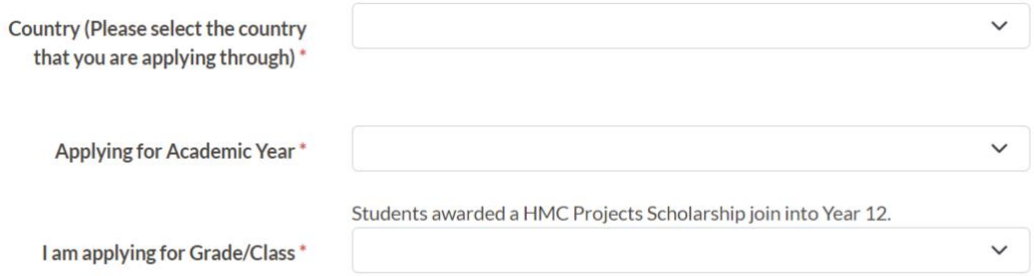
Guide to the HMC Projects Online Application

We are delighted that you are applying for a HMC Scholarship. Each candidate applies through a scholarship competition in his or her own country, organised by a HMC Country Coordinator. This document sets out information to help guide you through the online application for HMC Projects Central & Eastern Europe.

We would ask that the first six sections of this application (finishing with Personal Essay) are completed by you (the student), whilst the last two are completed alongside your parents.

You can at any point 'Save & Finish Later', so it is not necessary to complete the application at one time. You can only submit your application once.

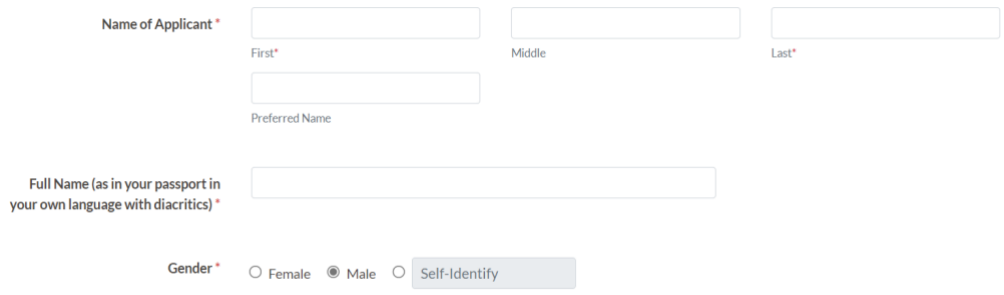
Section 1: Country Questions



You will then get a question about the type of scholarship you are applying for *e.g. Full Scholarship, Reduced Fee Scholarship*

If at any stage in this application, you are unsure what to do **please contact your country coordinator** or HMC Projects using deputydirector@hmcprojects.org.uk.

Section 2: Applicant Information



Preferred name refers to the first or forename you like to be called. For instance, Tom not Thomas.

Date of Birth *

dd/mm/yyyy

Country of Birth *

Select...

Country *

Religion

Student Primary Email *

Student Primary Phone (Please type as: +country code and number. No spaces or dashes.) *

Type

Number*

In a situation of urgency we might use this to contact you.

Are you on WhatsApp? * ○ Yes ○ No

Country of Citizenship *

Nationality (as in passport) *

Second Nationality (if you hold dual nationality)

An applicant's religious belief is for information only and would have no influence on the selection process.

Section 3: Educational Information

Full name of the school you attend (in English) *

Current School Name in your own language with diacritics *

Year Started *

In the box labelled State you might enter your region or county.

School Address *

Address 1 *

Address 2

Select...

Country *

City *

State

Zip / Postal Code

Name of present Head/Principal

State = qarqet. Zip/Postal Code = kod postar

School Specialism will give options of General, Classical, Science, Bilingual, Online, Other. **Type** will give options of Public or Private. If attending any other school(s) since age 11 it will ask for the name of the school, type and the year started and finished.

School Specialism *

Type of School *

General School Email Address

School Website Home Page

Current Grade/Class *

Previous School(s) since age 11 + *

Section 4: Language Skills

How many languages do you speak in addition to your own language? * 1

In applying for a HMC Projects Scholarship it is assumed you speak English, so please begin with English. Then enter other languages, where applicable.

Language 1 *

How many years have you been learning this language for? *

On average, how many hours per week do you spend learning this language? *

Course *

Please describe your level of proficiency in this language in terms of the Common European Framework of reference for languages (**CEFR Global Scale**) *

Though illustrated (above) for 1 language, you can enter up to 5 languages **additional to your own language**. Please start with English. The Common European Framework of Reference for Languages is linked here. You are also asked (see top of next page) whether you have transcript evidence for that level. If so, you upload that later as what is called a **checklist item**.

Do you have transcript evidence of that level? For example, Duolingo test score, IELTS etc * ○ Yes ○ No

Section 5: Academic, Extracurricular and Personal Interests

Potential Area(s) of Study at University (if known)

Current career intention(s) (if any)

In the UK most A Level students start with three or possibly four subjects. Please check the advice we give in the further information. If taking IB, students take 3 subjects at higher level and three subsidiary subjects.

List the three or four subjects (in rank order) that you would most like to study at A-Level, or as higher Level within the IB.

Subject 1 *

Subject 2 *

Subject 3 *

Subject 4

Most UK schools offer A-levels, but a few run the IB programme. Which statement best represents your preference? *

Please read HMC Projects "Choosing subjects to study in the UK education system" when completing the section **above**. In the section **below**, note this is **academic** awards.

List the academic competitions you have participated in the period **2025** and/or **2026** and evidence of the level reached. Please indicate if they are regional, national or international.

You are then asked questions about sporting; performing and visual arts; clubs, organisations, or community service groups. The format is similar for each category and illustrated below for sport below. You can add up to **3** sports; **4** performing and visual arts; 4 clubs, organisations, or community service groups. Think about the priority activities in listing these.

Would you like to add any sports you currently participate in? * ◉ Yes ○ No

Sport *

Years *

e.g. level of participation - school/club, regional, national

Position/Details *

Honours/Awards

Additional Information (if applicable)

Next (below) you can add up to 4 weblinks to support your application. Consider your priorities.

Note: A later 'checklist item' will invite you to upload family photos.

Have you spent more than one month abroad? * ◉ Yes ○ No

If more than one stay of over a month please separate with a semi-colon. e.g. Paris, 2017, 2 months; Rome, 2018, 6 weeks.

If yes, where, when and how long? *

Have you travelled abroad on holiday with family, friends, school *etc* in the last 2 years? * ◉ Yes ○ No

If more than one holiday please separate with a semi-colon. e.g. UK, School Trip, 7 days; Italy, Family, 2 weeks

If yes, where, nature of holiday, how long? *

Please include weblinks to any additional material which is helpful to us in considering your application either in terms of your subject choices or activities. Typically, this includes:

- You **must** include a portfolio of photos of any art or design work if proposing to study these subjects.
- You **must** include video of you playing a musical instrument if you listed this in your activities and you perform in public *e.g. solo recital, band, orchestra.*
- If you play a sport competitively it can be helpful (*where possible*) to submit video of this too, as with drama performances.

If you choose to provide a link to Certificates (or similar) these should be ones issued within the last 18 months only.
Do not provide a link to what might be described as a self-promotional video – our interviewers will not watch these videos.

Link 1:

Would you like to add another link? ○ Yes ○ No

Section 6: Personal Essay

PERSONAL ESSAY ● ● ● ● ● ❻ ○ ○

* indicates required fields
The following questions will allow you to introduce yourself and help us understand you as both a person and as a student, alongside your grades, test scores and other data. Please answer questions 1 - 5 separately in between 100 - 200 words, and question 6 in three words.

1. Tell us about your family. What occupation(s) do your parent(s) have? Do you have brothers and/or sisters? What things do you like to do together as a family, for instance, activities you participate in with a family member(s), or recent holidays. *

2. What qualities or skills do you think you have that help you to perform highly in your school subjects? Of your school subjects, which interest you most? Why do you find this subject(s) of interest? *

3. Of the activities you listed in the previous section of the application (e.g. volunteering, clubs, sport, the 'arts'), tell us about those that are most important to you and any other ways you like to spend your leisure time. Of these activities, discuss the ones that you would like to continue at a school in the UK or any activities you would like to try if you had the opportunity. *

4. What are your specific reasons for wishing to attend a British boarding school? *

5. What do you want your new school community to learn about you, your country, and your culture, and in what ways might you share this with them? *

6. What three adjectives would you select to best describe yourself? *

separate each word with a comma

* ☐ I declare that the responses to the above questions are entirely my own work

Section 7: Household Information

Student Primary Mailing Address *

In the box labelled State you might enter your region or county.

Address 1 *

Address 2

Select...

Country * | City * | State | Zip / Postal Code

I live with *

My parents *

First Parent or Guardian in Primary Household

Name *

Title | First* | Middle | Last*

Preferred Name

Relationship to Applicant *

Primary Phone (Please type as: +country code and number. No spaces or dashes.) *

Type | Number*

Secondary Phone (Please type as: +country code and number. No spaces or dashes.)

Type

Number

Primary Email *

Country of Birth *

Select...

Country *

Country of Citizenship *

Employment Information

Employment Status: Employed

Job Title *

Second Parent or Guardian in Primary Household

Is there a second parent or legal guardian in this household? * ○ Yes ◉ No

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Note: Job Title will only be asked where the response is Employed or Self-Employed. If answering 'Yes' to second parent or legal guardian, it will repeat the previous questions. The same is true if there is an additional household with legal guardianship (see below).

For siblings it will request their name, relationship to you, age, current year in school (if that applies) and whether they have been scholars with HMC Projects.

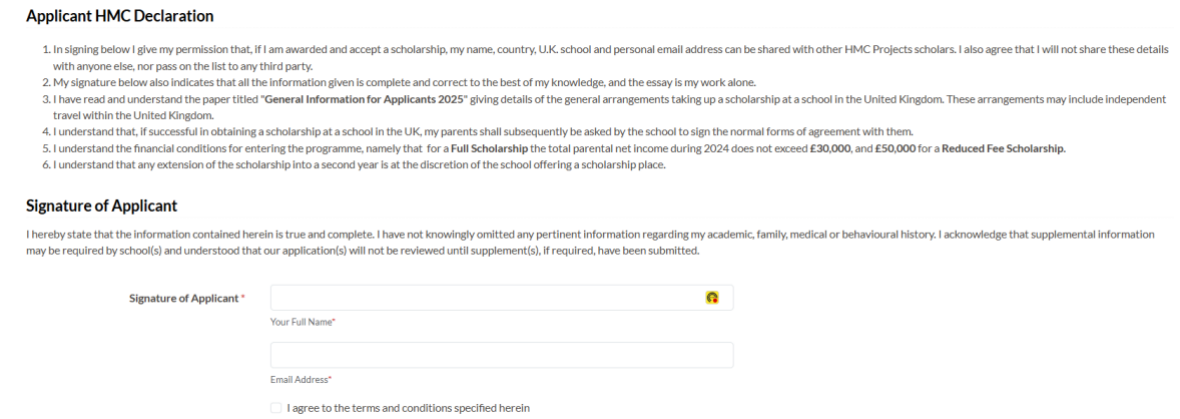
Additional Guardianship Information

Does the applicant have an additional household with legal guardianship? * ○ Yes ◉ No

Sibling Information

How many siblings, if any, does the applicant have? *

Section 8: Candidate Declaration



Applicant HMC Declaration

1. In signing below I give my permission that, if I am awarded and accept a scholarship, my name, country, U.K. school and personal email address can be shared with other HMC Projects scholars. I also agree that I will not share these details with anyone else, nor pass on the list to any third party.
2. My signature below also indicates that all the information given is complete and correct to the best of my knowledge, and the essay is my work alone.
3. I have read and understand the paper titled **"General Information for Applicants 2025"** giving details of the general arrangements taking up a scholarship at a school in the United Kingdom. These arrangements may include independent travel within the United Kingdom.
4. I understand that, if successful in obtaining a scholarship at a school in the UK, my parents shall subsequently be asked by the school to sign the normal forms of agreement with them.
5. I understand the financial conditions for entering the programme, namely that for a **Full Scholarship** the total parental net income during 2024 does not exceed **£30,000**, and **£50,000** for a **Reduced Fee Scholarship.**
6. I understand that any extension of the scholarship into a second year is at the discretion of the school offering a scholarship place.

Signature of Applicant

I hereby state that the information contained herein is true and complete. I have not knowingly omitted any pertinent information regarding my academic, family, medical or behavioural history. I acknowledge that supplemental information may be required by school(s) and understood that our application(s) will not be reviewed until supplement(s), if required, have been submitted.

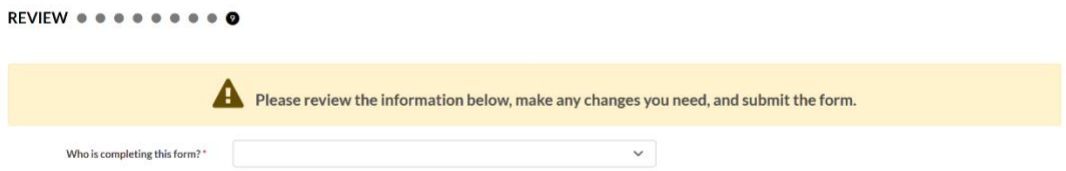
Signature of Applicant *

Your Full Name*

Email Address*

I agree to the terms and conditions specified herein

9. Review Screen



REVIEW

Please review the information below, make any changes you need, and submit the form.

Who is completing this form? *

Please read the whole application with care and amend if you need to. If you **Submit** (bottom of this Review page) you cannot make further changes.

After you **submit** your application, you will receive 2 confirmations:

1. The first is a visual confirmation that will appear on the screen after you submit your application.
2. The second is a later email thanking you for your application and asking you to visit your portal to view your candidate checklist items e.g. uploading your photos, school grades etc.

Checklist Items

After you have submitted your application form, you will be invited to return to the portal to submit what are called Checklist Items. These are:

Applicant Photo – a passport style photo

Teacher Recommendation Forms

Please use the online application system to contact the teacher. Completing the boxes will trigger an email from HMC Projects requesting they complete a form on your behalf. They submit this electronically. You will see when it is complete, but not the content of the recommendation.

It is probably a good idea to ask your teachers if they would kindly do this before sending the email. Please use their official school email address rather than a personal one.

Grades – you will be asked to download and complete a form with your grades on. In addition, please upload copies of the actual grade sheets from your school that match the information you entered on our document and uploaded.
Also, please use this section to upload any language certificates (e.g. IELTS) you referred to in the application form

Additional Supporting Evidence – Please include with your application a recent digital photo of you, either by yourself or with your family (locally or on holiday)

Personal Statement & Health Form – your parent(s) should complete this checklist item with you.

HMC Projects Financial Declaration Form - Please ask your parent(s) to complete the online form.

If you called to interview your parents will also be required to complete an **Applicant Signature Form**. This item will only appear after you are invited to interview.

You will also see listed the **Spontaneous Essay Transcript Upload** – this will be completed on your behalf by HMC Projects.

Choosing subjects to study in the UK education system

In the sixth form in UK schools (Years 12 and 13) students usually study fewer subjects than you will in your own country which allows them to specialise and study these in greater depth. The choice of subjects is very important as it can affect which university courses are available to you and also your eventual career path.

The examination system you will follow will normally be one of the following:

- A level
- International Baccalaureate Diploma (IB)
- Scottish Highers and Advanced Highers

and these systems lead to examinations at the end of two years of study which are essential for entry into university. These qualifications are recognised not only in the UK but also internationally. However, to qualify for entry into university in your own country you may be required to take mandatory national examinations or take certain combinations of subjects. **You should check carefully to make sure of compatibility with your intentions for higher education when selecting subject options**, bearing in mind that, if you obtain a scholarship with HMC Projects, **you are most likely to attend a university in mainland Europe** after being in a UK school. UK universities and those in the USA are very expensive, and obtaining scholarships (financial assistance) is extremely rare and very competitive.

In the **A level system**, you will choose 3 or, in some cases, 4 subjects and you will take examinations in these after two years of study. Most schools will normally require certain A level subjects, notably languages and sciences, to have been studied previously. Many schools offer students the chance to complement their A-Level studies by taking an Extended Project Qualification. Some, more practical subjects may be taught to the **BTEC specifications** – HMCP Projects advises against taking BTEC qualifications, as they are not normally recognised by universities outside the UK.

For the **International Baccalaureate diploma**, you have a degree of choice of subjects, but you must study literature, and mathematics; as well as at least one science and at least one societal subject (e.g., economics, geography, history). You study your chosen six subjects to higher (HL) or standard level (SL) depending on which are more important for university entry onto the course of your choice. Broadly speaking, those subjects you study at higher level will be equivalent to the subjects studied at A level. The idea of the IB is to maintain your breadth of knowledge and skills. In this system you are also required to write an extended essay and to study 'Theory of Knowledge (TOK)'. In most schools offering IB because of the breadth requirement, you cannot study more than 2 science subjects, so for science degrees in the Netherlands A-Level is preferable.

Scottish Highers require one year of study and the **Advanced Highers** normally require two years. As the name suggests this examination syllabus is followed in many schools in Scotland although some Scottish schools teach A level or IB courses instead. It is very unusual for Scottish Highers and Advanced Highers to be taught outside Scotland.

The scholarship offered by schools through HMC Projects is **for two years** to enable you to complete your courses and take the final examinations for entry into university or college.

Your choice of subjects

The choice of subjects that you might study in your UK school depends on several factors:

- Your interest and ability in a subject;
- Your choice of university;
- Your choice of subject to study at university;
- Your choice of career

There is normally a large range of subjects to choose from in any school, but not all schools offer the same set of subjects. This is often the case with some foreign languages: for instance, one school may offer German language and another may not. There are two further important points:

- If you choose to study English in the UK, then you will normally be studying English **Literature**;
- If you choose French, German or Spanish then, generally, you will be expected to have studied these for **at least** two years to achieve the right level;
  Note: some IB courses offer a language ab initio i.e. for beginners.

It is also important to be aware that universities may prefer certain subjects for entry onto a particular course. Generally, universities can be rather traditional in the subjects they prefer. These subjects are generally on offer in every school and are listed in the left column in the table below:

Subjects popular with universities	
Normally offered by all schools	**Offered only by some schools**
Biology	Business
Chemistry	Classical Civilisation
English Literature	Computer Science
Economics	Design Tech (Graphics)
French	Design Tech (Product Design)
Geography	Drama and Theatre Studies
History	English Language
Art	Latin
Mathematics	Greek
Further Mathematics	German
Music	Psychology
Physics	Religious Studies
Spanish	Politics

Below (on page 3) we give examples of subject combinations useful for certain university courses. However, as already stated, most HMC Projects Scholars are unlikely to study at UK university and the subject entry requirements can vary between universities across Europe and beyond. In the table below, the subjects listed in bold form an A list and the others a B list of subjects. For the purposes of entry into university outside the UK, HMC Projects does not recommend taking more than one B list subject. In the case of entry into German universities, for example, selecting more than one subject from the B list will be problematic for entry into public universities.

A list of subjects	
Biology	**Greek**
Chemistry	**History**
Computer Science	**Latin**
Economics	**Mathematics**

B list of subjects
Art
Music
Business
Classical Civilisation

English Language	**Further Mathematics**
English Literature	**Physics**
French	**Politics**
Geography	**Spanish**
German	

Design Tech (Graphics)
Design Tech (Product Design)
Drama and Theatre Studies
Psychology
Religious Studies

Before applying, and certainly before accepting a HMC Projects scholarship, make sure that you have researched these requirements fully, with an eye to your own academic and career aspirations.

Course	**Preferred subjects for university**
Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science	Biology and Chemistry. Other things being equal, taking either Maths or Physics is advisable to meet the entry requirements of a wider number of European universities. *It will be extremely difficult to find an **affordable** option to study one of these courses at university outside your own country, regardless of your academic achievements at school. If you are certain that you wish to study one of these subjects, but your family financial circumstances are more modest (e.g. below the full scholarship threshold) we would not recommend taking forward an application for a HMC Projects scholarship. For these professions the most straightforward arrangement is to continue schooling in your own country and studying and qualifying for these professions there.*
Natural Sciences	Two or three of Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics.
Engineering	Mathematics and Physics are required. Further Mathematics is advised.
Computer Science	Mathematics is required. Computer Science or Physics are desirable.
Psychology	Two Sciences are recommended to meet the entry requirements of a wider number of European universities.
Economics and PPE	Whilst Mathematics is advised, students should also consider Economics, History, Geography, Politics or Religious Studies.
Business Studies, Management, Marketing	For public EU universities, Mathematics is essential. Business, Economics, Geography, Psychology may be helpful.
Architecture	There are usually no essential subjects, but an art/science mix might be preferred, and a portfolio of your Art and/or Design work is essential.
Foreign Languages	Two languages (modern or classical) are desirable but not essential
Law	Any A Levels at the highest grade. Including a subject involving extended essay writing may be desirable.

Before you consider studying for a **professional qualification** such as **medicine**, **dentistry**, **veterinary**, **architecture** or **law** in another country think about whether you will be permitted to work in that country after qualifying. It is important to consider which countries will recognise such a qualification.

Thinking ahead to university courses

Our two-year programme allows scholars to complete their education in the UK and to apply for a wide variety of universities across Europe. You should be aware that, as an international student, study at university in the UK is very expensive indeed.

Scholarships to study at a UK university are very rare and you will be competing with students from all over the world for these. All scholars are encouraged and advised to consider higher education (university) outside the UK. There are universities in Europe where courses are taught in English and the fees are much more affordable than those of universities in the UK. For those HMC Projects students coming from an EU state, course fees for studying at university in another EU country cannot be higher than for home nationals – though these can vary significantly between EU countries. For those who are not EU passport holders the most likely university destination, because of the affordability of the public universities, is Germany. It should be noted, however, that fewer courses are delivered in English compared, say, to the Netherlands. Nevertheless, it would be sensible if your subject choices in a UK school aligned with that as a potential outcome.

For those offered a scholarship, HMC Projects aims to complement the university advice given by schools, with our focus being on university entry outside the UK. Our scholar Instagram contains examples of university courses taught in English in European universities and beyond. During our November Scholars' Day, students are given an overview of destinations; and then in the spring term HMC Projects runs an online university briefing, which is led by trustee David Hawkins, who runs a leading university advice company (University Guys). Following that briefing, David offers a free 15-minute consultancy to HMC Projects scholars and then links scholars to a volunteer university mentor to guide their applications.

With universities outside the UK, you should find that A levels, the IB diploma and Scottish Highers are recognised for university entrance although in some countries a process of nostrification of your results may be required. HMCP Projects advises against taking BTEC qualifications, as they are not normally recognised by public universities in Europe.

C J Burrows
Deputy Director of HMC Projects
August 2026