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Working Together - Shaping Tomorrow

May 2023

Dear Student

Re: Bursary Fund 2023-24

The Government has set up a fund targeting support towards the most financially disadvantaged 16 to 19 year olds to ensure every young person participates in and benefits from a place in 16-19 education or training.

In essence, the Government has given the school a sum of money from which we have to decide who is eligible for extra financial help. They have provided guidance which is summarised overleaf in the 'Bursary Fund: Guidance Notes'. Further information can be found at https://www.gov.uk/1619-bursary-fund/overview.

If eligible you are entitled to claim for your educational expenses such as travel, meals, books, university visits etc.

If you feel that you are eligible for either the Vulnerable Student Bursary or the Discretionary Bursary, please complete the application form attached and return it with copies of any relevant evidence as soon as possible.

Your support in this matter is much appreciated.

Yours faithfully

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Mr M. Colman Head of Sixth Form



# <u> 16 - 19 Bursary Fund</u>

## **Guidance Notes**

The Arnewood School 16-19 Bursary Fund is designed to help and support any student over 16 and under 19 at the start of the school year who faces financial barriers to participation in education and training, such as costs of transport, food, clothing or stationery. For larger items of equipment (over  $\pounds 50$ ) a request must be submitted before purchase as the school may be able to provide this. Students aged 19 or over may be eligible if continuing on a course or have an Education Health Care Plan.

There are 2 possible schemes available, but students will only be eligible for one or the other:

#### **Vulnerable Student Bursary**

You could get up to  $\pounds$ 1,200 if at least 1 of the following applies:

- You're in or recently left local authority care
- You get Income Support or Universal Credit in your name
- You're disabled and get Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) or Universal Credit (UC) and either Disability Living Allowance (DLA) or Personal Independence Payment (PIP) in your name

If you're a parent, you'll also need to be living away from your own parents to qualify.

You may get the full amount if you have expenses and study full-time on a course of at least 30 weeks. You'll usually get less, or no bursary, if your course is shorter, you study part time or have few expenses.

#### **Discretionary Bursary**

This bursary is available to The Arnewood School Sixth Form students not eligible for the Vulnerable Student Bursary who live in a household whose family income is  $\pm 16,190$  per annum or less and whose parents/carers are in receipt of any of the following:

- Income Support.
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance.
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance.
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit.
- Child Tax Credit provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) that does not exceed £16,190.
- Working Tax Credit 'run-on' the payment someone may receive for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit.

#### All Universal Credit claimants are currently eligible for education benefits

The level of support which the school can offer is dependent on the total funding received from the Education Funding Agency and the number of applications it receives. The level of funding may vary during the academic year.

### Additional Help

Under **exceptional** circumstances students who are not automatically eligible for an award can also apply for help with one off course related expenses (proof of income or hardship will be asked for). Applications for additional help will be considered on an individual basis and is dependent upon available funds. Please contact the Head of Sixth Form for more details.

#### **Payment Conditions**

All bursary payments will be directly linked to attendance, behaviour and performance.

Students on apprenticeships are not eligible to apply.