

Abbey Scholars Program Information Pack

I am delighted to introduce our new Abbey Scholars Program. We are investing in two programs:

Academic – for children who display exceptional academic potential and whose parents are likely to consider entering them for 11+ or for selective entry at public schools for their secondary education.

Swimming – for children who are competent in swimming at a high standard and wanting further opportunities to develop their swimming without impacting their education.

The following information is intended as a guide to registering your child for our assessment day and the process that we will use. All children will be assessed for their academic ability and parents/ carers can choose to opt their child into the swimming assessment.

How to Register your Child

1. Book your tour of the school to meet staff and pupils
2. Complete the registration form (the last page in this information pack) for our Scholarship Assessment Day on Friday 24th November
 - a. current Year 2 Pupils can apply for entry in September 2024
 - b. current Year 3, Year 4 & Year 5 pupils can apply for entry in January, April, or September 2024
3. A taster day will be arranged before the assessment day. If your child is undergoing assessment for our swimming scholarship program, to help them familiarise themselves with our pool we will arrange their taster day to coincide with the day their age group swims.

The Assessment Process

1. Scholarship Assessment Day on Friday 24th November 2023

Abbey School reserves the right not to award scholarship places if there are insufficient applicants at the required standard

- a. Morning Session – Academic Assessment using Cognitive Achievement Testing (CAT Tests)
 - i. All assessments are done on a laptop or iPad.
 - ii. For pupils in Year 2 and Year 3 (age 6 to 8) - this comprises 2 electronic assessments testing verbal, quantitative, spatial, and non-verbal reasoning. Each test takes approximately 30 minutes with a break in between.
 - iii. For pupils in Year 4 and Year 5 (age 8 to 10) – this comprises 3 electronic assessments testing verbal, quantitative, spatial, and non-verbal reasoning. Each test takes approximately 45 minutes with breaks in between.
 - iv. Assessments are marked externally.
 - b. Afternoon Session – Swimming Assessment (optional)
 - i. Your child must be able to swim 2 lengths of the pool using a recognised stroke, without stopping or placing their feet on the floor.
 - ii. Our pool is 1.2m deep throughout and diving is not permitted.
 - iii. Your child will need to bring their swimming costume (please note: we do not permit the wearing of bikinis, crop top style swimwear or board shorts), towel, swimming hat (not essential for assessment but it is expected that pupils at our school wear them) and if preferred – goggles.
 - iv. Our swimming coaches will assess your child's swimming ability in all 4 strokes. Each element will be graded using a points system. Further details on criteria used to assess swimmers are available on request.
 - v. Our swimming coaches reserve the right to stop a child from participating if they believe their safety or that of other participants would be compromised.
2. The Admissions Panel meets on Wednesday 29th November
 - a. made up of the Principal, Headteacher, Senior Leadership Team, Junior Teacher, SENDCO
 3. Letters to all Candidates & Offers Made – Friday 1st December
 4. On receipt of an Abbey Scholar Award, a child can then be formally registered to start at Abbey School and a start date will be agreed.

Frequently Asked Questions

My child already attends Abbey School – can I apply?

Absolutely, our Abbey Scholars Program is open to all children.

My child already attends a fee -paying school – can I apply?

Yes, however we will require confirmation that either one term's notice has been given to the current school or that fees in lieu have been paid. We will not accept children from other fee-paying schools if there are outstanding fees.

My child has special educational needs – can they undergo assessment?

We strongly recommend a discussion with our SENDCO before registering your child to participate in our assessment day. This will help us assess whether we can meet your child's needs. Our academic assessments are completed on a laptop or iPad. As the assessments are electronic, we are not able to override the program to provide extra time – however, the timing is generous and each section is explained to the child before completing it. We would, however, be able to provide support in explaining the task or using the device.

How will you ensure there is no bias?

Your child will be given a unique identifier. This will be used when reporting scores and assessments. All scores will be in the form of standardised age scores. Boys and Girls will be assessed separately for Swimming Scholarships.

How will an Abbey Scholar for the Academic Program be selected?

We will use the overall CAT score to make this decision, with the top-scoring child in each year group being awarded an Abbey Scholar place. Further awards where there is evidence of exceptional academic potential in more than one child per year group may be made at the discretion of the Principal.

How will an Abbey Scholar for the Swimming Program be selected?

The highest scoring children with evidence of competence in at least one stroke will be considered for an Abbey Scholar place, with at least one award being made to the highest scoring boy and highest scoring girl. Further awards may be made, at the discretion of the Principal.

What is the level of award for an Abbey Scholar?

A scholarship will be awarded in the form of a reduction in the school fees, ranging from 10% to a maximum of 50%. Parents/ Family Members should be aware that there is no further financial assistance available after a scholarship reduction is applied. Fees are charged three terms a year and can be paid in full at the beginning of each term, or in 3 monthly instalments. Using our current fee for Juniors, the following table can be used to indicate the fee payable dependent on level of award:

	No Award	10% Award	15% Award	20% Award	25% Award	50% Award
Termly Fee	£4550	£4095	£3867.50	£3640	£3412.50	£2275
3 Payments / Term	£1516.67	£1365	£1289.17	£1213.33	£1137.50	£758.33

What is the process of registration if my child is offered a scholar's place?

We require a completed registration form for all children who join Abbey School, a non-returnable registration fee of £50 along with a returnable deposit of £200.

What are the expected start dates?

January 2024 Entry Monday 8th January 2024
April 2024 Entry Monday 22nd April 2024
September 2024 Entry Monday 2nd September 2024 (TBC)

What if I have further questions not answered here?

Please contact the school on 01803 327868 or via email admin@abbeyschool.co.uk – we'd be delighted to help with any queries you may have.

Abbey School & Nursery – Registration Form for Scholarship Assessment Day

ABOUT YOUR CHILD

Surname: First Name(s) (in full):

Date of Birth: Gender: Male / Female (*please circle*)

PARENT/GUARDIAN DETAILS

Full Name of Parent 1: **Title:**

Relationship to Child:

Email Address:

Telephone number: Mobile number:

Full Name of Parent 2: **Title:**

Relationship to Child:

Email Address:

Telephone number: Mobile number:

TO BE COMPLETED BY ALL APPLICANTS

Proposed Date of Entrance: January 2024/ April 2024/ September 2024 Year Group on entry:

Please provide any other relevant information about your child [special needs, medical, allergies, EAL (English as an Additional Language), etc. If necessary, please attach additional information; for example – educational psychologist reports, EHCP, individual education plans (IEP) or letters from medical professionals

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Current School: Contact Telephone number:

Name of Head at Current School:

TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANTS FOR SWIMMING SCHOLARSHIP PLACES:

The following information is useful for our swimming coaches to know but please be reassured it is not a requirement that a child is a member of a swimming club to be considered for a swimming scholarship place.

Name of Swimming Club: ASA Membership Number:

Date your child joined Swimming Club: Number of Training Hours per week:

Strongest Stroke/s: Can your child swim 25m without stopping?

Is your child able to do competitive starts and turns? Has your child participated in competitive galas?

Please provide further detail on your child's racing experience (in particular, whether they have achieved qualifying times at the national, regional, or county level):

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Privacy Notice We will not use your information for any other purpose unless we have your consent, or the law allows us to do so. We are committed to protecting your information and will handle it in line with the General Data Protection Regulation 2016. For more information about how we handle personal information and your rights, visit our website at www.abbeyschool.co.uk or email our Data Protection Officer at admin@abbeyschool.co.uk

Declaration of Consent:

I give my consent for my child to receive urgent dental or medical treatment as may be considered necessary by the medical authorities present in the event of an emergency.

Parent / Guardian signature: **Date:**

Please return your completed form with a copy of your child's last academic report to:
by post: Admissions Panel, Abbey School, St Marychurch, Torquay, TQ1 4PR or via email: admin@abbeyschool.co.uk