16-19 Bursary Fund Policy 2019/20

What is the 16-19 Bursary Fund

The fund is made available from the government through its funding body – Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) for 16-19 year olds - to provide assistance to students whose access to, or completion of, education is inhibited by financial constraints or barriers.

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

Students following government funded full time or part-time courses, who are 16 years and over and satisfy one or more of the following criteria:-

- be aged 16 or over but under 19 at the 31/08/19
- be aged 19 or over at the 31 August 2019 and continuing on a study programme they began aged 16 to 18 ('19+ continuers')
- be aged 19 or over at the 31 August 2019 and have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)
- be economically or socially disadvantaged and at risk of not taking up or continuing in their education. This group includes students with physical or other disabilities, medical conditions and/or learning difficulties
- in care (including Unaccompanied Asylum Seekers Children – UASC) where they have a financial need
- care leavers (leaving or have recently left care)
- *receiving Income Support, or Universal Credit because they are financially supporting themselves or financially supporting themselves and someone who is dependent on them and living with them such as a child or partner
- *receiving Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payments in their own right as well as Employment and Support Allowance or Universal Credit in their own right

*If a student is in receipt of Disability Living Allowance (or Personal Independence Payments) and Employment Support Allowance parents can no longer receive certain household/family benefits for that child, such as child benefit.

Note: Receipt of bursary funding does not affect receipt of other means-tested benefits paid to families, such as Income Support, Jobseeker’s Allowance, Child Benefit, Working Tax Credit and Housing Benefit.

Who is not eligible for 16-19 Bursary Funding?

- Students under 16 years of age on 31/08/19
- Students who do not meet the residency criteria in the ESFA Funding Regulations
- Accompanied Asylum Seekers (i.e. those under 18 with an adult relative or partner)

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

The application process the Academy has in place is completely confidential.

The 16-19 Bursary Fund is a limited fund and, as such, the Academy will prioritise allocation using a set criteria.

Successful applications must continuously meet the expectations detailed below, in order to receive their Bursary:

- Has a consistently good rate of attendance
- Is punctual to all lessons and registration
- Attend all assemblies and enrichment sessions
- Behaviour
- Complete a leave of absence in advance for any time you need to take off
- Make satisfactory progress against your targets and attend all examinations

How do I apply for the 16-19 Bursary?

Collect an Application Form from the Director of Sixth Form, or the Finance Department, complete and return it asap.