

performing and visual arts scholarships assessment criteria and information

Performing Arts Scholarships

Music

Applicants are required to present two contrasting works (if they are long pieces, not all of them may be heard) as part of the 10-minute audition, which includes some ear tests and sight reading. If a student wants to play more than one instrument, they can.

AMEB Criteria

At the time of application, students should have achieved or be currently studying the required AMEB standard or equivalent for the year level they are applying for.

Year 7 2026 Applicants (currently in Year 5)	Year 8 2026 Applicants (currently in Year 6)	Year 9/10 2026 Applicants (currently in Years 7/8)	Year 11 2026 Applicants (currently in Year 9)
Piano Grade 4	Piano Grade 5	Piano Grade 6	Piano Grade 7
Strings Grade 3	Strings Grade 4	Strings Grade 6	Strings Grade 7
Other instruments Grade 3	Other instruments Grade 4	Other instruments Grade 5	Other instruments Grade 6
Voice Grade 2	Voice Grade 3	Voice Grade 4	Voice Grade 5

If potential applicants are unsure if their current standard on their instrument would be considered appropriate, they should contact us so we can advise. For example, a French Horn player may be working towards the stated AMEB grade.

Assessment Criteria

1. Interpretation and Musicianship
2. Accuracy and Control
3. Technical Ability
4. Potential
5. Presentation

Dance

Dance Scholarship applications are invited from those who perform or show potential for performing at a remarkably high level of accomplishment, when compared to others of their age. Applicants are required to present two solo pieces of contrasting styles and may also provide a portfolio of achievements.

Assessment Criteria

1. Technique: balance, flexibility, coordination, control, transfer of weight, strength, stamina, style specific techniques
2. Degree of Difficulty: variation of movement categories of gesture, elevation, falling, turning, travelling and stillness
3. Performance Skills: focus, facial expression, bodily expression, smooth transitions, commitment, effortless movement
4. Performance Quality: audience connection/projection, stage presence, confidence, manipulation of energy dynamics, use of space, musicality (timing and interpretation)

Drama

Drama Scholarship applications are invited from those who perform or show potential for performing at a remarkably high level of accomplishment, when compared to others of their age. Applicants should select and prepare one monologue from the attached list to present (from memory) at their audition. Applicants do not need to wear a costume and should keep the use of props to a minimum. Applicants may perform any of the texts regardless of gender.

Assessment Criteria

1. Characterisation
2. Use of Space
3. Voice
4. Movement
5. Stage Craft

Conditions of Performing Arts Scholarships

If a student is awarded a scholarship, it is intended that the scholarship will continue for the period of a student's schooling at Clarendon. However, its continuation is subject to:

- the scholarship holder fulfilling expectations as outlined by the Head of Performing Arts at the start of each year (this can include school musicals, plays, showcases, concerts, participation, ensembles and public performances);
- the scholarship holder's level of performance in the Performing Arts continuing at an elite level throughout the duration of the scholarship;
- the scholarship holder continuing to be an example to other students in terms of work ethic, application and involvement; and
- the scholarship holder continuing formal studies within their Performing Arts area into Units 3 & 4 level.

Additionally, for Music Students

- the scholarship holder participating in two or more ensembles or participating in an ensemble while undertaking VCE Music studies; and
- the scholarship holder maintaining 80% attendance in all ensembles they are a member of and attending all relevant performances, events and camps.

Visual Arts Scholarships

Visual Arts Scholarship applicants need to prepare a portfolio of their work – this should contain work completed during the last couple of years and may include school projects as well as work produced outside lessons. We like to see students working in a range of media.

Applicants will complete the following:

1. Imaginative/creative drawing (15 mins). A topic/theme and all materials are supplied.
2. Visual analysis (15 mins). Applicants choose from a selection of artworks and answer a series of questions about the work.
3. Interview (15 mins). Applicants are interviewed by the Head of Visual Arts. We look through their portfolio together and discuss the works, their passion for Art etc.

Conditions of Visual Arts Scholarship

If a student is awarded a scholarship, it is intended that the scholarship will continue for the period of a student's schooling at Clarendon. However, its continuation is subject to:

- the scholarship holder is expected to contribute, as requested by the Head of Visual Arts, to the Clarendon Visual Arts program;
- the scholarship holder's level of performance in the Visual Arts is expected to continue at an elite level throughout the duration of the scholarship;
- the scholarship holder is expected to be an example to other students of the highest levels of work ethic, application and involvement; and
- the scholarship holder is expected to continue formal studies within Visual Arts into Units 3 & 4 level.