

16 – 19 BURSARY FUND



What is the 16-19 Bursary fund

The Government has set aside some money for schools 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.

It could help you with any education-related costs that may arise during the school year, including essentials like a meal during the day or transport to your school. Or you might need extra help to buy books, clothing or equipment for your course, or pay for educational visits.

How do I know if I am eligible?

To apply for a bursary, you must be at least 16 years' old and under 19 years old at the start of the 2016/17 academic year (in 2016/17 this is the 31st August). You must also be taking part in full-time or part-time further education or training.

What will I get?

There are **two** types of bursaries:

Vulnerable student bursary – you could receive up to £1,200 if you:

- are in local authority care or you have recently left local authority care; or
- receive Income Support or Universal Credit (a new benefit which will replace Income Support) in your own name; or
- are disabled and receive both Employment Support Allowance and Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payments (a new benefit which will replace Disability Living Allowance) in your own name.

Discretionary bursary – You can apply for a discretionary bursary if you are not eligible for a vulnerable bursary but you need financial help to stay on in further education

The Academy will decide whether you will receive a discretionary bursary, how much you could get, and what it should be used for. The Academy sets its own criteria for discretionary bursaries. We have made the decision to link this primarily to **eligibility for free school meals or families on a low income** and to limit this to £300 per academic year. This is currently set at £100 per term - 100% Attendance to school.

How do I apply?

You will need to apply to Blue Coat Church Of England Academy. Further information regarding the application process, criteria and an application pack can be obtained from THE Academy website or any member of the Sixth Form team.

When should I apply?

You should make your application as soon as you have started at the Academy. The sooner you apply, the sooner you will start to receive support.

How will my bursary be paid?

Your Bursary Money will be paid every half-term by BACS payment into your bank account.

I don't have a bank account – does this mean I can't get a bursary?

No, you should still be able to receive a bursary. **You will** however, have to open an **account in your name** for the money to be paid into.

Will the Academy stop my payments if I don't attend or if I misbehave?

Yes, we will almost certainly set conditions on your bursary – these are rules that you will need to stick to, such as attending classes regularly or behaving well. If you don't stick to these conditions, the Academy can stop your payments.

If I can't attend school because of illness or absence will I still receive my bursary?

If you are ill or have been allowed an authorised absence, **Miss Vernon** will let you know whether this will affect your bursary payments.

For further Advice and Information, please speak with: **Miss Vernon, or the Finance Office.**