

 **A FOUNDATION
FOR LIFE...**



Princethorpe College

An independent school for 11-18 year olds

A Princethorpe Foundation School

2027
**Admissions and
Entrance Examinations**
(Years 7 to 10)



Introduction



Thank you for your interest in Princethorpe College. Children who want to join the Princethorpe family sit an entrance examination in the November of the year before they are due to start in September, though occasionally children sit at other times. Most children join us in Year 7, but

children are welcome to join in other year groups as space allows. We are excellent at helping our new pupils transition and settle, so our Year 7 and older pupils flourish when they join the College.

Competition for places is healthy and standards are high, with Princethorpe looking for young people who will engage with the wider life of the school. We consider the whole application, including references, reports, and any other information to help us make sure a child will thrive if they join us.

We hope you find the information in this booklet helpful in outlining the admissions process, including key events, dates, and deadlines. You will also find comprehensive information on the full range of scholarships and bursaries available.

To get a full picture of school life at Princethorpe, please do follow us on our social media channels:

- Facebook @princethorpecollege
- LinkedIn @princethorpe-college
- Instagram @theprincethorpefoundation
- YouTube @theprincethorpefoundation7480

Our friendly Admissions Team, Catherine Rogers, Registrar, and Georgia Newborough, Assistant Registrar, will be happy to guide you through the admissions process. Contact them on 01926 634201/297 respectively, alternatively you can email them at admissions@princethorpe.co.uk.

I look forward to welcoming you to Princethorpe over the coming months, and playing our part in making sure your child finds the school best suited to their character, happiness and needs. Princethorpe has so much to offer so please do make sure that you get to know us.

Grove du Toit
Headmaster



The College was last inspected by the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) in September 2025. Click or scan the QR code to read the full report.



The College was reviewed by the Good Schools Guide in December 2024. Click or scan the QR code to go to the review.

Information and visits

Traditionally there are a number of opportunities to visit the school during the course of the year. We encourage prospective pupils and their parents to visit us both formally and informally to get a true flavour of the school before registering in order to take the entrance examinations in November. All our admissions events are by appointment only and bookable online.

Open Morning

Thursday 23 April 2026
10.30am to 12.30pm

An opportunity to be shown around the school by pupils on a normal working day and to meet the Senior Leadership and Admissions Teams.

Open Evening

Wednesday 3 June 2026
6.30pm to 8.30pm

An informal opportunity for families to look around the school and meet members of staff and pupils. There will be activities in each department for children to participate in and the Headmaster will also address visitors.

Parents' Online Admissions Q&A Session

Tuesday 8 September 2026
6.30pm to 7.30pm

A chance for parents to ask our Admissions Team questions relating to the admissions process and Entrance Examinations Day. This will be a live-streamed event.

Open Afternoon

Sunday 13 September 2026
2.00pm to 5.00pm

A final opportunity for families to look around the school prior to the Entrance Examinations Day on Saturday 7 November 2026.

There will be activities in each department for children to participate in and the Headmaster will also address visitors.

Light refreshments are available at all on-site events.

Meet the Headmaster

Alternatively, or in addition to attending an open event, you may wish to make an appointment to meet the Headmaster, Grove du Toit, and have a tour of school (this is usually conducted by our Sixth Formers).

Please contact the Registrars for an appointment on 01926 634201/297.

Taster Days

Taster Days aimed at Years 5 and 6 and for pupils looking at entry to Years 8 to 10 also take place during the year to give prospective pupils a taste of senior school life. Places are available on a first come, first served basis. Please contact the Registrars if you would like your child to attend.

Themed Taster Events

Themed Taster Events aimed at specific year groups also take place during the year to give prospective pupils experiences in, for example, Sport, Science, Drama, Music, Art and other subjects. Places are available on a first come, first served basis. Please check the website for details.

All events may be subject to change.





Entrance Examinations 2027

Saturday 7 November 2026

All candidates must be registered before sitting the entrance examinations. Registrations, bursary and scholarship applications and any supporting documents must be received by the deadline of **Friday 25 September 2026** to allow us to process the registration and contact schools for confidential references.

European nationals are asked to provide proof of their child's pre-settled or settled status as part of the government's EU Settlement Scheme as part of their application. Those without these statuses, and/or other international candidates, would need to provide visa and residence permit information.

Format of the day

Our aim with the Entrance Examinations Day is to make it as stress free as possible, with time between the assessments for breaks, refreshments, a hot lunch and fresh air in the playground. Staff and Sixth Formers are on hand to support candidates in small groups throughout the day.

Candidates should wear comfortable casual clothes, and for Year 7 should bring two pens, two pencils and an eraser.

Candidates for Years 8 to 10 should bring two pens, two pencils, an eraser and a ruler.

Candidates sit papers in English and Maths and, for those looking at Year 9 or 10 places, a French or Spanish language paper. These papers are one hour long.

Candidates for Years 7 to 9 also sit a 50 minute online assessment which includes Verbal Reasoning, Non-Verbal Reasoning and Numerical Reasoning. Candidates for Year 10 sit a 45 minute Verbal Reasoning paper. More information is available under the relevant age group information on pages 4 and 5 of this booklet.

The online assessment will be provided by the Centre for Evaluation and Monitoring (CEM). The test is designed to enable all children to demonstrate their academic potential without the need for excessive preparation.

For more information on the online assessment please visit the CEM website at <https://plus.cem.org/cemselectfam/>

There are no practice papers available for the online assessment. CEM advises parents that children can best prepare for their online assessment by learning to work quietly on their own, completing homework set by their school, and by reading and making sure they understand all the words in any books they read. Children should also, wherever possible, be encouraged to try to solve problems by looking things up for themselves. Children should be familiar with using a keyboard and a mouse including the ability to click, drag and slide with a mouse.

Personal Interviews (Years 8, 9 and 10)

Additionally, for those entering Years 8, 9 and 10 personal interviews take place as part of their Taster Day. This is an informal 15 minute interview in English with Susan Harris, Head of Transition and Induction, or another senior member of staff, covering the candidate's interests, achievements, aspirations and communication skills.

Practice resources

A copy of a past English paper is available to download from the Admissions page on the website. We do not provide Mathematics practice papers.

A range of resources are also available online from www.bond11plus.co.uk

The following may prove helpful:

- Bond How to do 11+ Verbal Reasoning published by Oxford University Press (ISBN 978-1382054218)
- Bond How to do 11+ Non-Verbal Reasoning published by Oxford University Press (ISBN 978-1382054195)
- Bond How to do 11+ Maths published by Oxford University Press (ISBN 978-1382054171)

They can be ordered online.

Online Registration

To register please complete an online registration form and pay the registration fee of £90 inc VAT. You can also upload completed scholarship applications should you so wish.

Click or scan the QR code below to see the online registration form for Year 7 to 10 entry to the College. Instructions on completing the online form are also available from this page.



Information to support your child's application

If you would like to submit information to support your child's application, (relating to, for example, their co-curricular activities, positions of responsibility, hobbies, interests and club/society memberships) you can do so at the point of registration, via the online registration form, or by email to admissions@princethorpe.co.uk, clearly marking the information with your child's name and date of birth.



Additional Needs and Access Arrangements

Children with a special educational need or disability (SEND)* will be considered for access arrangements in the Entrance Examinations. Any access arrangements granted will be based on the child's normal way of working in their current educational environment, for which evidence will be required.

Following receipt of a registration form from any candidate with a learning need, the registration form and all supporting documents (including, for example, Personal Learning Plan/Pupil Passport/One Page Profile (PLP), Individualised Education Plan (IEP), Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP), Educational Psychologist Report, SEND Specialist Assessment Report, Autism Diagnosis Report, Medical Report or Therapist Report) will be reviewed by a panel of experts from our Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Team.

Please ensure that the Registrars receive your registration and supporting documentation in good time, to enable this important review to take place before the Entrance Examinations. The College needs to have full information on a candidate and their SEND needs before any decision can be made as to our capacity to provide the necessary support in school, based on their ability to cope within the school environment, whilst accessing not only the curriculum but the co-curricular and social aspects of school life. Our decisions also look at the child's likely educational journey with us and are taken alongside consideration of other children with SEND needs that we are supporting at the time. Whilst we do successfully support children with a range of SEND needs, we are not a specialist school, and there are occasions where, despite adjustments, we are not able to meet a prospective pupil's needs.

The panel will decide upon any appropriate access arrangements for the Entrance Examinations based on the evidence provided and the candidate's normal way of working.

In more complex cases, or if the panel has specific questions, a meeting with one of our SEND Team will be arranged by the Registrars.

Parents will be notified prior to the Entrance Examinations Day of the nature of any access arrangements that have been granted, or if we consider that we are unable to make reasonable adjustments for the candidate based on their SEND needs.

Children with an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP)

If your child has an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) or is being assessed for an EHCP, please notify the Registrars of this at the point of enquiry and please register well in advance of the published deadline, so that a meeting can be arranged. The EHCP is central to our understanding of that individual child's needs, so early provision of that document is critical to us being able to decide whether we can support those needs both in the Entrance Examinations and also as a pupil at the College.

*Cognition and Learning, eg Dyslexia, Dysgraphia, Dyspraxia, SEMH – social, emotional and mental health, eg ADHD, anxiety, Communication and Interaction, eg Autism Spectrum, speech, language communication needs or Physical, Medical, Sensory Impairment or Mobility.

Admissions Policy and Right to Study Policy

You can download our current Admissions Policy from our website and our Right to Study Policy is available on request from the Admissions Team.

Offers Made

After the entrance examinations are marked, the Admissions Panel sits to discuss applications. The Panel will take into consideration the results of the entrance examinations, confidential references from feeder schools and, for those with Special Educational Needs, any information and evidence provided.

Those entering Years 8, 9 and 10 will also have their personal interviews considered.

Exam results will be posted, first class, on **Thursday 26 November 2026**. No information will be available beforehand.

Acceptance Deadline

For those offered a place in **Year 8, 9 or 10**, confirmation of acceptance with a £400 deposit is then required to secure the place, by **Monday 7 December 2026**. Depending on parental and pupil wishes and a suitable place being available, older candidates may be offered an earlier start date in the January or Easter.

For those offered a place in **Year 7**, confirmation of acceptance with a £400 deposit is required to secure the place, by **Thursday 4 March 2027**.

This deposit is refunded after the end of the final term which the pupil spends at Princethorpe.

The Year 7 acceptance deadline for places is, by a nationally agreed code of practice, the same for all independent schools, allowing parents and children time to review all their options, including those from the maintained sector, before making a final decision.

As per our *Terms and Conditions*; on receipt of your deposit and the signed Confirmation of Acceptance you enter into a legally binding agreement with the School. You are therefore advised to read the *Terms and Conditions* before signing the Confirmation of Acceptance.

Once you have confirmed your acceptance of a place and sent your £400 deposit you will receive an acknowledgment and a receipt number. A Joining Pack will then be sent to you during the Easter holidays, this will include various permission forms and essential information on school life.



Information for candidates entering Year 7 (aged 11 by 31 August 2027)

- English comprehension paper (1hr)
- English Free Writing (1hr)
- Mathematics paper (1hr)
- CEM online test including Verbal Reasoning, Non-Verbal Reasoning and Numerical Reasoning (50min)

English

The English test, consisting of a short comprehension and a short piece of creative writing based on the text, lasts for one hour.

A piece of extended free writing is also required, based on a variety of topics such as, a hobby, interest, holiday or memorable event.

Mathematics

The Mathematics paper is non-calculator and lasts for one hour.

The four rules of arithmetic should be thoroughly known and practised; a good grasp of multiplication tables will be very useful.

Candidates should also be familiar with:

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| • Money calculations | • Time |
| • Fractions and decimals | • Compass bearings |
| • Directed numbers | • Reflection and translation |
| • Rounding and place value | • Averages |
| • Inequality signs | |

Simple graphs and statistical charts should be understood. Basic shapes should be known and how to calculate their perimeter and area.

Past Mathematics papers are not available.

Information for candidates entering Year 8 (aged 12 by 31 August 2027)

- English comprehension paper (1hr)
- English Free Writing (1hr)
- Mathematics paper (1hr)
- CEM online test including Verbal Reasoning, Non-Verbal Reasoning and Numerical Reasoning (50min)

English

The English test, consisting of a short comprehension and a short piece of creative writing based on the text, lasts for one hour.

A piece of extended free writing is also required, based on a variety of topics such as, a hobby, interest, holiday or memorable event.

Mathematics

The Mathematics paper is non-calculator and lasts for one hour.

Candidates should be confident with the content from the previous year, together with the following topics:

- | | | |
|-------------------|--|---|
| Number | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four rules of arithmetic for positive and negative integers and decimals | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currency • Types of number |
| Geometry | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Properties of 2D shapes • Angles | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Symmetry |
| Algebra | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Substitution | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linear Equations |
| Graphs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-ordinates | |
| Statistics | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Averages | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tables and Charts |

Past Mathematics papers are not available.



Information for candidates entering Year 9 (aged 13 by 31 August 2027)

- Formal English paper – comprehension and descriptive/imaginative writing (1hr)
- Language paper (Candidate's choice of French or Spanish) (1hr)
- Mathematics paper (1hr)
- CEM online test including Verbal Reasoning, Non-Verbal Reasoning and Numerical Reasoning (50min)

English

The following elements may be examined:

- | | |
|--|---|
| • Clarity and appropriacy of expression | • Fluency and legibility of handwriting |
| • Organisation and paragraphing of ideas | • Creativity and imagination |
| • Vocabulary range and spelling accuracy | • Skills of inference, deduction and analysis |
| • Range and accuracy of punctuation | • Knowledge of genre |

French or Spanish

Candidates will sit 1 x Reading comprehension and 1 x extended writing:

Writing: 100 words on at least two topics you have learnt, including opinions, connectives and a range of verbs

Topics for Spanish reading are from Viva 1

- Numbers 1-100, months, days, pets, family, descriptions, hobbies, sports, weather, school subjects and opinions, describing school facilities, house and places in town

Topics for French reading are from Studio 1

- Personal descriptions, school subjects, school timetable, time and days of the week, describing your school, food, hobbies, weather and places in town.

Mathematics

The Mathematics paper is non-calculator and lasts for one hour.

Candidates should be confident with the content from previous years, together with the following topics:

- | | | |
|-------------------|--|--------------------|
| Number | • Four rules of arithmetic for positive and negative integers and decimals | • Types of number |
| | | • Percentages |
| | | • Sequences |
| Geometry | • Symmetry | • Angles |
| | • Mensuration | |
| Algebra | • Substitution | • Linear Equations |
| | • Simplifying | |
| Graphs | • Co-ordinates | |
| Statistics | • Averages | • Charts |
| | • Probability | |

Past Mathematics papers are not available.

Information for candidates entering Year 10 (aged 14 by 31 August 2027)

- Formal English paper – comprehension and descriptive/imaginative writing (1hr)
Same elements may be examined as per Year 9, but papers will be marked age appropriately.
- Language paper (1hr) If the candidate is planning to take a language or languages at GCSE please speak to the Registrar to discuss their language choice/choices. IGCSE French or Spanish are offered.
- Mathematics paper (1hr)
- Verbal Reasoning Paper (45min)

French or Spanish

Candidates will sit 1 x Reading comprehension and 1 x extended writing:

Writing: 150 words on at least three topics you have learnt including opinions, connectives and at least two verb tenses

Topics for Spanish Reading are from Viva 1, 2 and 3 and include those for the Year 9 exam plus:

- Food and healthy living, clothes and jobs

Topics for French reading are from Studio 1, 2 and 3 and include those for the Year 9 exam plus:

- Food and healthy living, clothes shopping and technology

Mathematics

The Mathematics paper is non-calculator and lasts for one hour.

Candidates should be confident with the content from previous years, together with the following topics:

- | | | |
|-------------------|--|--------------------|
| Number | • Four rules of arithmetic for positive and negative integers and decimals | • Percentages |
| | | • Ratio |
| Geometry | • Angles | • Mensuration |
| | • Pythagoras' Theorem | |
| Algebra | • Substitution | • Linear Equations |
| | • Simplifying | • Sequences |
| Graphs | • Co-ordinates | |
| Statistics | • Averages | • Charts |
| | • Probability | |

Past Mathematics papers are not available.

Scholarships

Every year there is a high level of interest in Scholarships. The scholarships available are Academic, Art, Performing Arts (Choral, Dance, Drama, Music and Musical Theatre) and Sport. In addition, exceptional candidates who are both academically able and gifted and talented across a number of areas may be considered for an All-Rounder Scholarship, which would be awarded at the discretion of the Headmaster.

The number of awards is limited. Scholarships can be to a maximum reduction of 50% of tuition fees, however the majority are between 5% and 20%, and are awarded at the point of entry. More than one scholarship can be applied for.

Scholarship awards may be revoked if scholars fail to fulfil the conditions on which they were awarded.

Academic Scholarships

All candidates applying for entry to Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 will be automatically considered for an Academic Scholarship when taking the entrance examinations. There is no separate application form for an Academic Scholarship.

During their time at Princethorpe academic scholars are invited to attend guest lectures and will be offered a variety of opportunities for stretch and challenge, such as undertaking a Project Qualification.

Academic Scholarship Interviews

Prospective Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 pupils who are being considered for an Academic Scholarship will be invited to an interview with the Headmaster, following the entrance examinations.

The parents/guardians of these candidates will be contacted by telephone from **Thursday 12 November 2026**. Only those being considered for these awards will be contacted. The interviews will take place on **Saturday 14 November 2026** and during week commencing **Monday 16 November 2026**.

Scholarship Forms

Editable scholarship forms are available to download and complete on our website.



Art Scholarships

Deadline for applications: Friday 25 September 2026

Art Scholarship Day: Wednesday 4 November 2026

All candidates wishing to be considered must complete an Art Scholarship application form and return it by **Friday 25 September 2026**. The application should be accompanied by two original pieces from their portfolio, see below. In the event of a high number of applicants, this work will be used to select those to be invited to the assessment.

Princethorpe Art Scholarships will be awarded to those pupils who, in the opinion of the Head of Art, Paul Hubball, demonstrate an ability to express ideas clearly in visual terms, to tackle and solve problems in an imaginative, original and expressive way and to be studious and single-minded in their approach to their study of Art. Art Scholars are expected to continue with Art on the curriculum at least until Year 11, and usually in the Sixth Form.

Precise timings of the day will be advised in October.

The Assessment

The assessment will involve studies in various media of still life objects. Candidates should practice drawing and painting manmade and organic forms. All materials will be provided by the College.

Interview and presentation of a portfolio

Candidates will also be expected to present a portfolio of some recent work during the course of the morning.

Their portfolio should be brought along to the College on the day of the Art Scholarship Assessment. Candidates should be able to answer general questions on Art and specific questions relative to their own work; they should be able to express ideas clearly and fluently. The portfolio will be returned to the candidate on Entrance Examinations Day.

The portfolio should consist of 12 pieces of work only and no larger than A2.

Six pieces must demonstrate the candidate's ability to draw the following:

- 1 x A4** tonal drawing of a sliced red pepper (slightly larger than life size)
- 1 x A4** colour drawing of a sliced tomato (larger than life size to fit page)
- 1 x A3** tonal drawing of a pair of laced shoes (life size - be creative with the composition of the drawing)
- 1 x A3** colour drawing of a reflective object (size depends on object)
- 1 x A3** tonal self portrait drawing (life size)
- 1 x A3 (or A2)** still life painting copied from an artist of your choice

Plus six pieces of your choice (no larger than A2):

These pieces should aim to demonstrate the candidate's ability to tackle problems, to experiment with various media and techniques, to display visual awareness, to gather, investigate, analyse and record visual information. Photographs of any three-dimensional work can also be included.



Performing Arts Scholarships - Choral

Deadline for applications: Friday 25 September 2026

Auditions: Week commencing Monday 2 November 2026

Auditions for Choral Scholarships will be held during the week commencing **Monday 2 November 2026** with Gil Cowlshaw, the Director of Music.

Parents of candidates will be sent an online link by the Registrars to book their audition slot.

All candidates wishing to be considered must complete a Music Scholarship application form and return it by **Friday 25 September 2026**. The application must be supported with a short video of the candidate singing.

It is a stipulation that all Choral Scholars play an active part in the musical life of the school, eg perform in both the College Choir and the Vocalize Ensemble, and are available for any tours, stage productions and concerts, putting rehearsals as a priority over other co-curricular activities.

Requirements for Choral Scholarship candidates

- A standard of Grade 2 or equivalent
- Passion for singing within a public forum

The Audition

All candidates must attend a practical audition.

At the audition they will be required to:

- Perform two contrasting pieces of their choice
- Sit an aural test
- Participate in a viva voce, where they will be asked about their music-making, hobbies, etc.

Piano accompaniments should be brought to the audition. An accompanist will be provided unless a candidate prefers to be accompanied by an external accompanist they elect to bring with them. Candidates are advised to perform music with which they are comfortable, rather than singing music which is technically beyond them. We are looking for potential, commitment and reliability.

Scholarship References

References from two referees must be supplied by parents (including email and telephone contact details), one of which should be the school music teacher or conductor of a choir in which the candidate regularly performs. These should be with the Registrar by the application deadline.

Performing Arts Scholarship - Dance

Deadline for applications: Friday 25 September 2026

Audition Workshop: Tuesday 3 November 2026

An Audition Workshop for Dance Scholarships will be held week on **Tuesday 3 November 2026** with Rachel Fox, Dance Leader. Precise timings of the day will be advised in October.

All candidates wishing to be considered must complete a Dance Scholarship application form and return it by **Friday 25 September 2026**.

It is a stipulation that all Dance Scholars play an active part in the performance life of the school, stage productions, support Theatre opportunities and are available for any tours, putting rehearsals as a priority over other co-curricular activities.

Requirements for Dance Scholarship candidates

- Performed in stage productions inside and outside of school
- Passion for performing within a public forum

The Audition

All candidates must attend a practical audition.

The audition will comprise of:

- A technical class with short performance extract
- An individual performance piece of minimum duration 1 minute 30 seconds to 2 minutes maximum
- A choreography session to look at the candidates creativity and leadership skills
- An informal chat about the candidates previous dance experience and why they enjoy dance

We are looking for potential, commitment and reliability.

Scholarship References

References from two referees must be supplied by parents (including email and telephone contact details), one of which should be the director of a dance school for which the candidate regularly performs. These should be with the Registrar by the application deadline.



Performing Arts Scholarships – Drama

Deadline for applications: Friday 25 September 2026

Audition Workshop: Monday 12 October 2026

An Audition Workshop for Drama Scholarships will be held on **Monday 12 October 2026** with Aileen Cefaliello and Vicky Roberts, the joint Heads of Drama. Precise timings of the day will be advised in October.

All candidates wishing to be considered must complete a Drama Scholarship application form and return it by **Friday 25 September 2026**.

It is a stipulation that all Drama Scholars play an active part in the performance life of the school, eg take part in stage productions, support Theatre opportunities and are available for any tours, putting rehearsals as a priority over other co-curricular activities.

Requirements for Drama Scholarship candidates

- Performed in stage productions inside and outside of school
- Passion for performing within a public forum

The Audition

All candidates must attend a practical audition.

At the audition they will be required to:

- Perform a 45 - 90 second audition piece which can be self-scripted or a published piece as a monologue
- Lead a group through the creative process
- Take an active part in a teacher led workshop
- Participate in a viva voce, where they will be asked about their stage performances, hobbies, etc.

We are looking for potential, commitment and reliability.

Scholarship References

References from two referees must be supplied by parents (including email and telephone contact details), one of which should be the school drama teacher or director of a stage school in which the candidate regularly performs. These should be with the Registrar by the application deadline.

Performing Arts Scholarships - Music

Deadline for applications: Friday 25 September 2026

Auditions: Week commencing Monday 2 November 2026

Auditions for Music Scholarships will be held during the week commencing **Monday 2 November 2026** with Gil Cowlshaw, the Director of Music.

All candidates wishing to be considered must complete a Music Scholarship application form and return it by **Friday 25 September 2026**. The application must be supported with a short video of the candidate performing their first instrument. Parents of candidates who are selected to go forward for an audition will be sent an online link by the Registrars to book their audition slot.

It is a stipulation that all Music Scholars play an active part in the musical life of the school, eg sing in the College Choir, play in the Concert Band and/or String Orchestra and are available for any tours, stage productions and concerts, putting rehearsals as a priority over other co-curricular activities.

Music Scholars are expected to continue with Music on the curriculum at least until Year 11, and usually in the Sixth Form.

Requirements for Music Scholarship candidates

This is a guide only, as candidates' background will vary.

Entry to Year 7

A standard of Grade 4 ABRSM or equivalent, on woodwind, brass, percussion or piano. Grade 3 on any stringed instrument.

Entry to Year 8

A standard of Grade 5 ABRSM or equivalent, on woodwind, brass or percussion. Grade 4 on any stringed instrument or piano.

Entry to Year 9 or 10

A standard of Grade 6 ABRSM or equivalent, on woodwind, brass or percussion. Grade 5 on any stringed instrument or piano.

The Audition

At the audition they will be required to:

- Perform two pieces on the instrument of their first choice
- Perform one piece on the instrument of their second choice, if they have one
- Sing a song of their own choice
- Play the panel's selection of scales and arpeggios from the ABRSM or Trinity grade that best reflects their current standard, and undertake an aural test of the same standard
- Participate in a viva voce, where they will be asked about their music-making, hobbies, etc.

Piano accompaniments should be brought to the audition. An accompanist will be provided unless a candidate prefers to be accompanied by an external accompanist they elect to bring with them. Candidates are advised to perform music with which they are comfortable, rather than playing music which is technically beyond them

Scholarship References

References from two referees must be supplied by parents, (including email and telephone contact details), one of which should be the music teacher or conductor of a music group or orchestra in which the candidate regularly performs. These should be with the Registrar by the application deadline.



Performing Arts Scholarships – Musical Theatre

Deadline for applications: Friday 25 September 2026

Audition Workshop: Thursday 15 October 2026

An Audition Workshop for Musical Theatre Scholarships will be held on **Thursday 15 October 2026** with Gil Cowlshaw, Vicky Roberts and Rachel Fox, the Director of Music, joint Head of Drama and Dance Leader. Precise timings of the day will be advised in October.

All candidates wishing to be considered must complete a Musical Theatre Scholarship application form and return it by **Friday 25 September 2026**.

It is a stipulation that all Musical Theatre Scholars play an active part in the performance life of the school, eg take part in the College Choir or Chamber Choir, stage productions, support Theatre opportunities and are available for any tours, putting rehearsals as a priority over other co-curricular activities.

Requirements for Musical Theatre Scholarship candidates

- Performed in stage productions inside and outside of school
- Passion for performing within a public forum

The Audition

All candidates must attend a practical audition.

At the audition they will be required to sing one piece of Musical Theatre of minimum duration 1 minute 30 seconds to 2 minutes maximum and do one of the following:

- Perform a 45 - 90 seconds monologue from a Musical Theatre piece
- Perform a pre-learnt movement/dance of minimum duration 1 minute to 1 minute 30 seconds maximum

We are looking for potential, commitment and reliability.

Scholarship References

References from two referees must be supplied by parents (including email and telephone contact details), one of which should be the school drama teacher or director of a stage school in which the candidate regularly performs. These should be with the Registrar by the application deadline.

Sport Scholarships (Years 7 to 10)

Deadline for applications: Friday 25 September 2026

Sport Scholarships Assessment Mornings: Week commencing Monday 12 October 2026

Two assessment sessions will be held on Tuesday 13 (girls) and Wednesday 14 (boys) October 2026 with Lee Cassell, Carly Walton and Joe Jackson, Director of Sport and Heads of Girls' and Boys' Games. Precise timings of the day will be advised in October.

All candidates wishing to be considered must complete a Sports Scholarship application form and return it by **Friday 25 September 2026**.

These will then be reviewed by the panel and candidates will be invited for the live assessment session by the Registrars.

Attendance at the assessment session is critical in order for candidates to be considered for an award. We welcome applications from a range of sporting disciplines but representation within the Foundation's major sports will be favoured.

It is a stipulation that all Sports Scholars play an active part in the sporting programme of the College, participate in our Talent Development Programme and model the sporting behaviour required.

Requirements for Sport Scholarship candidates

- Member of a junior pathway or academy
- Key player at club level for your chosen sport/s

Live Sport Assessment Session

Invited candidates will be required to:

- Take part in a baseline data gathering task
- Participate in a games for understanding session
- Take part in a conditioned competitive session for their first and second sport
- In the case of sports not catered for on-site at school, candidates will take part in a discussion about their sport and be asked to submit a video of them performing

We are looking for potential, commitment and reliability.

Scholarship References

References from two referees must be supplied by parents (including email and telephone contact details) one of which should be their lead coach from their performance level organisation or club coach. These should be with the Registrar by the application deadline.



Bursaries and Thomas More Scholarship

The Foundation wishes to extend the benefit of the school's Catholic ethos, academic and social excellence to families who may not be able to pay full fees through the provision of financial assistance by way of bursaries and the Thomas More Scholarship.

Bursaries

Every year there is a high level of interest in Bursaries and the number of awards are limited. Bursaries can be available for up to 100% of tuition fees, plus additional educational expenses. Bursaries are available for all external candidates, primarily for entry into Princethorpe College, regardless of current school or religion.

In addition to support with fees, children granted bursaries may be eligible for support towards other additional costs incurred.

Whilst the main financial criteria for the award are household income and net assets each application is considered on its own merits. Costs associated with dependant sick or disabled children will be taken into account and an allowance is made where there are other children already in the Foundation.

Non-educational school trips over £500 will not be accessible to bursary pupils without prior discussion with the Foundation Director of Finance.

Applications are made via an online system, please contact feessupport@princethorpe.co.uk to be sent a link to the system.

Parents are asked to note the following:

- Bursary applications can only be made following a completed registration form and payment of the registration fee.
- Applications are means-tested and may also be reviewed by external consultants.
- External consultant meetings will usually take place during October 2026.
- Parents should allow plenty of time to complete the application process.
- **Parents are required to complete the application form and submit all supporting documentation before the deadline date of Friday 25 September 2026. Failure to provide all the relevant information can result in your application not being progressed.**
- Late or incomplete applications will not normally be considered unless there are exceptional circumstances.

The Thomas More Scholarship

The Thomas More Scholarship is a means-tested scholarship for Catholic children aged 11 by **31 August 2027**, who attend a Catholic state primary school.

The application process is the same as for bursaries except letters of recommendation signed by the Parish Priest and current Headteacher are also required. The letters should include details of the length of time that the candidate has been known to them and confirmation of the candidate's attendance at Mass, date of baptism and involvement in church or school religious celebration activities.

Applications for the means-tested Thomas More Scholarship should be received by **Friday 25 September 2026** following the completion of a registration form and payment of the deposit.

Bursaries and Thomas More Scholarship Advice of Outcomes only

The result of completed Bursary and Thomas More Scholarship applications will be advised in the offer letter, if appropriate, which will be sent to parents on **Thursday 26 November 2026**.

Foundation Early Offer Scheme

The Princethorpe Foundation has recently launched a scheme aimed at prioritising applications to Princethorpe College from Year 5 pupils currently at one of our Foundation prep schools, Crackley Hall School in Kenilworth or Crescent School in Bilton, Rugby.

This optional scheme does not guarantee entry, however it does allow for the sharing of academic assessment data between the Foundation's schools in the summer term. This, plus a reference, an online assessment and a piece of free writing, will provide the College with sufficient information for an offer of a Year 7 place to be made before the end of Year 5.

This means that pupils with an agreed early offer do not then need to sit the entrance exams in the November of Year 6, unless they wish to apply for an Academic Scholarship. They can also additionally apply for other Scholarships (Art, Performing Arts – Choral, Drama, Dance, Music, Musical Theatre and Sport) in the normal assessment timetable.

If a place within the Foundation and the Early Offer Scheme are of interest, please contact the Registrar at either Crackley Hall or Crescent School to discuss availability and possible next steps.

Crackley Hall School - Jamie Naughton - 01926 514410 or email admissions@crackleyhall.co.uk

Crescent School - Becky Witcomb - 01788 533851 or email admissions@crescentschool.co.uk



The
Princethorpe
Foundation

Key Admissions Dates 2027 entry

Open Morning

Thursday 23 April 2026 10.30am to 12.30pm

Open Evening

Wednesday 3 June 2026 6.30pm to 8.30pm

Parents' Online Admissions Q&A Session

Tuesday 8 September 2026 - 6.30pm to 7.30pm

Open Afternoon

Sunday 13 September 2026 - 2.00pm to 5.00pm

Deadline for Registrations, Scholarship and Bursary Applications, including supporting documents (Year 7 to 10 entry)

Friday 25 September 2026

Entrance Examinations Day (Year 7 to 10 entry)

Saturday 7 November 2026

Offers Made

Thursday 26 November 2026

Acceptance Deadline

Monday 7 December 2026 (Years 8, 9 and 10)

Thursday 4 March 2027 (Year 7)

The above events could be subject to change.



Princethorpe College

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