



GORDON'S SCHOOL

PIPES AND DRUMS SCHOLARSHIPS



Gordon's School has fully qualified coaching staff serving all age groups. Students take part in a number of plays, musicals, concerts, trips and competitions.

Creative Arts Scholarships are offered to students demonstrating excellence and potential in their nominated field. Students follow a carefully balanced programme, and this is reflected in the scholarship process. In addition to Creative Art Assessments, we also monitor students' creative competency. Music candidates are expected to have at least a Grade 7 in their chosen specialism.

WHAT WE OFFER:

A-Level:

- Drama and Theatre Studies
- Music
- Art
- Photography

An elite and extensive Co-Curricular Programme:

- Drama
- Music
- Art
- Dance
- MUN
- Debating
- Public Speaking
- Musical Theatre

Facilities:

- Two drama black room studio suites
- A state of the art theatre
- Two dedicated music classrooms
- Individual music practice rooms
- Separate LAMDA rooms
- Two dedicated art rooms
- A dedicated band room for Pipes and Drums

Rated Outstanding by Ofsted

AS A CREATIVE ARTS SCHOLAR YOU WILL ENJOY:

- Pre-Season Workshops
 - A Creative Arts-Specific Mentor
 - Guidance with goal setting, reviewing and performance video analysis.
 - Preparation for the next step of your Creative Arts journey
 - An enhanced sense of transferable leadership qualities and the opportunities to put your leadership skills into practice
 - Specific 1-1 Creative Art skill sessions.
 - University experience
 - Qualifications in leadership and/or Gold Arts Award (UCAS Points)
 - Support with applying to specialist schools through UCAS and Conservatoires
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ACADEMIC RESULTS

A LEVELS (2026)

36% of entries were graded A* - A

71% of entries were graded A* - B

91% of entries were graded A* - C

BTECS (2026)

62% of entries were graded D*-D

89% of entries were graded D*-M





ALUMNI

CLASS OF 2019

- RADA
BA Acting
- LAMDA
BA Acting
- University of London
BA Journalism
Columnist for Daily Mail
- Exeter University
BA Drama
- York University
BA Music
- University of York
BA Music

CLASS OF 2020

- Bath University
BA Drama with Lighting Specialism
- University of Winchester
BA Popular Music: Production and Performance
- University of Leeds
BA Music
- Royal Holloway
BA History and Music
- University of Birmingham
BA Music
- University of Creative Arts
BA Fashion Business and Management
- University of Southampton
BA Film

CLASS OF 2021

- BIMM Institute
BA Music Business and Event Management
- *University of Bristol*
BA Music
- University of Chichester
BA Fine Art
- University of Salford
BA Film Production

CLASS OF 2022

- Birmingham Conservatoire
BA Acting
- Leeds Conservatoire
BA Musical Theatre
- Leeds Conservatoire
BA Actor Musician
- BIMM institute
BA Musical Theatre and Dance
- Cardiff University
BA Music and Mathematics
- BIMM Institute
BA Musical Theatre and Dance
- Lancaster University
BA Film
- University of Portsmouth
BA Film production

CLASS OF 2023

- Bristol Old Vic
BA Acting
- University of

ALUMNI

Buckinghamshire
BA Costume Design and Making

- University of York
BA History of Art

CLASS OF 2024

- London College of Contemporary Music
BA Music Performance and Production
- Guildford School of Acting
BA Acting
- BIRD
BA Musical Theatre
- Performers
BA Musical Theatre and Dance
- Mountview
BA Acting
- LIPA
BA Actor Musician
- London College of Contemporary Music
BA Music Performance and Production
- University of the Arts London
BA Graphic Communication Design

CLASS OF 2025

- East 15
BA Musical Theatre
- Wilkes Academy
BA Musical Theatre and Dance

- BIMM University
BA Music Production and Music Business
- Birmingham Conservatoire
BA Acting
- University of the Arts London
BA Fashion Marketing and Content Creation
- Escape Studios
BA The Art of Computer Animation (2D)
- University of the Arts London
BA Fashion Journalism and Content Creation
- University of Portsmouth
BA Film Production

CLASS OF 2026

- Laines
BA Dance
- Birmingham Conservatoire
BA Acting
- East 15
BA Hons in Acting and Physical Theatre
- University of Birmingham
BA in Film and Television
- Durham University
English Literature that involves script writing
- Warwick University
BA Engineering (with a view to go into Mechanical Set Design)



THE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME

- This programme is managed by the Subject Lead Iona Scotson (iscotson@gordons.school). Please contact her directly with any questions.

	Year 12	
Psychology Test	Two per year	Psychology test taken by students to identify improvement area outside of skillset
1-1 Skills Session	Three sessions bi-weekly	Specifically tailored 1-1 session with a professional coach – across three terms
Video Analysis (excluding Art and Photography)	One per term	Coach and scholar analysing performance
1-1 Mentor Meeting	One meeting bi-weekly	Meeting with Subject Lead to discuss current progress and future development – across three terms
Participation	Weekly	Scholar should be participating in major Creative Arts events (see calendar) as well as all Period 0-8 Co-Curricular provision
Leadership	Weekly	Scholar should be leading and assisting with an event or project occurring within the Creative Arts. This should be counted towards their Gold Arts Award +1
University/ Conservatoire Experience	Annually	Scholar should aim to attend at least one subject-specific university visit where they will take part in a Q&A, tour and potential workshop
Workshops, Talks, Trips	At least one per year	Scholar should aim to attend tailored workshops, trips and talks focused on their discipline throughout the year
Scholar Reports	Two per year	Scholars will receive a detailed report on their progress and next steps advice

	Year 13	
Psychology Test	Two per year	Psychology test taken by students to identify improvement area outside of skillset
1-1 Skills Session	Three sessions bi-weekly	Specifically tailored 1-1 session with a professional coach – across two terms extended to three if going into that specialism for further education



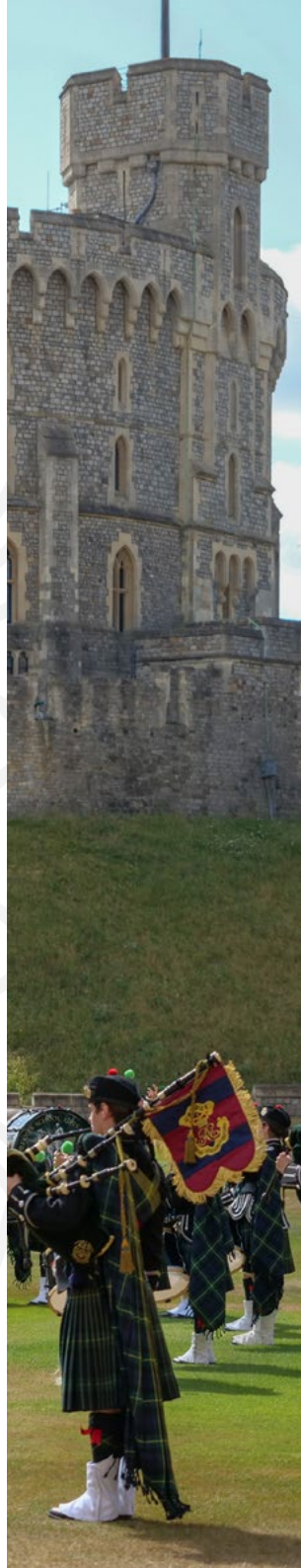
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VIDEO ANALYSIS (EXCLUDING ART AND PHOTOGRAPHY)

- Video analysis is a tool to develop awareness and knowledge of technique and performance. Video analysis sessions will be scheduled and purposefully planned for self-evaluation

PSYCHOLOGY TEST

- Every Scholar completes a psychology test at the start of the programme. This is to identify the mental strengths and weakness of each student. Once identified, throughout the year, within the mentor sessions as well as the 1-1 skills sessions these psychological aspects can be progressed. Another assessment is taken later during the year to assess if progress has been made.





THE SELF ASSESSMENT QUESTIONNAIRE

Gordon's School Creative Arts Psychology Programme

Thinking about your art discipline, please answer the questions below on a scale of 1-5.

1 Strongly Disagree	2 Disagree	3 Not Sure	4 Agree	5 Strongly Agree
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I'm confident in my own ability to perform well

1	2	3	4	5
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I understand how I can improve

1	2	3	4	5
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I remain positive despite setbacks

1	2	3	4	5
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I feel the coach(es) could improve me as a performer

1	2	3	4	5
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I have clear goals for what I want to achieve

1	2	3	4	5
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I have a routine that prepares me for auditions / performances

1	2	3	4	5
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I am able to see things from other people's perspective

1	2	3	4	5
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If I have trouble understanding, I persevere with it until I learn

1	2	3	4	5
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I am good at coping with the pressure on me to perform well

1	2	3	4	5
---	---	---	---	---

I know what my strengths and areas of weakness are

1	2	3	4	5
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I am good at bouncing back from setbacks and failures

1	2	3	4	5
---	---	---	---	---

I listen to feedback and use it to get better

1	2	3	4	5
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I recognise how my behaviour affects others				
1	2	3	4	5
I don't feel anxious before auditions/performances				
1	2	3	4	5

EVENT PARTICIPATION, LEADERSHIP AND VOLUNTEERING EXPECTATIONS

A Creative Arts Scholar would be expected to attend and support the below:

Winter Term

- 24 Hour Musical (Participation, Leadership and Volunteering)
- Key Stage 3 Musical (Volunteering and Leadership)
- Steinway Piano Recital (Participating and Volunteering)
- Carol Service (Participating and Volunteering)

Spring Term

- Senior Musical (Participation, Leadership and Volunteering)
- Spring Concert (Participation and Volunteering)
- Dance Show

Summer Term

- Senior and Junior Play Evening
- Summer Arts
- Dance Festival

CO-CURRICULAR EXPECTATIONS

- Attend - Period 0's for Pipes and Drums and Music – Leadership Opportunities
- Attend at least two Period 7s per week in specialist subject – Leadership Opportunities
- Attend Period 8 for Pipes and Drums and Music – Leadership Opportunities





STAFF BIOGRAPHIES

IONA SCOTSON - SENIOR PIPE MAJOR

Iona began learning the practice chanter at the age of three under the guidance of her father and quickly developed a lifelong passion for music. While the bagpipes are her principal instrument, she is also an accomplished pianist and violinist, having achieved Grade 8 in both. In addition, she enjoys singing and can play the tin whistle and accordion.

From the age of 13, Iona became actively involved in teaching within the Pipe Bands she belonged to, inspiring a lasting commitment to passing on the traditions, culture and heritage of piping. Alongside her musical pursuits, she trained in both Highland and Irish dancing, competing at national level in Highland Dancing.

Throughout her career, Iona has performed at prestigious events including the Nanchang Tattoo and the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo. She has shared the stage with renowned artists and performed before Queen Elizabeth II and King Charles III. More recently, she has led school pipe band performances at the Tartan Day Parade in New York, as well as venues including Westminster Abbey, St Paul's Cathedral and Windsor Castle. Beyond music, Iona has a keen interest in genealogy, history, languages, and Scottish and Irish culture.

NATIONAL PIPING CENTRE

A world-leading organisation at the forefront of the growth and increased popularity of piping and the wider traditional music community, establishing further and higher education programmes with partners including The University of Glasgow, The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland and The University of the Highlands and Islands. Through a partnership with the National Piping Centre, scholars receive one to one tuition with up to two different world-class players on areas of their own choosing.





TIMELINE

Sixth Form Open Evenings:
29 September and 8 October 2026

DEADLINES

Sixth Form Deadline:
6 November 2026

Scholarship Deadline:
31 October 2026

ASSESSMENT

Scholarship Assessment:
23 November 2026



Gordon's School, West End, Surrey, GU24 9PT
www.gordons.school