



## **16+ Academic Scholarship**

### **What are we looking for in a scholar?**

Academic scholars display an exceptional ability to reason, analyse and construct an argument while relishing opportunities to contribute to the academic life of the school. They will be able to demonstrate a consistently positive attitude to their work and be able to evidence taking advantage of the academic enrichment opportunities offered at St Helen's.

### **What does a scholar enjoy?**

Academic scholars will be mentored by the Director for Academic Development and Partnerships who will meet with scholars at least once per half term to discuss their progress. Scholars will be asked to reflect on their learning from curriculum subjects and extra-curricular academic activities ahead of each meeting.

### **Expectations of a scholar.**

Academic scholars will be expected to:

- achieve grades at the higher levels in their i/GCSE examinations.
- display their commitment to learning in their Sixth Form subjects
- engage with the academic extra-curricular activities available in School
- engage with academic opportunities offered outside School and display initiative in exploring these opportunities.

### **Selection and assessment procedure**

Selection for a 16+ academic scholarship for internal and external candidates is by examination and interview. The examination element consists of four short assessment papers. All applicants take two general assessments which interrogate academic thinking skills. Applicants are also asked to nominate two subjects in which they would like to offer subject-specific papers. We ask that these be based the student's intended A level options but do understand that these choices may sometimes change. None of the papers require any special preparation, we are interested in finding out how you think and the subject-specific academic skills you are developing. Candidates who perform to a very high standard will be invited to interview. One interview will be a viva voce style interview with a subject specialist and the other with a senior member of staff and a School Governor will require applicants to engage in academic discussion using a previously unseen piece of stimulus material such as a recent press article.

Those wishing to apply for an academic scholarship should submit an application by the date stated on the application form.

Details of the Scholarship Programme together with schedules and application forms are available in the 16+ Scholarships section of the school website.