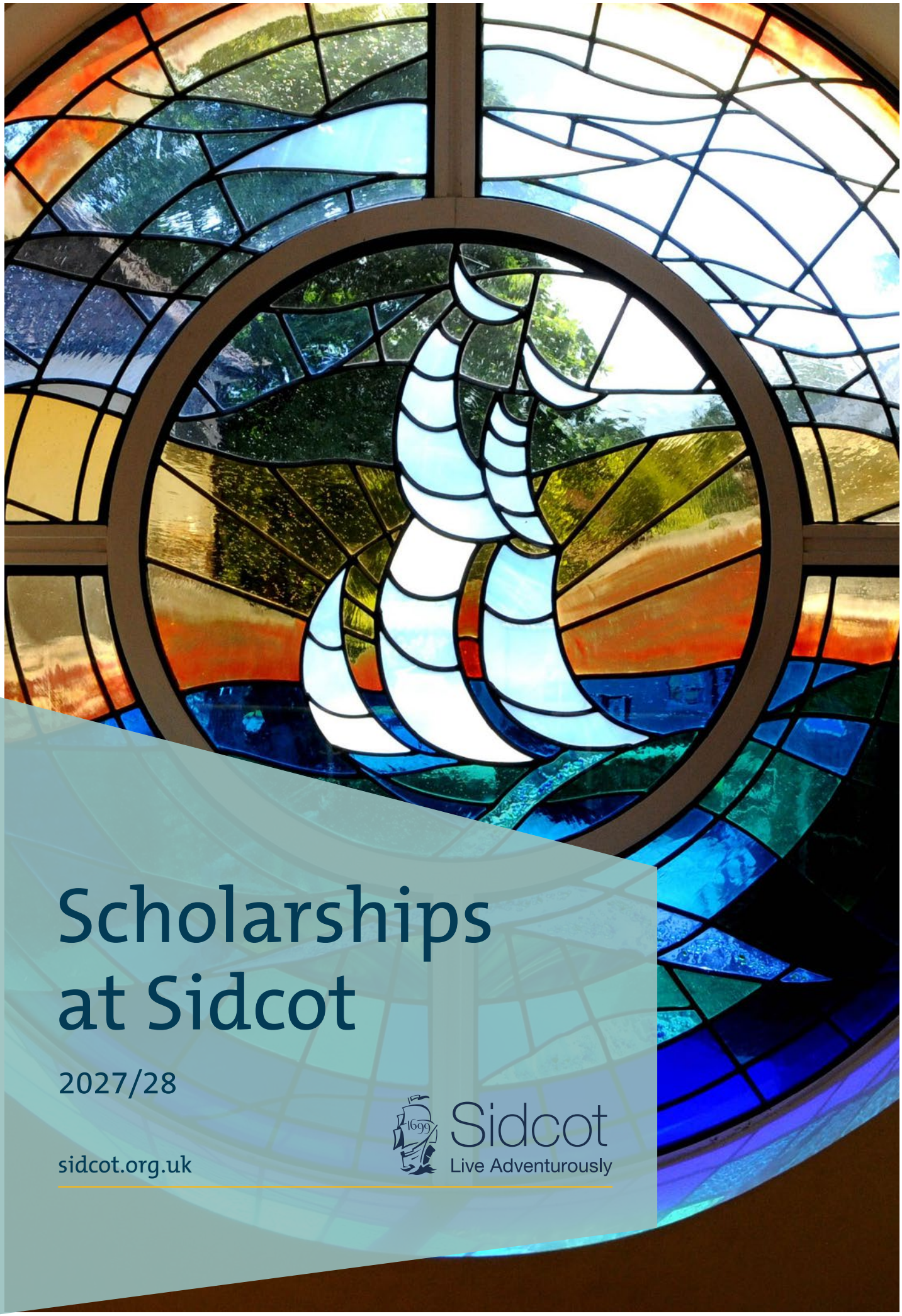

Scholarships at Sidcot

2027/28

sidcot.org.uk

Sidcot
Live Adventurously

What does Scholarship mean at Sidcot?

A Sidcot Scholarship is not just about celebrating and nurturing excellence, it's about sharing it. Our Scholarship students are given the opportunity to engage in tailored enrichment activities and extra support in their awarded subject. Supported by staff who are experts in their field, students are encouraged to challenge themselves and to achieve their very best.

Scholarship students display an aptitude for Scholarship and a thirst for acquiring knowledge. They are ambassadors of Sidcot, who share their enthusiasm and encourage fellow students to take an active interest in their subject area. As such, they are expected to display and to demonstrate the School's Quaker values, acting as role models for others.

Scholarships at Sidcot – 2027 entry

New students have the opportunity to apply for a Scholarship that will entitle them to 10% off their tuition fees. They will be asked to provide evidence of exceptional recent achievement, a love of learning, and will need to meet the specific criteria as outlined within this brochure. Scholarships for new students will be awarded at the following stages:

- **Senior School**: on entry to Years 7, 9 and 10
- **Sixth Form**: on entry to Year 12

Current Sidcot students in Year 6 or Year 11 can also apply for a Scholarship as they are in transition to Senior School Year 7 and Sixth Form respectively.

An offer of a Scholarship is dependant on the successful completion of our Admissions' application process, which includes a reference from the applicant's current educational setting.

Visit sidcot.org.uk/scholarships

Requirements for International Candidates

Applications from International students are welcome up until the end of the Spring term. Interviews may be held online.

International candidates, who are not able to attend in person, must submit digital content to provide evidence of their work, which is supported by references from teachers at their current school, as required.

Any International candidates awarded a Special Talent Scholarship on the basis of digitised evidence will have their skills tested on arrival.

Categories

There are three categories of Scholarship. For each category a Personal Statement should be submitted along with supporting evidence, the criteria of which for each category is included in this Scholarship brochure.

1. **Academic:** this applies to students who demonstrate outstanding intellectual ability, show a true aptitude for Scholarship and embody the School values. Assessment will be through a combination of online academic papers and interview.
2. **Talent:** the specialist subjects include Art, Design Technology, Drama, Music, Sport and Equestrian – the criteria for each is included in this Scholarship booklet.
3. **Peace and Global:** available for students entering Year 12, who demonstrate Scholarly abilities and embrace Sidcot's ethos through work within the environment, social justice and who demonstrate global awareness.

Please see the website for full details of our Scholarships Policy and Procedure: sidcot.org.uk/scholarships

Enrichment Programme

Sidcot School's Enrichment Programme

Our enrichment programme comprises four elements, including our Scholarship programme, our Lead Learner programme, our Gifted & Talented programme, and our Aspire programme (Sixth Form only).

Our Scholarship programme is differentiated from other enrichment opportunities within the School because it recognises those students who display a scholarly rigour towards their academic work, or talent. Scholars have a separate, tailored programme of activity, but may also access our Lead Learner programme in up to three subjects, alongside students who have applied and been selected to promote their chosen subjects within the School.

Our Scholars will be encouraged to stretch and challenge themselves. They will take part in our programme of enrichment activities, both inside and outside of the classroom. They will also be expected to get involved with extra-curricular activities such as Model United Nations, Sports teams, Music, Drama, Public speaking and debating, Chess and many more. They will have a Mentor in their area of Scholarship.

Scholars will be expected to contribute regularly and positively in the area of their Scholarship and to represent the School at every opportunity. They may be asked to take on roles of responsibility within their field and help their peers and support the staff. They act, to help as role models to others within the School.

Scholars in the Sixth Form

Scholars in the Sixth Form will be invited onto our **Aspire Programme** alongside students who have been identified as extremely competent in their chosen subject areas.

Our Aspire students will become Ambassadors for the School. They will also be invited to take part in an exciting programme of events and activities, both inside and outside of School, related to Oxbridge and top Russell Group Universities and Careers. They will work with Tom Ruddle, Head of Sixth Form, Alison Pike, Head of Futures and Clare Winchester-Snell, Academic Enrichment Coordinator.

Please see the website for full details of our Enrichment Programme:

sidcot.org.uk/senior/academic/academic-enrichment

For further information please contact:

CLARE WINCHESTER-SNELL
Head of Modern Foreign Languages/
Academic Enrichment Coordinator
Clare.Winchestersnell@sidcot.org.uk

Academic

Academic Scholars at Sidcot will demonstrate exceptional intellectual potential. They are expected to provide a positive role model for fellow students and maintain excellent standards of academic progress and conduct at all times.

Academic Scholars will be academically stretched by their teachers and will benefit from attendance at guest speaker events. They will contribute positively and significantly to the academic life of the School.

Assessment Criteria – Below Sixth Form

Scholarships are awarded based on performance in exam assessments, which will test verbal and nonverbal reasoning skills online. Candidates will also choose to sit either a Maths or English assessment. Evidence contained within their school report and a personal recommendation will also be taken into account, along with a personal interview.

Candidates will be asked to submit a Personal Statement and should also provide a portfolio of supporting evidence such as awards or pieces of work of which they are particularly proud.

Assessment Criteria – Sixth Form

Scholarships are awarded on exceptional achievement in examinations organised by the School along with predicted GCSE (or IGCSE) results, a Personal Statement, evidence provided in the school report, a professional reference, and performance at a personal interview.

For further information please contact:

KATE CHAMPION
Assistant Head, Teaching, Learning & Assessment

Kate.Champion@sidcot.org.uk

Art

Art at Sidcot is taught in our suite of specialist studios that opens out into a beautiful gallery space. Art Scholars have the opportunity to explore a range of processes with specialist teachers using facilities akin to Art College.

As a department we recognise creative potential and work to nurture and extend students through a broad offer. This begins in the classroom and is enriched by our extracurricular and exhibition programme. Trips and visiting artist workshops give context and depth to students experience of the subject.

Art Scholars are expected to continue studying Art through to GCSE level and, if awarded a Sixth Form Scholarship, are encouraged to pursue Art in one of our Post-16 courses.

Scholars will be selected on the basis of a portfolio of work which demonstrates their creative talent – whether it is photography, digital art, drawing, painting, printmaking, or three dimensional work.

Art Scholars will be expected to show interest in the art work of others and be able to articulate how they've been inspired by this. They will be mentored and encouraged by specialist staff, they will also be given the opportunity to lead on projects, share their expertise with other students and will be expected to take a lead role in the annual exhibition for their year group.

Assessment Criteria

A Personal Statement along with a portfolio of work containing at least 12 presented sheets or pages

of work. These can be in any format or size and in any medium. Sketchbooks are also of interest. Candidates should aim to show a range of work which may include work in progress.

On the Scholarship assessment day, all candidates should bring an image of a chosen art work to discuss in the session. There will also be a personal interview with the Head of Art.

For further information please contact:

JOHANNAH EGAN
Head of Art

Johannah.Egan@sidcot.org.uk

Design Technology

Design Technology deals with solving problems by designing and making. The subject covers the areas of Computing, Food & Nutrition, Textiles and Product Design so it is a very wide field and runs from Technical coding at one end of the spectrum to Creative Arts at the other.

A Scholar should enjoy making and creating and show enthusiasm for the subject in technological activity beyond the classroom.

DT Scholars are expected to continue studying DT through to GCSE level and, if awarded a Sixth Form Scholarship, are encouraged to pursue DT in one of our Post-16 courses.

DT Scholars will complete specialist projects during lunchtimes and after School. These projects will be included in the School's annual Art and Design Exhibition.

Assessment Criteria – below Sixth Form

Each candidate is required to submit a Personal Statement in advance and to bring a portfolio of photographs and drawings of products made (Food, Crafts, Clothing, Products, Computing examples) to the interview. Any actual models that are transportable would also be beneficial. A CD, USB or cloud link to images/video is also acceptable.

Assessment Criteria – Sixth Form

Each candidate is required to submit a Personal Statement in advance and to bring the following to the interview:

1. A portfolio to offer evidence of technological capability by showing artefacts, systems or other outcomes which have been produced. These should be supported by project folders which demonstrate the graphical, investigative and problem-solving ability of the candidate.
2. The candidate will be expected to explain the background of the projects offered to the Head of Design Technology, as well as the principles involved.
3. Evidence of GCSE coursework.

For further information please contact:

ROBERT STOKES
Head of Design Technology
scholarships@sidcot.org.uk

Drama

Drama at Sidcot provides a diverse range of opportunities for those who enjoy performing, directing, designing or a combination of all disciplines. Classical drama, musical theatre and Outreach projects with Sidcot's theatre company 'Hurly Burly' are just some of the opportunities a Scholar will encounter.

Drama Scholars are expected to continue studying Drama through to GCSE level and if awarded a Sixth Form Scholarship, are encouraged to pursue Drama in one of our Post-16 courses. As Ambassadors for the subject, Scholars are required to fully engage in the wide range of School productions.

In addition to the above, Sixth Form Scholars help lead Drama Clubs and take on assistant director/designer/stage management roles for the many productions staged at Sidcot and as part of our Sidcot theatre company Hurly Burly. Scholars take part in biennial trips to New York, where they perform for other schools, as well as to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, where they also showcase their performances.

Assessment Criteria:

As part of their application, candidates should submit a Personal Statement and a portfolio of their involvement and interest in Drama and Theatre, with an endorsement from their teacher for this Scholarship.

If invited to interview, students will be asked to present a two minute monologue, which may be in a private, or group setting. They will then have a short interview. All Drama courses require academic as well as practical ability. Students are therefore also asked to produce a written review of a performance they have seen. This may be submitted in advance, but the applicant should expect to discuss their work at interview.

Please note: the piece to be performed should be a monologue from a published playtext. Students should have an understanding of the whole play.

Assessment Criteria – Sixth Form

In addition to the above, Sixth Form candidates will be asked to perform **two** monologues.

For further information please contact:

EBBA SCHERER
Head of Drama

Ebba.Scherer@sidcot.org.uk

Music

The Music Department at Sidcot is a thriving hub of exciting opportunity. Wherever your interests lie, there are musical groups, choirs and ensembles or individual development of your talents available to you.

Music Scholars will have the opportunity of belonging to a musical group, leading a musical ensemble and attending external concerts. Music Scholars will be expected to take part in at least two musical ensembles, play in music assembly once a term and perform at the annual Scholars' Concert. Music Scholars are expected to take GCSE Music or IB/A Level Music.

Assessment Criteria

During the application process, the candidate should submit a Personal Statement along with a written endorsement from their Music teacher and a portfolio showcasing their interest in Musical performance.

Should they be successful, an interview will be arranged during a visit to the Music School, giving an opportunity for the Director of Music to talk with the potential Scholar.

Each candidate is required to prepare the following for the interview:

1. **First Instrument**
   - **(a)** Two pieces of a contrasting nature should be offered. **The standard should be working towards:**

     Grade 4 for Year 7
     Grade 6 for Year 9 or 10
     Grade 7 for Sixth Form

     although, it is most important for candidates to show musical potential and contribute actively to their School and/or external clubs in a musical capacity. They should be committed to participate in Music at Sidcot.
   - **(b)** Sight-reading.
2. **Second Instrument** (if available).
   One piece (sight reading on this instrument will be optional).
3. **Aural/Musicianship Tests**
   Candidates should also be prepared to take aural/musicianship tests if deemed necessary.

Where a pupil has not taken formal examinations, the School will look for a demonstrably high quality of musicianship on the assessment day.

Candidates may also choose to offer a song of any style (if Voice is not one of the instruments offered above), although this is not a requirement. On the Scholarship assessment day, all UK candidates will be expected to attend for a series of practical assessments as listed above.

For further information please contact:

PAUL WOOLLEY
Director of Music
Paul.Woolley@sidcot.org.uk

Sport

Sport Scholarships are awarded to students who have the potential to make an outstanding contribution to Sport at Sidcot. They demonstrate the ability to be a 'game changer' through their ability and performance. They will have a positive sporting attitude both in practice and matches and be a positive role model both in and out of School. Candidates should already be playing Sport both inside and outside School, whether at a club level or higher.

We offer a broad range of Sports at Sidcot and at the heart of our offer are the major games of Hockey, Football, Rugby, Cricket, Rounders, Netball and Athletics. Our students:

- Develop the character to be successful in PE and Sport
- Develop the knowledge, understanding and experience to choose a fit and healthy lifestyle
- Develop fundamental movement, sports and fitness skills to feel successful and perform at their highest level
- Must be willing and able to represent the School in matches and sporting events.

As a Sports Scholar, you will receive:

- Strength and conditioning sessions throughout the year and access to the Gym and Studio for training
- A number of enrichment activities throughout the year including talks from professional Sports people and a visit to the University of Bath Sports Training Village
- Support for time off School to compete or train.

Assessment Criteria – below Sixth Form

Candidates will be invited to attend Sidcot for a day of practical assessment and an interview. They will be expected to demonstrate a range of abilities. Assessment will be made by PE staff as the candidates take part in tests of coordination, speed, balance, tactical awareness and the ability to work in a team. Candidates will be asked to sit our usual entrance assessments as part of this day. They will be asked to submit a Personal Statement and provide a portfolio of sporting achievements.

Assessment Criteria – Sixth Form

Candidates will be invited to attend Sidcot for interview with the Director of Sport. A successful candidate will be expected not only to contribute strongly in Sport, but also to lead by example in training and matches. A practical assessment may also be required as it is not essential for candidates to have studied PE at GCSE, although this would be an advantage. They will be asked to submit a Personal Statement and provide a portfolio of sporting achievements.

For further information please contact:

MATTHEW LLOYD
Director of Sport

Matthew.Lloyd@sidcot.org.uk

Equestrian

The Equestrian Centre offers a rare combination – a livery yard at the heart of a thriving school. For students who already ride, or who want to learn, Sidcot prides itself on a friendly atmosphere for both beginners and experienced riders alike.

Sidcot has Team representation at each level and height across all disciplines, including dressage, show jumping, arena eventing and jumping with style.

Our Equestrian Scholars will have many opportunities: Sidcot Equestrian is affiliated to both the National Schools Equestrian Association (NSEA) and British Show Jumping Just for Schools (BS JFS) where the School has been incredibly successful at both regional and national level competition.

Equestrian Scholars will be expected to be active members of the Sidcot Equestrian Team; regularly training for and competing in NSEA and other competitions in the School's name. They will be active role models for other aspiring Sidcot Equestrian members, displaying the organisational skills, commitment and attention to detail that is required to succeed in this field. Equestrian Scholars will be expected to have access to a horse of their own (owned or loaned) and will need to continue their engagement with the Equestrian Centre in order to maintain their Scholarship.

Peace & Global Studies

This Scholarship is available to day and boarding students who will be entering Year 12 in September 2027 – this award will reflect Sidcot's values in action and will reflect the Quaker testimonies.

At Sidcot, we are the only school in the UK to have a Centre for Peace and Global Studies which develops students' knowledge of environmental issues, social justice and global awareness. This is achieved through co-curricular and cross-curricular activities, talks, events and the planning and organisation of a special Festival of Peace which is held every two years. Scholars will be expected to participate in the activities organised by the Centre to help raise the profile of Peace and Global studies within the School, the local and wider community. Sidcot is recognised as an Ashoka Changemaker School within the Ashoka Schools' Network. (www.ashoka.org/en-gb/programme/ashoka-changemaker-schools)

Assessment Criteria

A Scholar will need to be at Novice Level Dressage, competing at 90cm Show jumping and/or British Eventing 90cm standard.

A demonstration at Sidcot with our Equestrian Centre Manager, or video recorded evidence, plus an interview and a Personal Statement.

For further information please contact:

ZOE ASTON
Equestrian Centre Manager

Zoe.Aston@sidcot.org.uk

Assessment Criteria:

Scholars will need to demonstrate how they have made a difference to the communities that they are part of, by showing a passion for their concerns relating to world events. This will need to be presented as a project which will be presented to us, either in person or via a video call during interview, to demonstrate how a student's voice will be heard and how they can be recognised as a change-maker. A Personal Statement should also be submitted.

For further information please contact:

NIKKI HAVERCROFT
Quaker Overseer

Nicola.Havercroft@sidcot.org.uk

Bursaries & deadlines

Bursaries take the form of means-tested discounts for new students. These are intended to help a student enter the School and the majority will continue for the duration of their time at Sidcot, subject to annual review. Hardship Bursaries are sometimes available to existing students, where a family's financial situation changes unexpectedly during their time at the School.

Sidcot School obtains funding for bursaries from a number of different sources including income from several trusts and endowment funds.

The bursary funds are limited so it is not always possible to meet all the requests for support.

Applications for September 2027 must be made by Monday 4 January 2027. Bursaries are reviewed annually and are awarded in line with our Bursary Policy and Procedure. The Bursary Policy and Procedure document and application form are available to download on the Admissions section of our website under Scholarships and Bursaries.

Scholarship dates

Sixth Form:

- **Application Deadline:** Thurs 15 Oct 2026
- **Written Papers:** w/c Mon 2 Nov 2026
- **Special Talent Assessments:** w/c Mon 2 Nov 2026

Senior School:

- **Application Deadline:** Mon 7 Dec 2026 (Supporting portfolios may be submitted by Mon 4 Jan 2027)
- **Written Papers:** (Exam and interviews) Sat 9 Jan 2027
- **Special Talent Assessments:** Tues 12 – Thurs 14 Jan 2027
- **Sports Assessment:** Sat 9 Jan 2027

PLEASE NOTE: Without supporting evidence, applications will not be considered.

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sidcotschool

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