

Financial Support Information for Students and Parent/Carers

Please read this document in full before making an application for the Bursary Fund

The following information applies to students aged 16 to 18 on **31st August 2020** taking a full-time further education course in **2020/21**. For more information and advice go to: www.direct.gov.uk/16-19bursary

What is the 16-19 Bursary Fund?

The fund is made available from the government for 16-18 year olds, to provide assistance to students whose access to, or completion of, education is inhibited by financial constraints or barriers. The new 16-19 year old bursary scheme has been put in place as a partial replacement for the previous EMA (Education Maintenance Allowance).

Who is eligible to apply for 16-19 Bursary Funding?

The 16-19 Bursary is targeted towards those young people considered most in need of financial support.

There are 2 types of 16 to 19 bursaries:

- A vulnerable bursary of up to £1,200 a year for young people in one of the defined vulnerable groups
- A discretionary bursary which institutions award to meet individual needs, for example, help with the cost of transport, meals, books and equipment.

£1200 bursary (Vulnerable Bursary)

The government has announced that some students will be entitled to a grant or bursary of £1200. You could get this if you are in one of the following categories:

- > You are living in care
- > You are a care leaver
- > You are receiving income support in your own name
- > You are disabled and receiving both Employment Support Allowance (ESA) and either Disability Living Allowance (DLA) or Personal Independence Payment (PIP) in your own name
- > You are disabled and getting Universal Credit in your own name in place of Income Support or ESA.

16-19 Bursary Fund (Discretionary Bursary)

Students can apply for a Discretionary Bursary:

- > If your gross annual household income is less than £25,000 a year
- > If you qualify for Free School Meals (FSM)

Apply now to the 16-19 Bursary Fund and you could get assistance towards the costs of;

Transport, books, trips, meals, exam re-sits, etc.

Who is not eligible for 16-19 Bursary Funding?

- Students under 16 years of age or over 19 years of age on 31/08/20
- Students who do not meet the residency qualifications

How does the Academy assess applications and allocate 16-19 Bursary funding?

The 16-19 Bursary Fund is a limited fund and the Academy will prioritise allocation. There will be 3 priority groups, categorised as high, medium and low:

High priority group (Vulnerable Bursary)

Students aged under 19 on 31/08/20 and who fall into one of the following categories;

- Are currently in care (as defined by social services)
- Are leaving or have recently left care
- Are in receipt of Income Support in their own name
- Are disabled and in receipt of both Employment Support Allowance and Disability Living Allowance

Eligible students will be guaranteed a £1,200 bursary and could have support for other costs such as transport, equipment etc. *Payments will be made on a termly basis at the start of each term.*

Medium priority group (Discretionary Bursary)

Students who fall into this category have a gross annual household income of below £20,000.

Eligible students in this group may be eligible for a contribution towards:

- The cost of transport, meals, essential course equipment, trips, uniforms, materials, etc
- Financial support towards childcare costs and exam re-sit fees if aged 19 or under on 31/08/20

Support available is dependent on meeting agreed targets of attendance and behaviour criteria.

Low priority group (Discretionary Bursary)

Students who fall into this category have a gross annual household income of between £20,000 and £25,000.

Those in the low priority group will be considered for funding based on the Academy allocation and subject to available funding after those in the high and medium priority groups have been awarded. In some cases awards may not be made until after 31 December of the academic year. Students in this group may get a contribution towards the cost of essential course equipment, uniforms and transport costs.

Support available is dependent on meeting agreed targets of attendance and behaviour criteria.