



Congratulations on being one of the applicants selected to progress to the interview stage of the Arkwright Engineering Scholarship selection process.

The Arkwright interview is likely to be your first experience of a formal interview and is an early opportunity for personal development. We would like it to be an experience you will remember and find beneficial, by gaining interviewing skills and confidence.

The interview is not a mere formality. The decision to offer you a Scholarship is determined by your interview performance. This year's interviews are taking place online via [Microsoft Teams](#).

### **Prerequisites**

We have already set out to both you and your teacher what will be required for you to take part in the interview, these details are included again for you below. You should:

- have access to a laptop or PC with a webcam
- be able to access the school's internet connection
- have access to Microsoft Teams (from a practical perspective, we strongly recommend you use the [Teams app](#) rather than the web version)
- have a quiet, private space to take part in the interview
- be able to use your camera for the duration of the interview
- have the option to share your screen
- be comfortable running a short presentation around the project discussed in your application

### **Technical Assessment - IMPORTANT**

All applicants are required to undergo a technical assessment as part of their interview.

To assist us with the technical assessment **you must produce** a PowerPoint presentation for discussion during the online interview. Your presentation should include information to help the interviewers better understand your application and your technical understanding of engineering.

The presentation must be no more than 8 slides long and you should be able to talk through it in under four minutes as there will be limited time to discuss the content. It should include:

1. details of what the STEM project you talked about in part 4 of your application set out to achieve
2. information in the form of pictures, graphics and text that helps to explain the project to the interviewers in the limited time available
3. images of the project as it is now showing any progression since you wrote about it in the application
4. information in the form of pictures, graphics and text that demonstrate your wider interests in engineering as referenced in part 5 of your application
5. details of a second project which you feel further demonstrates your technical understanding [optional]



It is important to remember that because of the limited time available during the interview, interviewers will not be able to read through extended sections of text so please keep the content of the PowerPoint brief, succinct and to the point.

We are aware that many projects may still be unfinished because of limited access to workshops and labs; this is not a problem and you should look to show us the next steps for your project.

### **Process on the day**

Your joining instructions contain the date, time and Microsoft Teams link you will need to join your interview.

No more than five minutes before your scheduled start time you should click on the link included in your invitation email. You will then be admitted to the lobby and your interviewers notified that you are ready to be admitted.

Once you are admitted, and following brief introductions, the interview panel will ask you to deliver your presentation. The interview will last for 30 minutes beginning to end.

Once finished you should leave the meeting. If you do not or are unable to leave the meeting our interviewers will remove you.

### **The interview**

Each interview will last 30 minutes and begins as soon as you enter the room on Microsoft Teams – so make sure you make the right impression for the duration of your meeting.

During the interview you may well be asked some of the following questions about your project; you should attempt to address these during your presentation:

- The aim of your project, the problem you set out to solve and why you chose to solve it in this way
- Your decisions taken regarding your project's construction and the materials you used
- The successes and failures of your project
- If you were to develop the project further, say for commercial production, what changes would you make to it
- If you had your time again, would you approach the project differently
- How closely does your project relate to your favoured engineering discipline?

Interviewers may well include more searching questions that relate specifically to your project 'area' to ascertain your depth of knowledge and understanding of engineering principles.

Before attending the interview you should think about why you want to become an engineer, who or what inspired you, why you are interested in your chosen area of engineering, where and what you plan to study as well as what your ideal job would be. All of these sections are potential lines of questioning.

Your interviewers will also want to hear more about your further interests in engineering so be fully prepared for this. They may also ask what having a Scholarship would mean to you.



In short, our interviewers are looking for people who:

- Are polite, enthusiastic and communicate well
- Are knowledgeable about what they have done to date in engineering both related to their project and more generally
- Have good general knowledge of engineering or deep knowledge of a specific area
- Are creative and can demonstrate problem solving in their projects and extra-curricular activities
- Are confident and show the potential to achieve significant career progression and achieve positions of leadership
- Have a genuine interest and commitment to university study, or a higher apprenticeship and a career in engineering

### **Problems on the day**

We have tested the ability to run Arkwright interviews online and are confident that you will have a good experience. However, as with all online delivery there is the potential for things to not go as planned. If you experience any issues you should, in the first instance let your interviewers know. If you are disconnected from the meeting or otherwise cannot inform them then you should call the number included in your joining instructions.

### **Special notes**

- Interviews are not to be recorded. If you do begin recording, your interview will be terminated, and you will be withdrawn from the selection process
- Before the interview begins you will be asked to confirm that you are alone in the room
- Despite the interview taking place online, you should dress smartly; your personal appearance will create the interviewers' first impression of you. Your school uniform, a suit or other smart dress should be worn
- No previous scores are taken into consideration, your recommendation to receive a Scholarship is entirely dependant on your performance at interview