



Bishop Wordsworth's School

Exeter Street, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP1 2ED

Telephone: 01722 333851

Fax: 01722 325899

E-mail: admin@bws.wilts.sch.uk

Website: www.bws-school.org.uk

Head Master: Dr S D Smallwood BSc (Hons) PhD NPQH

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Dear Parents/Guardians

Arkwright Engineering Scholarships

BWS is an Arkwright Engineering affiliated school. As a result, boys can apply for a scholarship which is awarded by the Arkwright Scholarship Trust as part of their programme to inspire future leaders in engineering. This year we have had 4 Arkwright Scholars and 2 Arkwright Associates in our Sixth Form.

The scholarships are awarded during a student's Sixth Form studies to boys who meet certain criteria, pass an aptitude test and subsequent interview and who are studying in schools active in supporting STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths). Scholars receive £600 to support their studies along with gaining access to enrichment activities, mentoring and careers days. In addition, scholars have exclusive access to the Arkwright Undergraduate Scholarships. We in turn receive £400 which in previous years we have used to enable the Science Faculty to arrange a wide number of our STEM enrichment activities which you son will either have benefitted from or will continue to benefit from during the remainder of his time at BWS. The scholarships are widely respected by academia and industry and would no doubt enhance a student's university application. Below is some detail about the Scholarships.

I will be talking to boys before the end of the year about the opportunity of applying for an Arkwright Scholarship during Year 11. The reason for making boys and parents aware at this stage is that boys who do not study Design and Technology may wish to use some of their summer holiday to undertake a practical project at home which would support their application.

If you have any questions, please do feel free to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Dr Emma Baker
Director of Science
eeb@bws.wilts.sch.uk

Arkwright Scholarships

The Arkwright Scholarships Trust exists to identify, inspire and nurture future leaders in Engineering. They do this by awarding prestigious Arkwright Engineering Scholarships, through a rigorous selection process, to high-potential students who apply during Year 11. The Engineering Scholarships support students through their A Levels and encourage students to pursue Engineering or technical Design at university or through a higher-level apprenticeship and to take up Engineering or technical Design careers.

The Engineering Scholarships are sponsored by a range of industrial companies, charitable trusts, professional engineering organisations, universities, trade associations, the Armed Services, schools and personal donors. In addition, Arkwright also offer a small number of Undergraduate Scholarships to support an elite group of existing Arkwright Engineering Scholars through university.

Arkwright scholars are awarded £600 each to support their VI Form study and the school receives £400 which supports the STEM enrichment programme in school.

What Makes a Good Arkwright Application?

1. The Student Applicants:

- Must be in Year 11. They will submit an application to Arkwright between November and January.
- Must be of 'good' academic ability so all BWS students fall into this category. Typically, successful Arkwright applicants are predicted to get a mix of 9-6 at GCSE and are likely to go on to get similar grades at A level.
- Must have a strong practical ability to conduct hands-on projects and be able to apply the knowledge they gain in STEM lessons in a real-world context.
- Must be genuinely interested in a future career in engineering and/or technical design, to be pursued after A levels through university study or through a higher-level apprenticeship.
- Must be taking GCSE subjects necessary to be a future leader in engineering, including Maths and must plan to study an engineering degree at university.
- Must show the signs of future leadership potential.

2. The On-line Application Form:

Details on how to apply can be found here: <http://www.arkwright.org.uk/how-to-apply/on-line-application>

A teacher must write a short reference for each student, prior to submitting each on-line application, covering: leadership potential; interest in engineering/technical design, academic ability. The student must complete a standard on-line application form to outline:

- What specific interests in engineering / technical design they have (a general interest is fine)
- About a practical project that he has performed, or is performing. This is used to assess the applicant's ability to apply their STEM knowledge. Examples include individual D&T curriculum projects, a personal technical project conducted at home, or a team project completed in a school club, Guide Company, Cadet Force, Scout Troop etc. A good applicant will be able to clearly demonstrate their practical technical ability. Those students who might need help with an extra-curricular project

might find the project pages of the Arkwright website useful:

<http://www.arkwright.org.uk/how-to-apply/example-projects>

- Their thoughts about how their post-school education and subsequent career will pan out. A good application will show evidence of some research into: university degrees or higher-level apprenticeships; mention of specific engineering disciplines, sectors of industry and/or possible employers that the applicant is interested in; some knowledge of how a technical career might progress over time
- About any extra-curricular or home-based activities the applicant conducts in STEM, e.g. an after-school Science/Engineering Club, attendance at the Science BAYS afterschool enrichment sessions, local robot club, visit to relevant museums etc. A good applicant will show a range of STEM activities to prove their interest in a future career in engineering and/or technical design
- About personal activities (curricular, extra-curricular, home-based) not related to STEM that show general social prowess, leadership skills, positions of responsibility, tenacity e.g. Scout Patrol Leader, Grade X piano, Karate Black Belt, Captain of football team, Duke of Edinburgh Awards, volunteering, mentoring. A good applicant will show evidence that they are starting to take up positions of authority and responsibility and can persevere and succeed at activities.
- Arkwright have given really useful feedback on the applications made this year - <http://www.arkwright.org.uk/downloads/schools/2017-application-form-feedback.pdf>

3. The aptitude Test and Interview

Applicants undertake a 2 hour aptitude test in school in February. This costs around £40 to enter. There are past papers for guidance on the website below. On the basis of their test result and application, a number of applicants are offered an interview and the outcome of the process is announced in July of Year 11.

The Arkwright website has extensive details about the Arkwright Scholarships and the benefits for students. Included on this website are examples of previous aptitude tests

<http://www.arkwright.org.uk/>