

16 to 19 Bursary Fund 2020-21

The 16 to 19 Bursary Fund provides financial support to help students overcome specific barriers to participation so they can remain in education.

There are two types of 16 to 19 bursaries:

- **Vulnerable Bursary** For young people in one of the defined vulnerable groups.
- **Discretionary Bursary** Awarded by the Trust to meet individual needs i.e. help with the cost of transport, meals, books and equipment.

Eligibility

For students to be eligible for the bursary fund, students must meet the age and residency criteria as listed below:

- Be aged over 16 and under 19 on 31st August 2020 (*unless year 13 continuing student*)
- Be enrolled on a full time course
- Have 'home' student status or have been granted full 'refugee' or 'asylum seeker' status
- Resident in the EU for 3 years or more

Bursary Groups	Eligibilities
Bursary Level 1 Vulnerable Student Bursaries	The Trust can approve up to £1,200 of bursary funding which will be paid to students who are in one of the 'vulnerable group' as defined by the EFSA.
Bursary Level 2 Discretionary Bursaries	This is based on the financial position of the student's family, and their needs to continue in education. To be eligible, the student's family household income must be below £25,000 per annum.
Bursary Level 3 Discretionary Bursaries (for pupils not in the above category)	If funds remain after the above bursaries, students not in the above categories may apply to the bursary after January 2021 for assistance.

Important Notes:

- The bursary is only a contribution towards course related costs and will not necessarily cover the full amount.
- All financial support is subject to students meeting the Trust's expected attendance levels and standards of behaviour, as well as progressing on their course.
- Bursary funds are limited and cannot be guaranteed, early application is essential.
- Deadline for bursary online applications: **Wednesday 30th September 2020**

For further information, please refer to the **16-19 Bursary Fund Policy 2020-21** available from the school's website. Additionally, should you have any queries, please email bursary@the.merciantrust.org.