



THE 16 to 19 BURSARY FUND - FACTSHEET

Young people who need some financial support to help them stay in education or training after age 16 can apply for a bursary from the **16 to 19 Bursary Fund**, (see www.direct.gov.uk/1619-bursary-fund).

Any payments will be linked to minimum standards of attendance (90%), behaviour and progress. The conditions of the bursary award are always subject to change during a students' time in sixth form.

WILL I BE ELIGIBLE FOR A BURSARY?

You must be aged over 16 and under 19 at 31st August 2026 to apply.

There are 2 types of 16 to 19 bursaries: They are the **Vulnerable Bursary** and the **Discretionary Bursary**.

1. The **Vulnerable Bursary** of up to £1,200 a year for young people in one of the defined vulnerable groups below:

- Students in care
- Care Leavers, (i.e., students about to leave care)
- Students receiving Income Support or University Credit in their own name
- Disabled students receiving both Employment and Support Allowance or Universal Credit and Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payments in their own name.

2. The **Discretionary Bursary** is designed to meet individual needs and is targeted at students who cannot stay in education without financial help for things like transport, meals, books, equipment, or need help towards the cost of field trips, university open days or interviews.

Funds allocated to us for the **Discretionary Bursary** may be distributed amongst those students who are eligible for free school meals. For further information on Free School Meal eligibility, contact:

Free School Meal Team, Wyvern House, The Drummer, Winsford. CW7 1AH. Or telephone: 0300 123 7039

www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/education-and-learning/free-school-meals

Further applications for the **Discretionary Bursary** may be considered on an individual basis and discretionary payments may be made for students of families in receipt of tax credits and a household income up to £22,000.

WHAT IF MY APPLICATION IS SUCCESSFUL?

- The value and payment of any bursaries cannot be determined until all applications are in. Retrospective payments will not be made once the distribution of half termly payments has been determined.
- For **Vulnerable Bursaries**, payments will be made by BACS directly into students' bank account, however, in general, payments will be made in kind.
- Payments for books, transport, meals and equipment will be made directly from school or upon evidence of a receipt, whereupon payment will be by BACS directly into students' bank account, unless otherwise instructed.
- Payments will be based upon students achieving as follows:-
 - ❖ **Minimum attendance of 90%.**
 - ❖ **Attitude to learning and attainment in line with specified targets.**
- Evidence in support of your eligibility described above will be required before any payments are made. The evidence will be reassessed at the end of each half term to determine eligibility for the next half term. Some of the evidence required can be accessed by the school directly and some evidence will be requested from you/your family by school. School must be notified of any changes in your or your family's circumstances immediately.
- The value of the bursary given to those qualifying for a **Discretionary Bursary** may vary from half term to half term. This is because we have to work within the budget allocated to school.
- If the numbers of pupils eligible to apply for a Vulnerable Bursary increases, there will be less budget available to distribute to students eligible for a Discretionary Bursary.

WHAT NEXT?

- Request Application forms from Mrs Chapman/Mrs Henry – 6thFormPastoral@TarporleyHigh.co.uk
- Return completed forms to Mrs Sinnott by 15th September 2026