

13th October 2025

Dear Student,

Re: Scholars Programme

We are delighted to invite you to apply for one of the 14 places available on the Scholars Programme, a transformative opportunity designed to inspire students in Years 9 and 10, to explore higher education, develop critical academic skills and build confidence for their future.

Why you should apply

- **University-Style Learning:** Over the spring term, students will participate in seven interactive tutorials led by a PhD tutor, diving into a fascinating topic linked to the tutor's research expertise.
- **Skills for Success:** You will strengthen your academic writing, critical thinking, and communication skills while completing a 1,500 to 2,000 word assignment with personalised feedback.
- **University Graduation Event:** Celebrate your hard work at a real university campus, where you will experience campus life and learn about future pathways.

This programme is completely free to you and tailored to empower students from all backgrounds.

Who can apply?

We warmly encourage applications from all students, with **55% of places prioritised** for those who:

1. Receive Pupil Premium funding
2. Are the first in their family to consider higher education
3. Live in an area of higher deprivation (IDACI 1-4 postcodes)

No prior experience is needed - just curiosity and a willingness to learn!

Key details

- **Apply by:** Friday 7th November
- **Programme Dates:** January Virtual Launch until May with a graduation.
- **Delivery:** 7 one hour In-school sessions plus a university graduation trip
- **Topic :** Solving the mysteries of microbiology



- Support Provided: All materials, mentorship, and travel assistance for the graduation event (if needed).

Why this matters

For students whose families haven't experienced university, this programme is a chance to challenge assumptions, build ambition, and prove that higher education is within reach. Whether your dreams are of apprenticeships, A-levels or degrees, the skills you gain will help you thrive. Please see the following site for resources and advice to support your decision and parents can also sign up for the [newsletter here](#).

Why get involved?

Recent research has shown that students who did The Scholars Programme in Year 9 or 10 were more likely to achieve a 9-5 in Maths and English than students who scored similarly at Key Stage 2 within their schools. Nine consecutive years of independent evaluation from UCAS have shown that The Scholars Programme has a significant impact on university application and progression rates.

The Scholars Programme develops key academic skills, including critical thinking and written communication, as well as university knowledge and confidence.

How you can apply

Simply complete the attached [google form here](#) to submit your application. Spaces are limited. Deadline **Friday 7th November**. If you have any further questions, please come and speak to Mrs Bishop or via email at lbishop@magna-aspirations.org. Together, we can discover what you are capable of achieving.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Bishop
Assistant Principal