

Scholarship Competitions 2026

Saturday 29th August

INSTRUMENTAL MARKING CRITERIA

ACCURACY (20)	INTERPRETATION (20)	PERFORMANCE (20)
Honours (54/60 marks)		
Demonstrates exceptional accuracy throughout the performance, with few to no noticeable errors in notes or rhythm. Minor inaccuracies do not significantly affect the performance. (18-20 marks)	Exceptional interpretation, showcasing confidence and technical proficiency in conveying the intended musical expression. Expressive and musical playing. (18-20 marks)	Demonstrates very well prepared and polished playing, maintaining a fluent tempo and displaying good attention to detail. The performance is polished and close to professional. (18-20 marks)
Distinction (48/60 marks)		
Generally accurate performance with occasional noticeable errors, but overall maintains a good level of consistency. (16-17 marks)	A well-prepared interpretation, demonstrating fluency and attention to detail in conveying the musical intent. A good understanding of style and character through articulation / phrasing. (16-17 marks)	Communicates the composer's intentions effectively. Shows a good awareness of balance between melody and accompaniment, creating a well-rounded and cohesive musical presentation. (16-17 marks)
Merit (42/60)		
Occasional errors of notes and rhythm disrupt the continuity of the piece. However, the performance holds together well. (14-15 marks)	Performed with a sense of style, though with musical detail not yet fully realised. Some articulation / pedalling will be successful. The tempo or dynamics could benefit from more care. (14-15 marks)	Greater control and stability are needed to enhance the musical experience. Delivery is not yet fully secure, resulting in moments of uncertainty that impact overall confidence. (14-15 marks)
Pass (36/60 marks)		
Exhibits some accuracy, but frequent errors significantly hinder the overall delivery. (12-13 marks)	Musical detail is lacking. This results in insecurity in one or more of the following: notes, rhythm, steady tempo, articulation, and dynamics. (12-13 marks)	The performance lacks a steady tempo due to inaccuracies, resulting in inconsistencies and disruptions in the musical flow. (12-13 marks)
Fail (below 36 marks)		
Poor accuracy, with numerous and consistent errors that severely impact the performance. (8-11 marks)	Little sense of continuity or stylistic interpretation due to inadequate preparation. (8-11 marks)	The performance lacks cohesiveness and struggles to maintain consistent musical communication. (8-11 marks)
Lacks accuracy, resulting in an inconsistent and disjointed performance. (0-7 marks)	Not yet ready for presentation. (0-7 marks)	The performance is disjointed and fails to engage the audience effectively. (0-7 marks)