

Vulnerable Student Bursary (16-19)

Purpose:

Our school curriculum is designed to reflect how our pupils change as they become young adults, and make the significant step from a Pre-16 to a Post-16 model of education. There is a shift in emphasis away from a more linear pupil progression model based upon the teaching and generalisation of concepts, towards a model of education which recognises the pupil's existing skills and provides carefully structured ways of further enabling them to be applied in functional, everyday contexts.

A large proportion of the week is devoted to Skills for Life and Learning. These sessions are aimed at developing independence and preparing for adulthood by experiencing real life situations. This includes shopping for ingredients, buying and cooking meals, organising personal finance and banking, learning to meet personal care needs, and accessing community resources such as public transport, the library and local leisure centre.

The Vulnerable Student Bursary is used by the Frank Wise school to pay for the extensive off-site learning our Post-16 students participate in (including the class Residential trip), and for other equipment students need to access their courses and timetabled lessons. This includes transport and lunch on days they study or train. The estimated yearly cost is £800.

Students receive the remainder of the Vulnerable Student Bursary once course costs have been deducted. All payments will be made by BACS transfer into the student's own bank account.

Criteria for receiving Discretionary Bursary payments:

Eligibility

The Vulnerable Student Bursary is only available to students whom the Government feel are the most vulnerable or disadvantaged. Students eligible for the Vulnerable Student Bursary must be:

- Aged under 19 on 31 August 2016
- Meet residency criteria
- Be participating in an eligible course
- In care
- Care leaver
- In receipt of Income Support/Universal Credits in their own right
- In receipt of both Employment Support Allowance and Disability Living Allowance/Personal Independence Payments in their own right

Attendance and punctuality

Overall lesson attendance must be at least 90%, not counting authorised absences. Authorised absence includes time off school due to illness or for medical appointments.

This is monitored by registration records. Class teachers are responsible for recording absence or unreasonable lateness. To avoid unauthorised absence, we advise that you inform the school of a planned absence as soon as it is known. This should be in the form of a telephone call, note or e-mail from a parent or guardian to the Office.

Conduct

General conduct around the Frank Wise school will be taken into account. This includes providing a good role model for younger students, making appropriate use of learning facilities provided by the school, and maintaining a respectful attitude to all members of staff and other students.

School resources

Deductions to a student's Bursary payment may be made to cover the cost of any damage and/or non-return of school resources. Any such amount deducted would subsequently be paid to eligible students upon the return of all learning resources at the end of their course.

Payments:

Less any deductions subject to the criteria set out above, five bursary payments (which as a guide may total £400 for the year in 2017-18) will be made during terms 1, 2, 3 and 4 and on completion of the course in term 5. The sum available per year can vary depending upon budgetary provision and numbers eligible to receive support. Students will be notified for 2017-18 as soon as it is possible to do so.

The outcome of payment decisions will be communicated by the Post-16 Senior Teacher approximately a week prior to payment. A list of payment dates for the 2017/18 academic year will be located on the school website.

If a payment has been withheld you may appeal against this decision. Appeals must be in writing to the Head, Sean O'Sullivan,

Payment of bursaries:

Payment will be made by BACS directly into students' own bank accounts.

Equalities Legislation:

ATA's Bursary Fund policy is subject to equalities legislation including public sector equality duty on section 149(1) of the Equality Act 2010.

Further Information

Please see <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/16-to-19-bursary-fund-guide-for-2016-to-2017>