

Godolphin & Latymer

INDEPENDENT DAY
SCHOOL FOR GIRLS
AGED 11-18

MUSIC SCHOLARSHIPS


THE SUNDAY TIMES

**SCHOOLS GUIDE
2026**

**TOP 5
INDEPENDENT SECONDARY
SCHOOL FOR ACADEMIC
EXCELLENCE**





WELCOME

Thank you for your interest in Godolphin and Latymer School. I am delighted that you are considering applying for a Music Scholarship here, and hope you don't mind my taking the opportunity to tell you a little about our wonderful Music Department.

One of the most rewarding aspects of my role here is to create inspiring, authentic, exciting, and infectious opportunities for our pupils. In recent months, our pupils have performed works such as Beethoven's Symphony No. 1 and Faure's Requiem, alongside several UK and world premieres; recorded an album of Christmas choral music with a professional label; sung evensong at venues such as Winchester Cathedral and St. George's Chapel, Windsor; and given rock concerts to packed halls.

We are very proud indeed of our fantastic team of Music Scholars, who work with such dedication, enthusiasm and good humour. Many of our Music Scholars take leading roles as soloists, accompanists or composers here, and many perform as part of our chamber music programme. Each year, some of our Sixth Form Music Scholars play concerto movements with one of our large ensembles and, last year, our Symphony Orchestra gave the world premiere of a piece written by a Music Scholar. Our Music Scholars are taught by an outstanding team of visiting music teachers, many of whom are leading professionals in their own fields.

Importantly, however, we recognise that many of our most talented musicians do not hold scholarships. We are immensely proud of all our musicians here, and we are committed to providing a superb range of opportunities to every pupil, regardless of whether or not they are Music Scholars.

We would be delighted to receive an application for a Music Scholarship from your daughter, and hope very much to welcome you here soon.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Langworthy

Director of Music



THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

At all times of the school day, the Music Department is abuzz with activity!

Choral singing here is very popular, with five choirs (both auditioned and non-auditioned) and two pupil-run a cappella groups. All of our choirs perform several times a year, notably in the Spring Choral Concert (where recent performances include Morten Lauridsen's *Ave Verum Corpus*, Vivaldi's *Gloria* and Fauré's *Requiem*), accompanied by an orchestra of up to 50 pupils. At Christmas, all of our choirs sing in our beloved Festival of Lessons and Carols, which regularly features new arrangements and world premieres.

Our Senior Chamber Choir and Junior Chamber Choir, each numbering between 30-40 voices, sing regular evensongs at some of the most renowned venues in the country including St Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, Winchester Cathedral, St. George's Chapel at Windsor Castle, and Southwark Cathedral. In February 2026, our Senior Chamber Choir recorded their debut album with Chorum Records, for release in December 2026.

A great deal of instrumental music happens here, too, and all of our groups perform in our termly large-scale instrumental concerts or in our annual Chamber Music Concert. For our most experienced ensembles, we programme music ambitiously; in the last two years, our flagship Symphony Orchestra has given complete performances of Haydn's *Symphony No. 104 'London'* and Beethoven's *Symphony No. 1* alongside works by composers such as Debbie Wiseman, Vaughan Williams, Mozart, Augusta

Holmes, Schumann, Doreen Carwithen and Saint-Saens, as well as a good deal of contemporary film music. Every three years, our Symphony Orchestra performs in Hamburg, Germany, as part of our Orchestral Exchange with the Johanneum School.

There are a huge number of opportunities for all of our musicians to flourish and grow here. Our Junior and Senior House Music Competitions are amongst the largest in the country, and, last year, attracted in excess of 270 entries. We hold three annual rock and pop concerts, in which pupils perform within their own bands and ensembles. There are also two dedicated Music Scholars Concerts each year, as well as informal weekly lunchtime recitals open to anyone, of any age and ability. Each year, we put on at least one musical in collaboration with the Drama Department, and recent productions include *Mary Poppins*, *Beauty and the Beast*, Shaina Taub's *Twelfth Night* and *Matilda*.

Our students go on to study Music at some of the most renowned institutions in the country. In recent years, our students have been awarded scholarships at the Royal Academy of Music, and have also been awarded Organ and Choral Scholarships at the universities of Oxford and Cambridge.

The Music Department is fortunate to enjoy superb facilities and resources here, including over twenty practice rooms, three teaching rooms (including a Mac Suite), and a dedicated recording studio. Our three excellent concert venues include the Bishop Centre (which also transforms into a theatre for productions), and our wooden panelled Hall (which is a particularly wonderful venue for chamber music). We have three fine organs, including a brand new practice organ, and we are delighted to host a yearly recital for our pupil organists.





MUSIC SCHOLARS AT GODOLPHIN AND LATYMER

Our Music Scholars take on a huge array of roles within the musical life of the school, including soloists, orchestral musicians, accompanists, chamber musicians, singers, rock musicians, improvisers, technologists, conductors, composers and arrangers.

Our Music Scholars develop superb leadership skills by organising concerts; taking sectional rehearsals; leading pupil-run ensembles; and through the example they set to other musicians through their preparation, attendance, hard work and commitment.

Our Music Scholars become confident, expressive performers through frequent performances in our dedicated Scholars Concerts; in our House Music Competitions; in our weekly Lunchtime Concerts; and in our many instrumental and vocal ensembles.

All Music Scholars receive mentorship from the Director of Music & Assistant Director of Music.

MUSIC SCHOLARSHIPS - AUDITIONS

Each academic year, scholarships and exhibitions (worth up to 30% of fees, along with free tuition in one or two instruments) are available at 11+ entry to candidates of outstanding musical ability. Bursary assistance may also be available.

Music Scholarships and Exhibitions are awarded by competitive audition. Only candidates who have already been successful in the 11+ entrance exam and have been offered an interview for a place in Year 7 will be eligible for an audition.

WHAT STANDARD IS EXPECTED?

It is expected that a standard equivalent to approximately Grade 6 in at least one instrument will have been achieved by the time of the audition. However, this is simply for guidance to parents and teachers, and there is no necessity for candidates to have taken graded examinations before applying for a scholarship. In some cases, evidence of a real aptitude and passion for music may be more important than the standard achieved technically, particularly for instruments which candidates don't typically start until junior school (such as the bassoon, double bass, and some brass instruments, for example). All of the information on a candidate's application form is taken into account when selecting candidates for auditions.

Due to the large number of applications received, candidates who have attained Grade 6 or higher may not automatically be called for an audition.

WHAT DO CANDIDATES NEED TO PREPARE FOR THEIR AUDITION?

The piano and all orchestral instruments may be offered as a candidate's first instrument. Singing should not normally be offered as a first instrument, but may be offered as a second instrument.

THE FOLLOWING WILL BE EXPECTED FOR THE AUDITION:

Candidates should prepare repertoire of up to eight minutes' duration in total, including:

- A performance on the candidate's main instrument. This may be either one piece or two shorter pieces. Candidates may perform excerpts, if they would like.
- A (short) performance on the candidate's second instrument, if offered.
- Optionally, candidates may also elect to sing a verse of a folk song, hymn or similar for up to one minute (which must fall within the duration of eight minutes in total).

In addition, candidates will be asked to:

- Sight-read a short excerpt
- Undertake some aural tests (including singing & clapping unfamiliar music, and basic chord identification)
- A short, informal interview

An official accompanist will be provided, although candidates may bring their own accompanist if they like. There will be an opportunity for candidates to rehearse with their accompanist before their audition.

HOW CAN I APPLY FOR A MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP?

Candidates will be invited to apply for a Music Scholarship after they have completed the two-stage process (Registration followed by the Exam Entry Form). Auditions will be held in January of the year of entry.

For a full list of key dates, please see **11+ Entry** in the **Admissions** section of our website.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

It is a condition of the award that Music Scholars play a full part in the musical life of the school, contributing to ensembles, choirs, concerts, events, and any other musical activity as requested by the Director of Music.

It is expected that a Music Scholar would commence the study of a second (orchestral) instrument, if she had not already done so. The school would offer to rent an instrument to these candidates, if that instrument was available.

The school will reserve the right not to award the Scholarship should no candidate of the required calibre present herself, but a Music Exhibition may be awarded to promising candidates. The same conditions would apply to the Exhibition as to the Scholarship, but the value of the award would be less.

The Scholarship would be subject to review on entering the Sixth Form.

WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION?

For more information on music at Godolphin and Latymer, please visit the **Music** pages on our website.

For more information on Music Scholarships, please contact **registrar@godolphinandlatymer.com**



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www.godolphinandlatymer.com

