



Ravenshall

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16-19 BURSARY POLICY

2025-2026

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1. 16-19 Bursary Policy Introduction

You could get a bursary to help with education-related costs if you're aged 16 to 19 and:

- studying at a publicly funded school or college in England - not a university
- on a training course, including unpaid work experience

A publicly funded school is one that does not charge you for attending it.

A bursary is money that you, or your education or training provider, can use to pay for things like:

- clothing, books and other equipment for your course
- transport and lunch on days you study or train

More information can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/1619-bursary-fund/eligibility>

Please ask at the school for an application form.

2. Types of funding available

There are 3 types of 16 to 19 bursary:

- a bursary for students in vulnerable groups
- a discretionary bursary
- emergencies and hardship

Bursary for students in vulnerable groups

You could get a bursary worth up to £1,200, depending on your circumstances and benefits if at least one of the following applies:

- you're in or you recently left local authority care
- you get Income Support or Universal Credit because you are financially supporting yourself
- you get Disability Living Allowance (DLA) in your name **and** either Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) or Universal Credit
- you get Personal Independence Payment (PIP) in your name **and** either ESA or Universal Credit

The amount you may get depends on the costs you have and what you need for your course. This might include money for books, equipment or travel costs to school or college.

Discretionary bursary

You could get a discretionary bursary if you need financial help but do not qualify for a bursary for students in vulnerable groups. The amount available will depend upon the number of applications from eligible pupils but could be up to £200.

The Bursary will be available for pupils from families with low household incomes. If the student or his/her siblings are in receipt of Free School Meals for the current year, the household income will have been assessed and there is no need to carry out further checks.

Emergency and Hardship

You might be able to get more support if your circumstances change or you have a financial emergency which does not fit into category 1 or 2; these students may be given financial or in-kind contributions for:

- Educational visits
- Clothing
- Expenses to attend college interviews

Speak to the school if you think you need this extra help.

If you're over 19, you'll only be eligible for a discretionary bursary.

3. Eligibility

You must:

- be at least 16 and under 19 on 31 August in the academic year in which the course begins
- study at a publicly funded school or college, or be on an unpaid training course
- meet the residency requirements - your school or college can check this

4. How to apply

If you are applying for a bursary you will need to complete the application form provided and return it to the school office with the following evidence:

Category 1

- A letter setting out the benefit(s) to which the young person is entitled
- Written confirmation of the young person's current or previous looked-after status from the local authority which looks after them or provides their leaving care service

Category 2

- None if the applicant receives a free school meal.

Category 3

- Applicants with exceptional circumstances will be viewed sympathetically where financial need can be evidenced. In this situation, a covering letter should be included, outlining the circumstances and providing supporting evidence.

Following review, a decision will be communicated by letter, within 15 working days.

5. How payment will be made

Allocation of bursaries is made on the basis of school attendance of 90% and above.

Funding for pupils who qualify under Categories 1 and 2 will be advised by the end of October.

The allocation will be used to fund costs incurred by pupils to allow them to fully access the curriculum e.g. ingredients for Food Technology lessons.

6. Appeals Process

Any appeals or complaints will be considered in line with the school's existing complaints procedure