



Kimbolton School
Cambridgeshire



Senior School Scholarships

One school. One family.



A school where the
future is shaped with
integrity.



Headmaster's welcome

Welcome to Kimbolton School

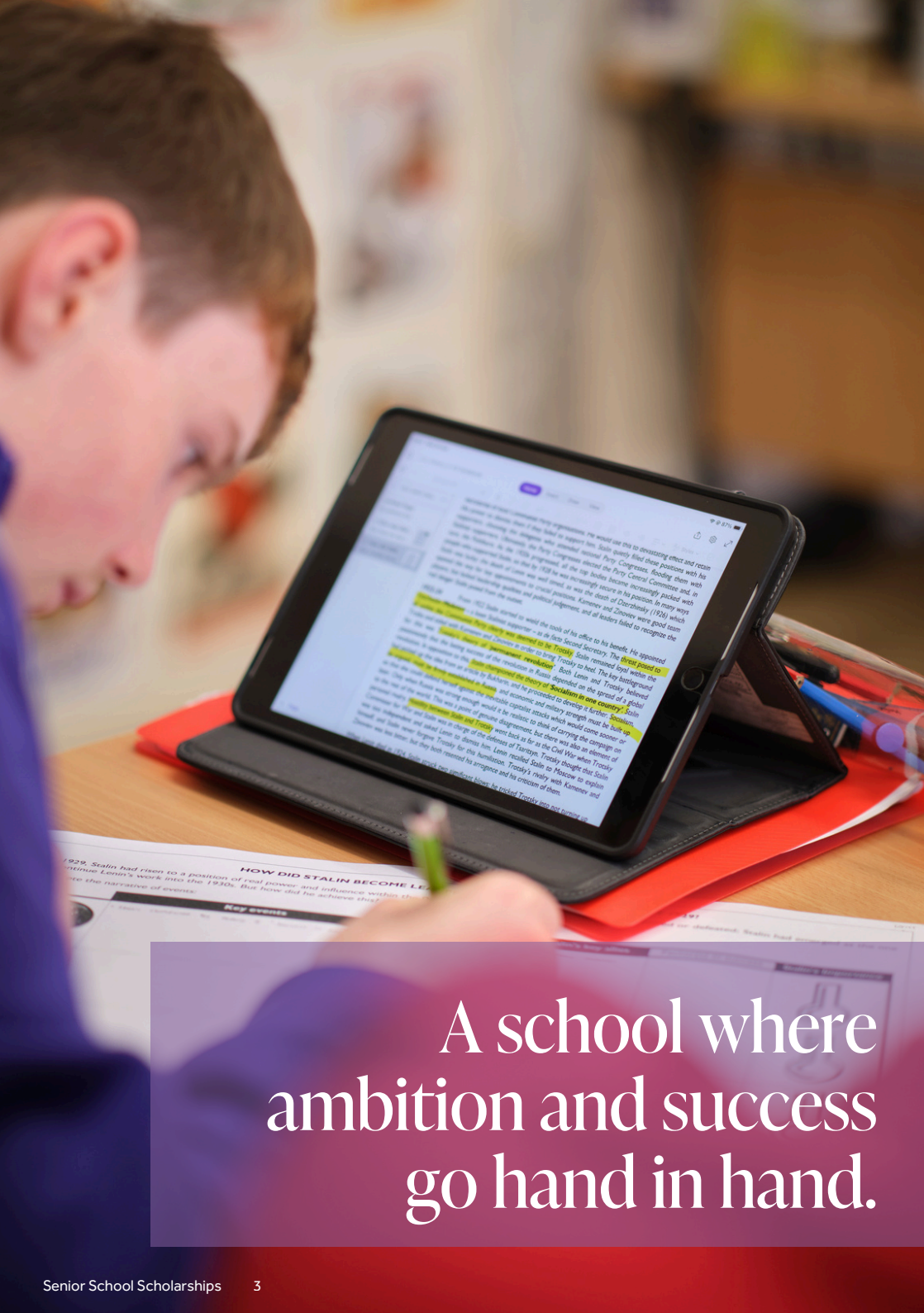
The twin values of curiosity and endeavour sit at the heart of Kimbolton School, and our Scholars are its powerhouse role models.

We value the rich variety of learning and skills that our pupils have, and our Scholarship programme is designed to reflect that. It stretches the most able in a wide variety of disciplines and provides opportunities to inspire and lead others. And it is hard work!

If you would like to play a leading role in inspiring others to question the world, while being challenged to grow yourself, then we welcome your application for a scholarship.

I hope that you enjoy the process.

Will Chuter
Headmaster
headmaster@kimboltonschool.com



A school where
ambition and success
go hand in hand.

Our approach

We are delighted to offer a range of scholarships at Ingrams (11+), Middle School (13+) and Sixth Form (16+). All scholarships are awarded solely on merit. We anticipate that scholarships will be highly prized, recognising exceptional skills and current talents alongside our core values, especially endeavour, curiosity and courage.

We look to our Scholars, joining Kimbolton with pride in their achievements, to provide intellectual and cultural leadership to their peers and in return, we offer dedicated programmes of opportunity and support.

Our scholarships will be awarded through open competition, based solely on merit, and we anticipate them being highly valued for recognising not only skills and talents but also effort and potential. We expect our Scholars, who should take great pride in their status, to lead their peers in the intellectual and cultural life of the school, showing the way to others through their curiosity and endeavour. In return, we provide dedicated programmes of support and opportunity to help them make the most of their talents.

No fee remission is attached to a scholarship as we believe its integrity lies in its honorary nature. All scholarships can, however, be underpinned by bursary assistance if the financial circumstances of an individual family necessitate it. All awards are contingent on successfully meeting our entrance criteria, and continued satisfactory progress is necessary for maintaining any award once in school.



Our commitment to Scholars

If awarded a scholarship, pupils will join a community of fellow Scholars and will experience a programme of activities related to their specific discipline that are designed to stretch them and develop their talents. This is an excellent chance for pupils to broaden their horizons, collaborate with other pupils, lead, and significantly contribute to the pupil community at Kimbolton.

Scholarship standards

Scholars are expected to be pupils who have outstanding aptitude, attitude, potential and commitment in their chosen subject area.

Scholars are pupils who consistently perform in the top 10% of their year group in their chosen subject area.

Ingrams Scholars (11+)

Pupils should consistently outperform peers in their chosen subject area and seek further stretch opportunities. Pupils must be able to show that they engage with their chosen subject area outside of the classroom and are continuing to develop their skills at the highest level.

Middle School Scholars (13+)

Pupils must have a track record of outstanding performance in First and Second Form. They must be able to evidence their commitment to their chosen subject and the contributions they have made to the school community in this area. Pupils will be able to produce evidence which shows them to be outstanding in their field.

Sixth Form Scholars (16+)

For Sixth Form scholarships, pupils should have a prediction of a grade 8 or above at GCSE in their chosen subject with an average of Grade 8 across all subjects for Academic Scholars. Design and Engineering applicants should also be predicted to achieve at least a grade 7 in Computer Science or Maths.



Our expectations of Scholars

Each Scholar, regardless of subject area, is expected to:

- show respect for others and appreciation of diverse perspectives.
- never stop wondering at the world
- be willing to take risks and be creative
- understand that success comes from hard work
- be willing to serve with humility and lead bravely.



“Kimbolton has really allowed him to fulfil his academic potential. It has nurtured but never pressurised him and has given him every opportunity to flourish, even in activities that he would not naturally have chosen.”

Emma, Kimbolton parent



Be curious.
Be courageous.

Application process

Scholarships recognise the school's highest-performing pupils. A limited number of scholarships will be awarded strictly on merit and thus they constitute the School's most important accolade for pupil achievement. They will be available for current Kimbolton pupils and external applicants entering First Form, Third Form and Lower Sixth from September 2025.

- First Form scholarships will be awarded for two years.
- Third Form scholarships will be awarded for three years.
- Lower Sixth scholarships will be awarded for the two years of Sixth Form.

Scholarship application form



At each stage, there will be a fresh opportunity for children to apply (or be re-assessed) for a Scholarship, in recognition that different children's talents develop at different rates and to ensure fairness. Scholars must continue to meet the exacting standards as outlined in this document and this will be monitored through our regular school assessments.

Application submission

- Applicants should complete a Scholarship Application Form via the link below. Applicants can apply for up to two Scholarships.
- An application should include one written piece per scholarship (no longer than 300 words) explaining their interest in their chosen scholarship, detailing why they wish to pursue this opportunity and their future goals within the field.
- Applicants are also required to submit a digital portfolio of evidence to support their application. Please read the portfolio requirements carefully in 'Further Information', as these may differ depending on the chosen scholarship.

Applicants can apply for up to two Scholarships but should be aware of maintaining both commitments if awarded both.

Applicants should submit all application components via the Scholarship Application Form on the website by 16.20 on **Friday 27 November 2026**.

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to a **Scholarship Assessment Day** on **Saturday 23 January 2027**. For pupils entering Senior School, this will be in addition to meeting the academic entry criteria. The format of this assessment will depend on the Scholarship applied for. It is expected that all assessment sessions will be carried out during the school week.

Further information about the portfolio requirements for each specific subjects can be found in this booklet and on the website.

Academic

Staff Lead: Mr Dickens

Our approach

AA love of scholarship sits at the heart of Kimbolton, but our Academic Scholars are expected to relish intellectual engagement beyond the curriculum as part of who they are.

Scholars are ambassadors for learning, living out our values of endeavour, curiosity and courage, and inspiring others through their intellectual ambition, independence and generosity of thought.

Central to our Academic Scholarship provision are The Ideas Lab and The Thinking Studio — two structured enrichment programmes that develop how scholars think, question and communicate. Through a carefully designed blend of teacher-led seminars and personal academic challenges, scholars are stretched to engage deeply with ideas, evidence and debate, and to reflect critically on their own thinking. The programmes culminate in an annual Academic Showcase, where scholars synthesise and present their strongest thinking, demonstrating not just what they know, but how they think.

Rooted in the pursuit of *arête* — excellence in thought and character — The Thinking Studio and The Ideas Lab offer two different routes to the same goal, supporting scholars to grow as reflective, confident, and intellectually ambitious learners, whichever they meet first.

Scholar opportunities

Alongside The Ideas Lab and Thinking Studio, Academic Scholars have opportunities to engage in — and increasingly lead — Kimbolton's academic clubs and societies, including:

- Academic Discussion Meetings (4th–5th Form)
- Manchester Group (5th–U6th)
- HPQ (4th Form) and EPQ (L6th)
- Academic mentoring (L6th–U6th)

These opportunities allow scholars to deepen interests, practise leadership and contribute actively to the school's academic culture.



Academic portfolio of evidence

Applicants for Academic Scholarships at all points of entry are required to submit a portfolio of evidence, consisting of two parts.

Part one: **The 'wicked problem'**

Applicants should submit a short piece (up to 800 words) exploring why one of the following 'wicked problems' is so difficult to address, and suggesting possible thoughts and responses:

- Inequality
- Artificial intelligence
- Homelessness
- Free speech (and its limits)
- Loneliness

Rather than simply explaining why your chosen problem is difficult to solve, describe the hardest choice someone would have to make in trying to address it: what could be gained, and what could be lost?

Submissions may take the form of an essay, or a video recording of a speech (the word count remains the same in either case).

Part two: **Evidence of academic engagement**

Applicants should also include up to five pieces of evidence completed in or out of school, which may include, for instance:

- Homework or independent projects
- Courses they have completed, including a reflection on this learning experience
- Their entry for an academic competition
- A review or reflection on a book they have read
- A reflection on a lectures or museum they have attended

Results from Entrance Examinations, End of year Examinations or GCSEs will be considered alongside the portfolio of evidence.

Assessment and interview

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to interview, where they will discuss their portfolio in more depth, reflect on their thinking and explain their academic interests and ambitions. The interview also provides an opportunity to explore subject knowledge, curiosity, intellectual resilience and future aspirations. The day will also feature a short written task and a group task alongside other applicants, neither of which do we expect applicants to prepare for in advance.



Art

Staff Lead: Ms Horry

Our approach

Art Scholars are integral to the vibrant artistic life of the School. They are encouraged to work with unfamiliar materials and to experiment with new techniques wherever possible supported by our passionate and expert team of staff.

Scholarship opportunities

Scholars can expect to join a vibrant community of fellow art Scholars, to be stretched and challenged by the variety of extra-curricular opportunities. They will grow in their role as mentors to their peers. Scholars can also expect visits to galleries and museums and participation in bespoke Scholar's workshops and projects.



Art portfolio of evidence

For their submission, applicants at all entry levels must submit a Portfolio of Evidence consisting of recent work (within the last year). This should be a maximum of 15 pieces.

Evidence could include but is not limited to: 2D work (including painting, drawing, use of any material that shows 2D intentions) 3D work (Sculpture in any Medium), printing, textiles, photography or digital art. Applicants could also provide a recent sketchbook.

We will be interested in the applicants' approach to materials and the manner in which they realise their intentions when approaching a piece. We would encourage applicants to be as creative as possible. For 3D or large-scale work please indicate scale on the photograph or scan.

Assessment and interview

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to an interview to discuss their portfolio of evidence, allowing them to expand on their work and discuss their artistic choices.

The interview will also give them the opportunity to discuss their artistic knowledge, future ambitions, and further demonstrate their abilities with an individual task.





A school where
inquisitive minds
thrive.

Computer Science

Staff Lead: Mr Reed

Our approach

At Kimbolton, we are excited that our modern world is increasingly run by computer programs. Everything from geoeconomics and national security down to the social media apps are controlled by code! And who controls the code? Computer Scientists! We believe in a curriculum which combines coding skill with imagination and creativity and our Scholars sit at the centre of this approach.

Scholar opportunities

Computer Science Scholars will be leaders in programming in the school. They will lead their peers by providing advice, fun facts, and breaking news in the world of computer science.

Scholars can also attend the termly Comsci meeting as well as attend visits to destinations such as the Big Bang Exhibition and participate in our computer science showcase.



Computer Science portfolio

Applicants at all levels of entry are required to submit a portfolio of evidence with two parts.

Firstly, applicants should provide evidence of their standard of Computer Science and their enrichment beyond the syllabus.

Secondly, they should prepare a 5 minute presentation and include any materials for this presentation in their portfolio. Examples can be found on the next page.

Assessment and interview

Applicants will give their presentation to the Head of Department. There will then be a short interview with follow up questions and a discussion of the portfolio of evidence. Applicants will be challenged with an individual task to demonstrate their potential.

Ingrams (11+)

We are keen to hear from applicants about their experiences of and enthusiasm for Computer Science. Their presentation could be about anything Computer Science-related, for example: Have they built and programmed anything out of Lego? Have they coded a Scratch game or animation, and can they show us how it works? Have they coded a text-based game or a game with graphics?

Middle School (13+)

Applicants will have completed an **independent programming project** and will need to focus their presentation on this. The project could be about **anything** at or beyond Third form level. For example: Have they built and programmed a Raspberry Pi Robot or Rover? Have they coded an advanced graphical animation, and can they show us how it works? Have they coded a game with a Graphical User Interface?

In addition to the above, applicants wishing to become a Third Form Scholar would need to have completed all our First and Second Form [programming projects](#) by the start of the Third Form.

Sixth Form (16+)

Applicants will have completed an **advanced independent programming project** and will need to focus their presentation on this. The project could be about **anything** at or beyond 5th form level. for example: Have they built and programmed a Raspberry Pi Robot or Rover with a camera, sensors and feedback? Have they experimented with Raspberry Pi tronics? Have they coded graphics or an animation using complex maths and programming techniques such as list comprehension, spreadsheet manipulation or using numpy arrays and can they show us how it works?

In addition to the above, internal applicants wishing to become a Sixth Form Scholar would need to have completed all our programming projects by the start of Lower Sixth.



Design & Engineering

Staff Lead: Mis Bennett

Our approach

We believe in a design curriculum that adopts a problem-solving approach to addressing design problems. Scholars enjoy priority access to our DTE facilities, and our team of committed and expert staff, and through this will develop the inquisitive minds required to excel in the aesthetics, articulation, and analysis of modern design.

Scholar opportunities

As well as priority time in our facilities, Design and Engineering Scholars can expect open projects and leadership opportunities. Bespoke visits will be offered alongside support for applications to external awards like the Arkwright Trust. Our Sixth Form Scholars are supported to take part in the prestigious F1 for schools' competition.



Design & Engineering portfolio

Applicants applying for the Design and Engineering Scholarship at all entry levels should prepare a portfolio showcasing their absolute best design work, demonstrating their drawing skills and creativity. The portfolio may include both school projects and personal projects and should include examples of practical work completed. For Sixth Form applicants we would expect examples of CAD work to be included.

Assessment and interview

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to an interview where they will have the opportunity to discuss their portfolio, highlight their creative and practical work, and share their aspirations within design and engineering. This conversation will allow applicants to express their passion for the subject, elaborate on their personal statement, and demonstrate their commitment to the Scholarship Programme. Applicants will also be challenged with independent and team-based tasks so as to demonstrate their aptitude and potential.

Drama

Staff Lead: Miss Akcilan

Our approach

We believe in an approach to drama that allows all students access to myriad opportunities to perform, direct or develop their technical theatre skills.

Scholars sit at the heart of this approach and are encouraged and nurtured to develop their theatrical passions by taking on leading roles, collaborating creatively with other students and in turn inspiring their peers.

Scholar opportunities

Scholars will have the chance to work as student experts working with staff to influence the development of extra-curricular drama and productions. In addition, their status as scholars will mean that they will be involved in all aspects of the theatrical process whether it be design, performance, direction, or stage management.

There will also be opportunities to attend workshops, external productions, and receive free tickets to all school and visiting productions.



Drama portfolio of evidence

Performance applicants

The focus of the portfolio should be the applicant's selection of a monologue. Applicants should select, perform and record a two-minute monologue from a complete and published play which is not from a musical, film script, or self-authored work. The monologue should be accompanied by an annotated script critically analysing and documenting the applicants' interpretative choices. Annotations should focus on essential elements such as the character's physicality, vocal techniques, movement, and the emotional and motivational forces driving the performance.

Applicants are also invited to include evidence of prior performances and experiences in their portfolio of evidence e.g. LAMDA certificates, programmes or photographs.

Technical applicants

Applicants should create a comprehensive PowerPoint presentation that outlines their approach to staging a key scene from a complete and published play of their choice. The presentation should include justifications of how their staging concepts will communicate the play's central messages to an audience, demonstrating an understanding of the director's role in shaping the audience's experience.

Applicants are also invited to include evidence of prior performances and experiences in their portfolio of evidence

Assessment and interview

Shortlisted performance applicants will be invited to an interview involving sharing their recorded performance. During the interview, applicants will discuss their annotated script, explaining how they developed their interpretation of the role. The discussion will focus on the physicality, vocal dynamics, movement, and the emotional depth they brought to the character. The interview offers the chance for applicants to articulate the thought processes behind their choices, linking their performance to the annotations made in the portfolio.

For technical applicants, the interview will involve the sharing of their PowerPoint presentation. During the interview, applicants will discuss their creative ideas for staging the selected scene, providing further justification as to how their choices effectively convey the play's themes and messages. The interview offers the chance for applicants to articulate their ability to think critically about stage design, audience engagement, and the overall impact of their directorial vision.





A school where
everyone is free to be
courageous and curious.

Music

Staff Lead: Mr Gibbs

Our approach

Music is an integral part of life at Kimbolton. From House chapel, to assemblies to the vast range of concerts and performances which take place each year based on diverse ensembles.

Music Scholars are central to this vibrant musical life, and we trust that they will be ignited with a lifelong love and appreciation for music performance which in turn inspires the wider pupil body.



Scholar opportunities

Our Scholars' programme is designed to enhance the musical experience of each pupil, developing their skills as a musician, introducing them to new repertoires and providing a wide range of opportunities to make music, both as a soloist and as a member of an ensemble.

Scholars can expect to take part in dedicated scholars' concerts and events and take a lead in our regular school concert series.

Visits to masterclasses and or external concerts are an ongoing part of the life of music scholars alongside specialist preparation for external auditions to ensembles such as the National Youth Choir and Orchestra.



Music portfolio of evidence

Aspiring Music Scholars are expected to be currently receiving lessons in at least one instrument (singing counts as an instrument).

Applicants are invited to submit a portfolio of evidence in which they provide details of short chosen piece (maximum 5 minutes) which they would choose to perform should they be invited to an interview and audition. Alongside the piece, details of the chosen instrument and any information about whether an accompanist is required should be provided.

Applicants are asked to provide a short programme note (maximum 200 words) providing further information about the piece they intend to perform. This might include some biographical details about the composer, some information about the period e.g. Early, Baroque, Classical, or some context of the piece e.g. it is a movement in a wider piece, or if it has any interesting features.

Applicants are also welcome to include in their portfolio of evidence anything which highlights their musical talents and contributions to music communities. This should include, but is not limited to, instruments played, a testimonial or reference from their instrumental teacher(s), a record of ensembles they have been part of, any music exams they have taken, and the associated certificates and contributions to school and performances.

Assessment and interview

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to an interview in which they will have the opportunity to discuss their portfolio of evidence and to perform their chosen piece on their first-study instrument. Applicants will also undergo a short test of their general aural skills. All applicants should supply their own instrument with the exception of piano or drums.

Music Scholars who have Grade 5 or above may also be considered for a Music Exhibition which provides four terms of music tuition funding.

Sport

Staff Lead: Mr Lawrence

Our approach

Kimbolton delivers a thriving sporting environment, competing locally, regionally, and nationally. In addition to our core sports—Cricket, Football, Hockey, Netball, and Tennis—pupils can pursue Athletics, Canoeing, Cross Country, Golf, Sailing, Shooting, and Swimming.

Through our Athlete Development Programme (ADP), Sport Scholars receive elite coaching, physical preparation, and ongoing support, placing them at the center of Kimbolton's sporting culture.

Scholar opportunities

Sports Scholars can expect athletic development and physical preparation support which underpins their individual sport(s) alongside mentoring:

- Tailored Physical Development: Sport-specific athletic preparation.
- Specialist Mentoring: Small-group coaching.
- Enrichment: Exclusive access to sports science seminars and workshops.
- Leadership: Priority access to leadership qualifications and school leadership roles.



Sports portfolio of evidence

Applicants must evidence achievement in two sports (at least one must be selected from Football, Hockey, Netball, Cricket, Tennis, Cross Country, Athletics, Swimming, or Equestrian; the second can be any sport of choice).

Portfolios should highlight athletic potential and competitive drive, using:

- Coach testimonials and club/school references
- Official times, certificates, and press cuttings
- Video highlights and photos

Assessment and interview

Shortlisted applicants will attend a practical showcase evaluating athletic potential, technical skill, and leadership qualities. The day features a practical performance sessions and a short panel interview to review the candidate's portfolio.



Terms & Conditions

These Terms and Conditions are supplementary to the **Parent Contract** and must be read in conjunction with standard **Terms and Conditions** of the provision of education at Kimbolton School, which will apply and take precedence.

We reserve the right to make amendments to the Scholarship Programme, points of entry and entry requirements at any time.

We reserve the right to withdraw Scholarships should pupils fail to abide by Kimbolton School policies.

We reserve the right to review the Scholarship of a pupil based on their academic attainment or their attainment/engagement with the terms of the respective scholarship scheme and withdraw the Scholarship should they no longer meet the requirements.

Withdrawal of a Scholarship does not affect a pupil's place on the Kimbolton School roll.



Inspiring curiosity,
courage and kindness.