



TMC

Thomas More College

An Inspired Education

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CULTURAL, SPORTS AND AWARDS / EDUCATION TRUST

HS SCHOLARSHIP POLICY

Stakeholders:

This policy applies to all talented, committed sportsmen and academics, whether in the Senior Primary or other Primary School who hope to be awarded a scholarship to attend our own High School at Thomas More College, and to the Head of the HS and the HS Deputy Head who interview and analyse applications.

Thomas More College:

Thomas More College offers an inspired, balanced and all round education aimed at offering equal opportunities for different genders who wish to excel at TMC.

Aims and Objectives:

- to retain exceptionally talented and committed sports and academic pupils at Thomas More College
- to attract exceptionally talented sportspersons and academics to the High School of TMC.
- to give recognition to those who have excelled beyond the limits of everyday academic and sporting expectations.

Principles of Policy:

These scholarships are strictly based on merit and should not be confused with a Bursary Programme that is purely focused on providing financial assistance. Pupils with a track record of exceptional academic and sporting performance and potential, who also involve themselves in a range of activities beyond the confines of academics, are typically short-listed for interviews, once the application process closes. Submitting an application does NOT guarantee an interview. Similarly, an interview does not guarantee a scholarship.

Policy:

Scholarships starting from 20% and ranging up to 50% of the annual school charges may be offered to successful applicants.

The Capital Development Fund payment and/or the deposit may be discounted by the same percentage or in certain circumstances may be waived.

The scholarships are generally awarded to incoming Grade 8 pupils during their Grade 7 year, but in exceptional cases and depending on the availability of funds, as well as the calibre of the candidates, an award may be made to a pupil in a grade higher than Grade 8.

All recipients will be required to meet the normal admission criteria for the High School and to adhere to all aspects of the Code of Conduct for pupils. The recipients will be expected to demonstrate values that are in keeping with the Ethos of Thomas More College.

Recipients will be identified according to the following criteria:

Academic Scholarship:

- Candidates must have achieved a 90% aggregate during their Grade 6 year (evidence of extramural participation is mandatory);

OR

Targeted All-round Excellence Scholarship:

- Candidates must have a minimum of a 70% aggregate in Grade 6 and represented PADSSA/ KZN in one or more of the following targeted co-ed codes: swimming, waterpolo, soccer, hockey.

In determining the extent of the scholarship, consideration will be given to the following:

- The ability of the candidate to fulfill a specific need identified by the High School
- A scholarship, once awarded will normally be held for the full period of a pupil's career at Thomas More College. This will be provided that his/her/ their conduct and commitment remain, in the eyes of the High School Head, satisfactory. The High School Head reserves the right to withdraw a scholarship, with one term's notice, from any pupil who no longer demonstrates commitment, or who brings disgrace to TMC. Exceptional circumstances such as illness or injury will be taken into consideration.
- Scholarships may be withdrawn if the remainder of the school charges are not kept up to date.
- Should a scholarship recipient leave Thomas More College during the course of an academic year in order to take up a position at another school, the parents may be held responsible for the full, undiscounted School Charges for one term as notice.
- Except in exceptional circumstances, staff of Thomas More College who have their children schooling at TMC, do not qualify for Scholarship support, as they already enjoy financial relief under the staff benefits policy;
- The names of the recipients of the scholarships will remain confidential. Neither Thomas More College, nor the recipients, or parents of the recipients may disclose the names of the recipients to other parents or to members of the public.

Note:

Scholarships will in all circumstances be limited to the budgeted funds allocated and approved by the Board of Trustees and will be sourced from funds outside of school charges.

Procedures:

Offers to pupils from outside schools should be handled discreetly and with due regard to the sanctity of the other school. Poaching of pupils from other schools is not to occur.

Wherever possible scholarships should be awarded for placements that are in excess to the budgeted enrolment of the grade. Where scholarships are to be awarded and the grade does not have its budgeted number of pupils then the Treasurer is to authorise this.

Scholarships would be awarded under the name of the Education Trust.

Responsibilities:

It is the responsibility of the Marketing Department to make the availability of such scholarships known in a subtle way. It is then the responsibility of the applicant to apply for this. The Scholarship Allocation Committee then have the task of reviewing all applications and interviewing shortlisted candidates.

Commitment:

Thomas More College is committed to providing an inspired education in all it undertakes and to following no unfair discrimination, prejudice or bias.

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