



## **Kendrick School**

### **16-19 Bursary Fund 2020-21**

#### **Information for Parent/ Carer(s)**

##### **1. What is the 16-19 Bursary Fund**

The 16-19 Bursary Fund is for the purpose of supporting financially disadvantaged young people taking up or continuing in their education or training post-16.

##### **2. What is it for?**

The 16-19 Bursary is a limited fund made available for supporting eligible young people with the costs of educational field trips and visits, books, course materials and equipment, transport and food, essential to successfully completing their programme of study.

##### **3. Who is it for?**

The 16-19 Bursary is targeted towards those young people considered most in need of financial support and overcoming the individual barriers to education a student may face. The Government has identified a priority group of young people who will be eligible for a Vulnerable Student Bursary.

The School has received funding which is available for other young people in need of financial support. The School has set eligibility criteria to ensure this fund goes to those who are seen to need it most. Any young person who meets these eligibility criteria can apply for a Discretionary Bursary (Tier 1) or Discretionary Bursary (Tier2)

## 4. What are the eligibility criteria?

To be eligible to receive a bursary in the 2020/21 academic year a student must be aged 16 or over but under 19 at 31 August 2020. Students aged 19 or over are only eligible to receive a discretionary bursary if they are continuing on a study programme they began aged 16 to 18 ('19+ continuers') or have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

These two groups of aged 19 plus students can receive a discretionary bursary while they continue to attend education (in the case of a 19+ continuer, this must be the same programme they started before they turned 19), as long as their eligibility continues and their institution considers they need the additional support to continue their participation. In addition, a student must meet the national residency requirements and at least one of the criteria listed below.

They can apply for a Vulnerable Student Bursary if they are:

- currently or have previously been looked after by the Local Authority including unaccompanied asylum-seeking children, and/or;
- young care leavers
- in receipt of Universal Credit (UC) (as a replacement for Income Support and/or Employment Support Allowance (ESA) in their own right, and/or;
- disabled and in receipt of Personal Independence Payments in their own right (previously Disability Living Allowance)

Universal Credit is being rolled out across the country and will gradually replace Income Support and Employment and Support Allowance as well as other benefits. Institutions will increasingly see students claiming bursaries for vulnerable groups based on receiving Universal Credit.

Universal Credit award notifications do not include any information on the benefits they replace. For this reason, the description of the bursaries for vulnerable group category that is based on receipt of Universal Credit or Income Support has been changed. The revised description confirms that a student must be receiving Universal Credit because they are financially supporting themselves and anyone who is dependent on them and living with them such as a child or partner.

Young persons in the defined vulnerable groups are usually living apart from their parents/carer, so they can get social security benefits in their own right.

### Discretionary Bursaries

Discretionary bursaries are targeted at students to remove specific barriers to participation and may need financial help for things like transport, meals, books and equipment.

They can apply for a Discretionary Bursary Tier 1 if either:

- your gross annual household income does not exceed £18,000 and/or;

- they, or a brother/sister, qualifies for Free School Meals (FSM), and/or;
- you receive Universal Credits as a replacement for Income Based Jobseekers Allowance -Income-related Employment and Support Allowance.
- Guaranteed element of State Pension Credit.
- Wider family circumstances e.g. single parent family, student carer, number of dependent children in the household

Or they can apply for a Discretionary Bursary Tier 2 if either:

- Your gross annual household income does not exceed £24,000 and/or;
- they, or a brother/sister, qualifies for Free School Meals (FSM), and/or;
- You receive Universal Credits as a replacement for Income Based Jobseekers Allowance, Income-related Employment and Support Allowance.
- Guarantee element of State Pension Credit.
- Wider family circumstances e.g. single parent family, student carer, number of dependent children in the household

## **5. Can they still apply if they don't meet the eligibility criteria?**

Yes, providing they meet the age and residency eligibility criteria. The School is keeping back some of the available 16-19 Bursary Fund for exceptional circumstances for one-off payments or additional support e.g. to help finance students doing high cost courses.

## **6. How and when do they apply?**

To apply, they must complete the 16-19 Bursary Fund Application Form and a 16-19 Bursary Assessment Form and submit these to Mrs Harrison with the correct supporting evidence by **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2020**.

The Assessment Form will provide evidence to assess a student's actual financial need and must be completed by all students.

*Students can apply for a Bursary at any point in the year but those applying before the date above will be given priority. Discretionary Bursaries can only be made after this date if sufficient funds are available. The Discretionary Bursary scheme will close when the funds allocated have been used.*

## **7. How much is the Bursary?**

The Vulnerable Student Bursary is £1,200, the Discretionary Bursary Tier 1 is up to £300 and the Discretionary Bursary Tier 2 is up to £150. The exact amount is dependent on individual circumstances and will take into account their actual financial needs and funds available. Additional financial support may be given if funding allows.

## **8. Will the Bursary affect any benefits I may be receiving?**

No, receipt of bursary funding does not affect receipt other means-tested benefits paid to families, such as Universal Credits, Income Support, Jobseeker's Allowance, Child Benefit, Working Tax Credit and Housing Benefit.

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

Kendrick School will not make bursary fund payments as regular payments for living costs. This is out of scope of the bursary fund and any such payments would be subject to the Social Security Amendment (Students and Income-related Benefits) Regulations 2000.

## **9. How and when does it get paid?**

If your child(ren) applies and is successful, they will need a Bank Account for the Bursary to be paid directly into. It will typically be paid in three instalments: October 2020, January 2021 and April 2021 subject to them meeting attendance, punctuality and satisfactory behaviour conditions. If funding allows and at the discretion of the school an additional needs-based payment may be made to the student towards the end of the academic year (Term 6).

Kendrick School may withhold payments to a student who does not meet the agreed standards and where students have been absent for a period of 4 continuous weeks or more.

Kendrick School will consider the impact on the student before taking a final decision to do so.

## **10. How do I find out more?**

The 16-19 Bursary Fund Policy will provide further information, including details on eligibility criteria and supporting evidence needed, or you can talk in confidence to Ms Le Croisette or Mrs Harrison in the General Office, if you have specific questions or need help or assistance in supporting your daughter to make an application.