

16 to 19 Bursary Fund - 2021/22

The 16 to 19 Bursary Fund provides financial support to help students overcome the specific financial barriers to participation they face 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 student 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 2021 or 19+ with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) or continuing on a course you started aged 16 to 18 (known as being a '19+ continuer').
**** Students aged 19 or over are not eligible for a Vulnerable Bursary.**
- Be enrolled on a full time course
- Meet the ESFA's residency criteria as set out in the ESFA Funding Guidance

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 ESFA.
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 2022 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 online bursary applications: **Thursday 30th September 2021**

For further information, please refer to the **16-19 Bursary Fund Policy 2021-22** available from the school's website. Should you have any queries, please email bursary@the.merciantrust.org