

CHELtenham
COLLEGE

Becoming an Award Holder



Becoming an Award Holder



Excellence is encouraged in both academic and co-curricular aspects of College life. One of the main vehicles for such encouragement is the offer of College Awards in the form of Scholarships and Exhibitions, awarded at 13+ or 16+. College Awards include Academic, Art, Drama, Music and Sport. Scholarships are awarded for outstanding performance and ability in a chosen field and Exhibitions for excellent talent and potential.

Scholars are presented with a cerise tie and Exhibitioners are presented with a black and cerise tie, making them visible throughout College.

College has high expectations of Award holders and they are expected to have an encouraging attitude towards learning and collaboration in their chosen field and throughout all of their classes at College. In addition to exhibiting excellence and flair in their field of expertise, they are expected to utilise opportunities to develop and take on leadership positions.

Academic Awards

College has high expectations of Award holders and they are expected to demonstrate a positive attitude across all subjects and extra-curricular involvement. In addition to exhibiting intellectual curiosity, high attainment in all exams and a high level of interest and application, they are expected to utilise opportunities to develop and take on leadership positions. Academic Award holders must be role models of exemplary conduct and work ethic in lessons and prep.

13+ Academic Awards

Academic Awards are presented at 13+ for exceptional performance or potential demonstrated in the 13+ Academic Scholarship papers; the quality of an Award holder might emerge across a paper, or in the way a candidate has handled particular problems.

Awards will be presented either for exceptional performance in at least two subjects, or on the basis of a very strong performance overall in all subjects. To be eligible for a 13+ Academic Award, candidates must sit and pass all the papers. These papers include English, Mathematics, Science, Latin, General Humanities and French or Spanish.

Each year, College awards two honorary 13+ Academic Awards to the strongest candidates. These are the Lord James of Hereford Scholarship and the Prain Scholarship.

The Lord James of Hereford Scholarship rewards an individual who exhibits all-round academic excellence and is awarded to the candidate who performs the best overall in the scholarship papers.

The Prain Scholarship rewards a particular ability in both Science and Mathematics.

16+ Academic Awards

16+ Academic Awards are presented to those who excel in papers taken in their three chosen subjects to be studied at A Level. Papers are designed to assess potential and do not test knowledge of a particular syllabus. The assessment also includes an interview.

For more information about the process of applying for an Academic Award, please contact admissions@cheltenhamcollege.org

Being an Academic Award holder is more than achieving good grades, it is about working hard, getting involved and having a passion for your subjects that goes beyond the classroom.





James

I started College in Third Form and several years later was awarded an Academic Award for 16+. This was recognition for my work in class and my utilisation of all of the opportunities that College provides. I am heavily involved with Societies that I am passionate about, including Business and Economics, Modern Languages and Mathematics, and I assist in running the Upper College Society.

I felt very proud when I was awarded an Academic Award as I felt that the dedication, leadership and enthusiasm that I had been demonstrating throughout my time at College had been recognised.

I think that it is important when considering becoming an Award holder that you understand the work and commitment that is expected of you. If you see this as a daunting task and something that you wouldn't want to naturally get involved in, then I would recommend that you take time to carefully consider your choice.

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Chloe

Before starting College, I had always enjoyed Art and I took every opportunity that I had to take part in Art competitions or to draw and paint at home. I was desperate for any excuse to create in whatever form that might be.

When the opportunity arose for me to apply for an Art Award, it was the perfect fit for me. My previous Prep School had a board in the assembly hall where those who had gone on to be awarded Scholarships were listed. When my name was added to the list, it was such a proud moment for myself and my family to see.

Starting College in Third Form, I had a full and lively schedule of extra-curricular activities; I had to be mindful planning my creative time. This taught me how to be intentionally committed to something and developed my passion for Art even more.

Being an Award holder takes a lot of self-discipline, dedication and work but has also developed and challenged me to be even better than I was. This will definitely help me at University, where I hope to read Architecture and take my creativity to a new level.



Art Award

Art Awards are awarded for the demonstration of enthusiasm, flair and above all, a keen thirst for knowledge and pursuit of an individual's best. Award holders are expected to be active members of the Art department and will have the opportunity to present at Art events, such as private viewings and exhibitions. They will seek active involvement in Art and drive their own progress. College welcomes candidates with leadership qualities and the ability and willingness to share skills and techniques; these are highly valued characteristics of Award holders. As with all Award holders, those holding Art awards are expected to show a positive attitude towards learning in all subjects and exemplary conduct.

Those who apply for Art Awards will need to submit a portfolio that clearly demonstrates their artistic ability. 13+ applicants attend an assessment event comprising a creative task and interview with the Head of Art. At 16+, those successful in the selection process are invited to complete a creative task and have an interview with the Head of Art.

For more information about the process of applying for an Art Award, please contact admissions@cheltenhamcollege.org

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Drama Awards

In 13+ Drama Award holders, College looks for an acting flair borne of extensive performance experience and a genuine love for theatre and the performing arts as well as an understanding of the role that they play within our society. Award holders should also have an ability to demonstrate insight and understanding of text through their performance whilst having leadership ability, independence of thought and commitment to extra-curricular Drama activities.

16+ Drama Award holders should clearly demonstrate their enthusiasm for performing and seize all opportunities provided to perform in a wide range of productions, showing an outstanding amount of talent and confidence in their performances. High levels of innovation and creativity during rehearsals, workshops and performances are also expected. A genuine passion for watching live performances, both as a part of College's trip programme and independently, is beneficial. Drama Award holders will have excellent leadership skills and outstanding commitment, acting as role models for their peers during their involvement with productions, in their conduct and in all aspects of College life.

All Drama Award holders are to audition for all available plays and perform in three productions a year, direct or lead in the House Play, perform in two or three lunchtime performances per Half Term and attend weekly LAMDA lessons. Free tuition in LAMDA (one lesson per week) is provided. Lessons are offered on the basis that they are taken with College's LAMDA teaching staff. Any external lessons taken outside College's Drama Department will be at parents' own expense.

For more information about the process of applying for a Drama Award, please contact admissions@cheltenhamcollege.org

Being a Drama Award holder has given me the opportunity to perform with a group of Scholars from different years, allowing me to learn from their experience and develop my knowledge.





Arabella

Having joined College in Third form, I already had a real passion for Drama. We had lots of opportunities to perform and I was encouraged by my Drama teacher at The Prep to perform as much as possible. When the opportunity arose for me to apply for a Drama Award, it seemed like the perfect opportunity for me to be heavily involved in Drama at College.

Since becoming an Award holder, I have had the opportunity to have LAMDA lessons, which include solo acting, duologue, speech and drama, verse and prose or musical theatre. This has helped me develop my acting abilities and I have recently taken my Grade Seven LAMDA exam.

My teacher also encouraged me to audition for the National Youth Theatre and I have since become an official Ambassador for them. This is a great opportunity to go to workshops and perform.

Being an Award holder does not guarantee you the lead roles in a play; everyone auditions and parts are awarded on merit. This has given me the opportunity to perform with a group of Award holders from different years, allowing me to learn from their experience and develop my knowledge.

In my year I was the only person to be awarded a Drama Scholarship, which was a massive accomplishment for me and my parents were so proud when they received the letter. Even though over the past few years Drama has consumed a lot of my time, I wouldn't have had it any other way. I love performing and learning about how I can improve. There isn't an expected number of hours that you need to put in to be an Award holder, only that you have the love and passion to be the best that you can be.

Matthew

Having joined College in the Fourth Form after relocating to England with my family, I enjoyed getting involved with the Music Society. When I started at College, I could already play the Piano and Saxophone. Even though I hadn't been playing for long before starting at College, I was quick to progress through the grades. My music teacher suggested that I applied for a 16+ Award to recognise my hard work, improvement and active participation in different aspects of the Music department.

Being an Award holder means that there is an expectancy from your peers and teachers to be actively involved in not only your chosen subject, but throughout College life. It has provided me with the opportunity to lead other students and aid their development too, which in turn helped me to progress further.

We have great opportunities to perform on a regular basis. We are also encouraged to learn different instruments. Since being at College I have begun learning the Oboe, which has enabled me to transfer the skills I have on the Saxophone to another woodwind instrument. I am part of the orchestra, JIG (Jazz Improvisation Group) and also participate in many symphonies. After College, I hope to use my experience in music to become a Composer for television and film. I believe this experience of participating in numerous symphonies, bands and orchestras will help me to compose in the future.



Music Awards

College offers a broad range of Music Awards to candidates who show musical potential and, above all, a genuine enthusiasm for music. Awards are possible for those who may not yet be so advanced, but who show a high level of promise and commitment. These are often suitable for a musical pupil who perhaps started rather later than others, but who will be able to contribute a great deal throughout their time at College. All Music Awards include free tuition in two or three instruments/voice. Lessons are offered on the basis that they are taken with College's Music teaching staff. Any external lessons taken outside of College's Music department will be at parents' own expense.

In a Music Award holder, College looks for a genuine love and enthusiasm for Music with a performance level in their first study of at least Grade Five or equivalent at 13+ and Grade Seven at 16+. A keenness to take a part in all musical opportunities at College is a must and a second study is an advantage.

All Music Award holders are expected to sing in one of the Chapel Choirs, play in a chamber ensemble and participate in one of College's flagship instrumental ensembles - normally either the Symphony Orchestra or Senior Jazz Band. Music Award holders are expected to develop and improve on the instruments with which they auditioned. Any change in instrumental or vocal lessons, or the giving up of lessons is at the discretion of the Director of Music. All Music Award holders are strongly encouraged to study Music to at least GCSE level, though many will also go on to A Level. They must also show dedication to learning in other subjects and act as role models of good conduct.

For more information about the process of applying for a Music Award, please contact admissions@cheltenhamcollege.org

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Organ Award

College offers an Organ Award for a talented organist of at least Grade Six standard to take a major role in the musical life of the Chapel. In addition to specialist teaching for repertoire and technique, there is plenty of opportunity to develop accompanying skills through working with the Chapel Choirs.

The Chapel has a magnificent Organ, first built in 1906 by the Norwich firm Norman and Beard. The case was designed by Henry Prothero, the architect of the Chapel.

The Organ was rebuilt and extended by Harrison and Harrison in 1930 and again in 1976. It is an instrument capable of achieving a wide range of colour and dynamics, its three manuals and pedals encompass a well-balanced traditionally-voiced instrument which is very well suited to the liturgical and choral needs of an independent school with a renowned and highly regarded musical tradition. In 2013, it was further enhanced by the addition of a 32-foot 'Double Ophicleide', the type of stop only found in the largest organs, making College one of the finest non-cathedral locations in the country.

The Organ Award holder will play for the daily Chapel services, recitals and other occasions. The Organ Award holder will be guided in preparation for all aspects of the Oxbridge Organ Scholarships, RCO diplomas and auditions for music colleges.

For more information about the process of applying for an Organ Award, please contact admissions@cheltenhamcollege.org

It has been great to be able to learn and develop my skills on the Organ as I know that I would not get the opportunity to play the Organ at many other places, let alone an Organ of this magnitude.





Henry

When I joined College, I was awarded a Music Award for my abilities to play the Piano and the Double Bass. The facilities at College are better than any other that I have seen. We have many Steinway Pianos and have a lot of freedom to access these and practise in our own time.

Shortly after starting College, I asked to have the opportunity to play the Chapel Organ. In just six months I have been able to progress to Grade Six and have been provided with many opportunities to perform and play in Chapel. Even though the Organ is similar to the Piano in terms of the keys and the ability to read music, it is a far more complex instrument. It has been great to be able to learn and develop my skills on the Organ as I know that I would not get the opportunity to play the Organ at many other places, let alone one of this magnitude.

Being an Award holder means that teachers have the expectation for me to work harder and put in more time to practise and work. I use a lot of my break times to practise the Organ and I appreciate having the flexibility to do so. Including Orchestra practice, the String Quartet and other symphonies that I am a part of, Music governs a lot of my time at College. This has however provided me with the opportunity to develop my playing ability.

My teachers are encouraging and will support any student trying to learn a new instrument, as well as improving in a current instrument, regardless of grade or ability.

Florence

When I joined College at 13, I was playing the Cello at Grade Six, Piano at Grade Five and had been a part of a choir since Year Three at Prep School. I have a huge passion for performing music and singing as part of a group and was presented with a Music and Choral Award.

Being a part of the choir is hugely rewarding and I have been able to build a lot of friendships during my time in the group. We have numerous practices every week and we perform every Thursday at Evensong and on a Sunday in the Chapel. The choir is a great opportunity to be at the heart of the central place Chapel holds in College life and I spend a lot of time practising to develop my singing abilities.

Being an Award holder means that you have the expectation that you will have the right attitude in every aspect of College life and will encourage your peers and younger students to follow in your footsteps. Even though Choral Award winners sing in the choir, our teachers very much encourage those of all abilities to take part. This has benefited me as I have been able to both support and learn from other vocalists in the choir.

Going on to University, I know that the leadership qualities and the extra responsibilities that I have taken on during my time as an Award holder will benefit me a great deal.



All candidates will rehearse with the School accompanist prior to the audition

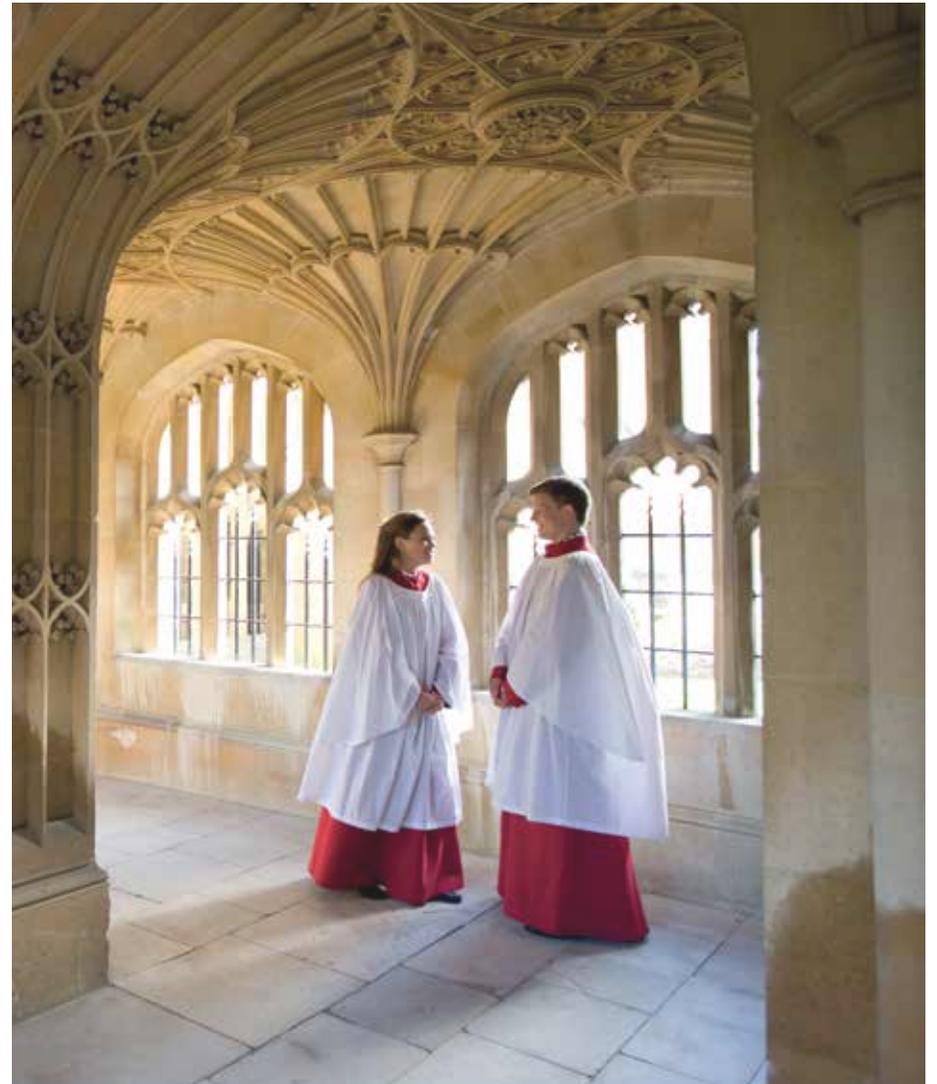
Choral Award

Choral Awards are available at 13+ and 16+ for candidates who are confident and enthusiastic singers with excellent musicianship and sight-reading skills but who may not be as advanced instrumentally. The College Chapel is widely regarded as one of the finest in the country and the school enjoys a long choral tradition.

The Chapel Choirs, with many former Cathedral choristers, share the singing of the weekly Sunday services and the Schola Cantorum sing weekly services of Choral Evensong as well as performing concerts and services in Cathedrals in the UK and abroad. A Choral Award offers full preparation to exceptional pupils who wish to apply for Oxbridge and Cathedral choral Awards.

For more information about the process of applying for a Choral Award, please contact admissions@cheltenhamcollege.org

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Sport Awards

As a leading co-educational school synonymous with sporting excellence, sport has a long and well-respected tradition at Cheltenham College. Numerous pupils have achieved national recognition while still attending College and many pupils have gone on to represent their countries across a variety of sports including: athletics, cricket, hockey, rowing, rugby and shooting.

Sports Awards will reward candidates who show outstanding sporting ability and/or potential. Successful candidates will have regional and/or national potential at senior school level. Successful 13+ candidates will demonstrate proven ability and potential in at least two of College's main games. In certain cases, exceptional talent in an individual sport or one main game will be considered. At 16+, candidates are expected to want to specialise in a chosen sport and are rewarded for excellence in at least one of the main games.

Although there is considerable scope for ambitious and talented athletes, as a minimum, Award holders are expected to participate in weekly Talented Athlete Programme (TAP) Development, striving for TAP Elite. TAP development is a school-wide programme that is provided by all major games throughout the week. This comes in many forms, but normally provides all pupils with the chance to undergo extra training during lunch times, or around the normal games afternoon. Lunchtime scrum-half clinics for rugby players and early morning swimming sessions are two examples.

Award holders are expected to commit and aspire to A teams of their major sport and to pre-season or out of season programmes as appropriate. Award holders are expected to respond to the termly tracking and monitoring of progress, attitude and performance, setting an example of excellence to others. As with all other types of awards, holders of Sports Awards are expected to act as excellent role models for peers, not just on the sports field but also in their attitude to learning in class and prep and in their conduct.

For more information about the process of applying for a Sport Award, please contact admissions@cheltenhamcollege.org

We are very fortunate to be surrounded by excellent coaches who help us to manage our own time and fuel our bodies in the best possible way.



Olivia

Award holders are very easily identifiable around College by our unique pink ties. This sets an expectation about the sort of standards we are expected to achieve. Being a Sports Award holder is more than just being talented in sports, it is about having a great attitude to all aspects of College and being able to manage your busy schedule successfully.

I was awarded a Sports Award initially for my enthusiasm and dedication to Netball and various other sports. I had been selected for the Great British Skiing team whilst at my Prep School. My parents were so happy that College recognised my hard work and dedication.

Unfortunately, a Skiing accident put a stop to my time in the Great British Skiing team. However, the staff at College helped me to see this as an opportunity to focus more on other sports that I hadn't had as much time for before. I was given the opportunity to row in the Henley Regatta at just 16 and to play in the U18s first team for Hockey and Netball. I decided to take my Netball further and am now a part of the Bath Netball Academy and hope to one day play Netball at the highest level.

Being a Sports Award holder is a massive commitment and I therefore train or compete at least six days a week. This can become very tiring; however, we are very fortunate to be surrounded by excellent coaches who help us to manage our own time and fuel our bodies in the best possible way.

We are very fortunate at College to be trained by professionals in their sport rather than by PE teachers. This provides us with the very best support and the most amazing sporting opportunities.



Next Steps



Award holders have considerable scope for leadership, enrichment and engagement in College life and, as such, holding an Award requires significant responsibility and involvement from the student. In light of the commitment, we would recommend that you carefully consider the nature and number of Awards that are applied for beforehand.

For more information about the process of applying for an Award, please contact admissions@cheltenhamcollege.org.



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