

EARLY DOORS TOOLKIT

For Year 7 2025 applicants

*A step-by-step guide
to the assessment process*

Including useful information on Bursaries and Scholarships





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EARLY DOORS TOOLKIT

For Year 7 2025 applicants

This guide will take you **step-by-step** through the **assessment process**, including everything you need to know about applying for **Bursaries** and **Scholarships**.

There are also **key dates** so you can plan ahead and **useful tips** for making the process as painless as possible.



A warm welcome

As a founding school of the Girls’ Day School Trust, Brighton Girls has a significance in the history of girls’ education. The spirit of the early pioneers, whose names are remembered in our four Houses, Grey, Gurney, Lyttelton and Stanley, is as strong as it has ever been. Today, we occupy a unique position: we are an all-through school in the heart of the city of Brighton; we are as eclectic, enterprising, and creative as the city itself. And we command equal levels of affection.

At Brighton Girls, innovative teaching, reimagined classroom spaces and a keen sense of social responsibility, make this a place where girls can truly learn without limits.

Our girls are courageous, because they know where their strengths lie, they act with kindness, because they appreciate the value of community. Above all, we hope that they will develop the confidence and the character to go out and make a positive difference in the world, understanding that the real impact is felt when courage and kindness combine.

Rosie McColl MA (Oxon), MPhil
Head of Brighton Girls

Our Ethos

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The GDST's Values:

We are proud to be a beacon of the Girls' Day School Trust, a unique family of 25 schools across the country and specialists in girls' education for over 150 years.

At Brighton Girls, we strive to create an environment where students are:

KIND

are kind to others, and kind to themselves
understand the power of diversity, and value different perspectives
have a strong sense of community, and feel they belong
are developing strategies to manage their wellbeing

BOLD

understand, value, and can articulate, their individual strengths
are intellectually curious, valuing learning for learning's sake
face challenges with confidence and creativity
aim high, believing they can make a difference
...and understand that the real impact is felt when kindness and courage combine.

Our Aims

At Brighton Girls GDST, we strive to create an environment where students:

- Are fully supported in every endeavour
- Feel free to shine academically and socially
- Are able to discover and develop their own character, strengths and interests, yet also value collective endeavour
- Have a strong sense of community and the responsibilities and opportunities this involves
- Have the confidence to go beyond what they think they can achieve
- Without exception, feel they are nurtured and belong
- Will look back at their school years with happiness
- Learn to be resilient and positive
- Leave school fully equipped to succeed in life

Our vision is of generations of Brighton Girls with the ability to lead and make a real difference in the world and who are both bold and kind.



Early Doors entry for Year 7 2025

Assessments for Early Doors places will consist of variety of questions in Verbal Reasoning (VR) and Non Verbal Reasoning (NVR). Candidates will also be invited to an interview with a senior member of staff. We will send a written piece in advance for the girls to discuss, and they will be invited to talk about some of their current work and favourite activities at school. We also ask girls to bring a favourite object to the interview for discussion. These allow us to give a fuller picture of each girl – the sort of thinker that they are and how they process information.

The individual interviews allow us to gain as full a picture as possible of each girl's abilities and interests.



There is a lot of information on the application process but if you have any questions please phone us on **01273 280 280** or email **admissions@brightongirls.gdst.net**. We will be happy to help.



Early Doors timeline

A step-by-step guide through the assessment process, including deadlines for Bursary and Scholarship applications.

Our online application form can be found in the admissions pages of the website. To apply for a Bursary please contact the Admissions Department.

<https://application.gdst.net/school/brightongirls>



1

Gather materials

We have an online prospectus and virtual tours of the school that you can view on our website.

2

Visit

Open Doors experiences – tours, tasters, meet the Head opportunities.

3

Apply

Application deadline: Thursday 29th February 2024

Scholarship applications: Applications for scholarships and bursaries for Year 7 2025 will be open in the Autumn Term of 2024.

4

Post Application

We will arrange an interview with a senior member of staff and take up references from schools.

5

Assessment Days

Assessments will take place on Saturday 16 March 2024.

6

Early Doors Offers

Early Doors offers will be made for entries in 2025 at the end of March 2024.

Applicants who are awarded firm or conditional places are then able to apply for Scholarships and bursaries in the Autumn Term 2024

7

Acceptance Deadline

All acceptances and associated documents should be returned by Friday 26th April 2024.

8

Welcome

Accepted pupils will be invited to take part in special school events and activities held throughout the year.

9

Scholarship Applications

Entry into our Academic Scholarships can be applied for in the Autumn Term of 2024. Applications for our Temple Scholarships – Art, Dance, Drama, Music and Sport have their own criteria and application forms – deadlines for these will be published in the Autumn Term of 2024.

Key dates

Taster days, meetings with the Head and tours of the School - we have a full programme running through the year.

Timings/attendance of assessments

Saturday 23 September 2023	Whole School Open Day
Friday 29 September 2023	Brighton Girls Rock
Thursday 29 February 2024	Application deadline
Saturday 16 March 2024	Assessment Day
End March 2024	Offer letters released to parents
End April 2024	Deadline for confirming your acceptance of a place offered

If, for some reason, you cannot attend assessment dates specified, please contact Admissions to make alternative arrangements.

Our full Admissions Policy may be viewed on our website.

*If you missed this deadline please contact admissions

Other practicalities

References

Alongside our admissions process we will also take into careful consideration a candidate’s reference from her current school.

Learning Support - SENDCO

The school is committed to the early identification of learners with difficulties and/or disabilities. We continue to assess and adapt our levels of support appropriate to our student’s needs. At admission each pupil is looked at as an individual case to see whether the school can effectively meet her needs. Every effort is made to accommodate the pupil’s needs where possible. A child would only be refused entry if she was unable to attain the required academic standard or if the school was unable to cope with the child’s disability after having taken reasonable steps to do so.

In accordance with our Equal Opportunities Policy, the School will make reasonable adjustments to the admissions process for a particular pupil and, where applicable, to the School’s provision for specific learning needs in so far as these can be met given the nature of the School. We ask parents to contact School Admissions to discuss any special arrangements which are required in respect of the assessment process.



Bursaries and Scholarships

Bursaries

Both the Girls’ Day School Trust and Brighton Girls were founded by philanthropists committed to making outstanding education available to young women – a legacy we are proud to continue today. We believe every girl who is bright and eager to learn should be given the opportunity to fulfil her potential regardless of financial circumstances. We therefore offer a limited number of bursaries to assist girls joining us in Year 7.

These means-tested bursaries are called Brighton Awards, and it is essential that families who may wish to explore financial support options contact our Admissions Department well in advance of the proposed date of admission, so that they have the greatest chance of being considered for the limited funds available. We regret that we are unable consider late requests for additional funding support and all published deadlines will be adhered to.

EARLY DOORS AWARDS

Early Doors bursary assessments are undertaken by GDST who then report to the school eligibility for the awards. Provisional offers will be made to candidates who perform exceptionally well in assessments and who meet the eligibility criteria. All

bursary awards are subject to re-assessment each year, and Early Doors offers will also be re-appraised the following year.

TO BE CONSIDERED

- A girl must have performed exceptionally well in our Early Doors Assessment Day.
- The girl’s parents must be assessed as eligible for a Bursary Award by the Girls’ Day School Trust (GDST) Financial Means Assessment.

GDST FINANCIAL MEANS ASSESSMENT ELIGIBILITY

Bursary applications are assessed by the GDST, but an initial conversation about eligibility should always be had with our Admissions Department.

On receipt of your application we will advise you of the next steps, which will include completing on assessment of your family income and financial means. Bursary applicants will be assessed by the GDST and our staff may also make an appointment to visit you at home.

On completion of this process, the GDST will advise on whether you are eligible.

To assess who is eligible for a bursary we consider a range of objective criteria including the income and capital resources of the families applying. It is anticipated that bursary awards will last for the

duration of the student’s time at school.

We re-assess every year to take account of significant changes in family income and circumstances. A bursary may go up or down to reflect these. This ensures those most in need receive our support.

Most higher-value bursaries are awarded to pupils from families with a total income of less than £35,000 per year who have no capital assets other than their home.

It is highly unlikely that a bursary would be awarded to a family whose annual income is greater than £85,000, other than in very exceptional circumstances.

A girl’s academic performance will be a key consideration when the School is deciding whether or not to award a bursary.

Key dates:

All bursary applications must be made prior to undertaking the Early Doors Assessment Day.

All bursary applications must be submitted prior to assessment for entry.

Year 7 2025 Early Doors Bursary Application Closing Date: 31 October 2024.

Scholarships

Scholarship assessments take place in the year prior to entry (in Year 6 prior to entry into Year 7).

Academic Scholarships

Entry into our Academic Scholarships can be applied for in the Autumn Term of 2024.

Key dates:

Application deadlines will be published in Autumn 2024.



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TEMPLE SCHOLARSHIP: ART

Art scholarships and exhibitions are awarded as part of our Temple Scholarship Awards. Our Art Scholars are expected to demonstrate a passionate commitment to, and genuine interest in the arts. As such Scholars are expected to contribute fully to the artistic life of the school and show real commitment to our extracurricular programme.

Assessment

- Girls will be required to present a portfolio of current work, which should include one example of a drawing, painting, as well a 2D or 3D work (in photographic form). A sketchbook should be submitted alongside the above. Portfolios should be no bigger than A2 and should be submitted in advance.
- Applicants will be invited for a short informal interview. Girls will be asked a range of questions related to their interests in Art including their favourite artists or shows recently attended or viewed online. They will also be set a reading task.

Key dates:

Application: October 2024
Assessment: November 2024



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TEMPLE SCHOLARSHIP: DANCE

Dance scholarships are awarded as part of our Temple Scholarship Awards. Our Dance Scholars are expected to demonstrate a passionate commitment to, and genuine interest in, dance. As such, our Scholars are expected to contribute fully to dance at school, show real commitment to our extra-curricular programme and inspire their peers.

Applications for Dance Scholarships are welcomed from girls who have attained Grade 3 or equivalent in at least one genre but, at this stage, potential is regarded as being just as important. Girls who have not yet reached this standard, but who exhibit significant potential may be considered for a Dance scholarship.

Assessment

- Girls will be invited to an audition workshop, where they will take part in a short Contemporary-based class and will also have the opportunity to demonstrate creativity in response to a choreographic task.
- Dancers will be assessed on their physical, technical and expressive capabilities, as well as their engagement, enthusiasm and ability to work effectively with others.
- The assessment will conclude with an interview.

Key dates:

Application: October 2024
Assessment: November 2024



TEMPLE SCHOLARSHIP: DRAMA

Drama scholarships are awarded as part of our Temple Scholarship Awards. Our Drama Scholars are expected to demonstrate a passionate commitment to, and genuine interest in drama and performance arts. As such our Scholars are expected to contribute fully to dramatic arts at school, show real commitment to our extra-curricular programme and inspire their peers.

Assessment

- Girls will be invited to take part in a practical Drama workshop lasting between 40 minutes and an hour, along with the other applicants. This will consist of read-throughs and improvisational tasks to test their ability to work within the group and their creative and imaginative thinking.
- Girls will be asked to perform one monologue (no longer than two minutes) – this can either be classical or contemporary, but should be age appropriate and we are looking for natural ability so they should not feel that the piece has to be over-staged, or choreographed.
- The audition will conclude with a short interview.

Key dates:

Application: October 2024

Assessment: November 2024



TEMPLE SCHOLARSHIP: MUSIC

Music scholarships and exhibitions are awarded to confident and inspirational musicians as part of our Temple Scholarship Awards. Our Music Scholars are expected to demonstrate sound technique and innate musical ability alongside a passionate commitment to, and genuine interest in, music. As such our Scholars are expected to contribute fully to the musical life of the school, show real commitment to our extra-curricular programme and inspire their peers.

All candidates are expected to offer two instruments, which can include voice, though applications are considered from musicians who show outstanding talent in only one instrument.

Applications for Music Scholarships are welcomed from girls who have attained Grade 4/5, but at this stage potential is regarded as being just as important. Girls who have not yet reached this standard but who exhibit significant musical potential may be considered for a Music Exhibition.

Assessment

- Girls will be asked to play two pieces - one on their first instrument and another on their second. An accompanist will be available on the day of the audition but candidates are welcome to organise their own.
- Some questions regarding musicianship and general aural skills will be asked.
- The audition will conclude with a short interview.

Key dates:

Application: October 2024

Assessment: November 2024



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TEMPLE SCHOLARSHIP MUSIC - VOCAL SCHOLARSHIP

Vocal Scholarships and exhibitions are offered to pupils who show vocal and musical promise, and who may also be interested in composition and songwriting. Applicants will need to show a genuine interest in singing and performance and a willingness to participate in the musical life of the school.

Assessment

- Girls will be required to sing two pieces; they may also opt to perform a third piece on an instrument, but this is not a requirement. An accompanist will be available on the day of the audition, but candidates are welcome to organise their own.
- Some questions regarding musicianship and general aural skills will be asked. Candidates may be asked to perform some simple vocal exercises.
- The audition will conclude with a short interview.

In partnership with BIMM Institute and Theatre Workshop.

Key dates:

Application: October 2024.
Assessment: November 2024



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TEMPLE SCHOLARSHIP: SPORT

Sport scholarships and exhibitions are awarded to pupils showing particular promise or commitment to sports as part of our Temple Scholarship Awards. Candidates applying for a Sport Scholarship would preferably have experience in a variety of sports, although they must perform in at least one of our major sports: Athletics, Gymnastics, Hockey and Netball - other sports may be considered on an individual basis.

Assessment

- Girls will be invited to complete an assessment session run by our Director of Sport
- All aspects of an individual's performance will be considered during the session such as ability, attitude and enthusiasm
- The assessment will conclude with an interview

Key dates:

Application: October 2024
Assessment: November 2024



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TEMPLE SCHOLARSHIP:
SPORT - FOOTBALL SCHOLARSHIP

Sport scholarships and exhibitions are awarded to pupils showing particular promise or commitment to sports as part of our Temple Scholarship Awards.

Candidates applying for a Sport Football Scholarship would preferably have experience in a variety of sports, with Football as their lead sport. We are interested in girls who perform at a high level (at least club level) in a variety of sports including: Athletics, Gymnastics, Hockey, Netball, Cricket, Skateboarding and Tennis. Other sports may be considered on an individual basis.

Assessment

- Girls will be invited to complete an assessment session run by our Director of Sport and Paris Saint-Germain Academy England.
- All aspects of an individual's performance will be considered during the session such as ability, attitude and enthusiasm.
- The assessment will conclude with an interview.

Key dates:

Application: October 2024
Assessment: November 2024



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TEMPLE SCHOLARSHIP:
SPORT - GYMNASTICS SCHOLARSHIP

Sport scholarships and exhibitions are awarded to pupils showing particular promise or commitment to sports as part of our Temple Scholarship Awards.

Candidates applying for a Sport Gymnastics Scholarship would preferably have experience in a variety of sports, with Gymnastics as their lead sport. We are interested in girls who perform at a high level (at least club level) in a variety of sports including: Athletics, Hockey, Netball, Cricket, Football, Skateboarding and Tennis. Other sports may be considered on an individual basis.

Assessment

- Girls will be invited to complete an assessment session run by our Director of Sport and Brighton Gymnastics Club.
- All aspects of an individual's performance will be considered during the session such as ability, attitude and enthusiasm.
- The assessment will conclude with an interview.

Key dates:

Application: October 2024
Assessment: November 2024



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TEMPLE SCHOLARSHIP: SPORT - SKATEBOARD SCHOLARSHIP

Sport scholarships and exhibitions are awarded to pupils showing particular promise or commitment to sports as part of our Temple Scholarship Awards.

Candidates applying for a Sport Skateboard Scholarship would preferably have experience in a variety of sports, with Skateboarding as their lead sport. We are interested in girls who perform at a high level (at least club level) in a variety of sports including: Athletics, Gymnastics, Hockey, Netball , Cricket, Football and Tennis. Other sports may be considered on an individual basis.

Assessment

- Girls will be invited to complete an assessment session run by our Director of Sport and Skateboard Coach
- All aspects of an individual's performance will be considered during the session such as ability, attitude and enthusiasm
- The assessment will conclude with an interview

Key dates:

Application: October 2024

Assessment: November 2024



Scholarship and Bursary - deadlines and awards criteria

Scholarships and bursary applications are open for all candidates in the year before entry at our usual 11+ entry point from Year 6 to Year 7 – please see our 11+ Toolkit. We regret that we are unable to consider late requests for additional funding support in the timetable published in the 11+ Toolkit.

All offers for an Award will be made in writing and subject to the terms and conditions included within that offer. The offer will be final and no further adjustments will be made. All award offers are bespoke to each applicant and confidential.

The tenure of any Award is intended to be for the duration of the girl's school career at Brighton Girls, provided that her academic progress, commitment and dedication, general conduct and contribution to the School remains at a high level.

On accepting an Award, parents, and where appropriate pupils, will be asked to sign an agreement which will outline in detail their obligations. This agreement will remain in place throughout the time the pupil remains at Brighton Girls.

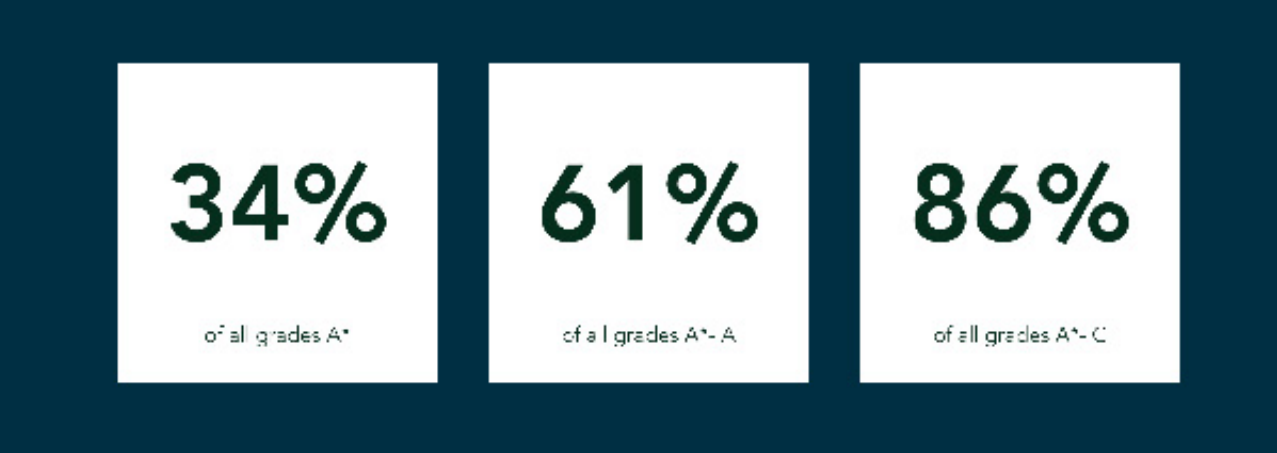


Our ethos and academic results

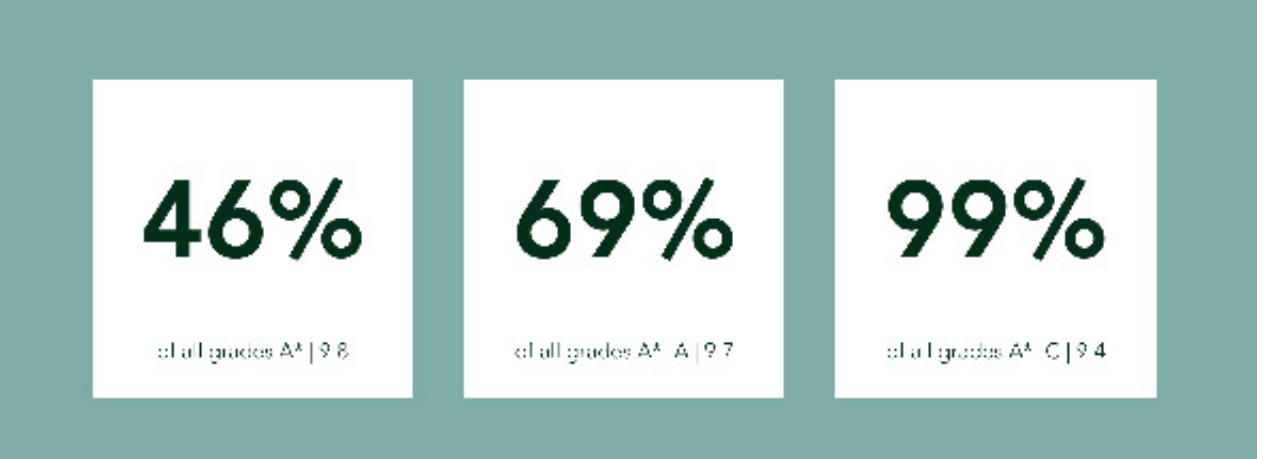
School life is about so much more than examination success: fun and friendships, finding passions for life within a rich and varied co-curricular programme and having opportunities to volunteer within the local community.

We're a dynamic, creative, friendly school where girls are confident, passionate and kind – not only ambitious for themselves, but for society. We are extremely proud of our outstanding academic results, yet we are prouder still of the grounded young women who wear their success lightly, who find and use their voices for good and who stride out of Brighton to a huge range of academic courses and careers beyond.

Brighton Girls' A-level results 2022



Brighton Girls' GCSE results 2022





For further information, please contact the
Admissions Department on 01273 280 280 or via email
to admissions@brightongirls.gdst.net

GDST registered charity number: 306983.

