



KINGSWOOD SECONDARY ACADEMY

September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to inform you about the Post 16 bursary fund and share with you the criteria for accessing it. This bursary fund is to support students in their education and therefore must be used to assist with costs related to their studies. Please find below the information from the Government regarding eligibility:

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 2021 taking a full-time further education course in 2021/22.

16-19 Bursary Fund

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

The Government has set aside some money for schools, colleges, training providers and local authorities to allocate to young people who need financial support to stay on in further education or training. This is called the 16-19 Bursary Fund. The 16-19 Bursary is targeted towards those young people considered most in need of financial support.

- books and other equipment/materials for their course
- transport and lunch on days they study
- educational visits
- exam fees

The bursary is not paid to students as cash, but equipment and books etc, are ordered for them. There are two types of 16 to 19 bursary: Vulnerable student bursary and Discretionary student bursary.

Vulnerable student bursary

Students in this category could get up to £1,200 if at least one of the following applies:

- you are in or have recently left local authority care
- you get Income Support or Universal Credit in your name
- you get Disability Living Allowance (DLA) in your name and either Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) or Universal Credit
 - you get Personal Independence Payment (PIP) in your name and either ESA or Universal Credit

Payments will be made on a termly basis at the start of each term, and could support costs such as transport, equipment etc.

Discretionary bursary

You can apply for a discretionary bursary if you are not eligible for a vulnerable bursary and you need financial help to stay on in further education or training. You can apply for up to £600 support initially each year. The discretionary bursary is allocated to students

who need support to overcome financial barriers that might prevent them continuing in full time education. The following criteria will qualify a family as a low-income family:

- The household is in receipt of Child Tax Credit/Working Tax Credit with an annual income of less than £20,817
- Income Support
- Jobseekers Allowance (Income Based)
- Pension Guarantee Credit equivalent to/less than Jobseekers Allowance (Income Based)
- Income Related Employment and Support Allowance
- Universal Credit with an annual income of less than £7400

If a school trip is a subject requirement (Biology, Geography etc) the bursary will fund up to £200 for the trip. If a trip is directly supportive of a subject, students may be able to claim.

Hardship fund

If you are not eligible for either bursary, you can apply for a one-off hardship payment. Any student may apply for a one-off hardship payment from the discretionary bursary fund. You will need to provide evidence as to why you need financial support.

Payments for all bursaries will be dependent on meeting agreed standards of academic progress, learning, behaviour and good attendance. This will be assessed termly and if a student's attendance falls below the expected percentage of 96%, then the Bursary may be withdrawn.

There will be a new application form uploaded to our website very soon, this must be completed before Thursday 30 September 2021 for consideration. Year 13 students who have accessed the bursary last year will need to re-apply.

Yours faithfully

Mr Ben Eley
Head of Sixth Form