and achievements. Include any observations about their input and enthusiasm and any other areas that might be relevant to her suitability for a Sport Scholarship at CLC.

YOUR PERSPECTIVE ON THEIR SPORTING POTENTIAL

Does the applicant have the ability and temperament to develop further? To what extent do you see this happening?

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please include here any further information that you feel is relevant to their application.

Please complete and return, by the closing date of **3rd November 2025** to:
Y9admissions@cheltladiescollege.org

If you have any queries or questions, please do not hesitate to contact our Sport Scholar Lead, Miss Hannah Clarke (clarkeh@cheltladiescollege.org).