



St Benedict's

Catholic High School, Alcester

24 August 2017

Dear Parent / Student

You may be aware that the Government has a fund to support post-16 students in education and training; this is aimed specifically at low-income households.

The purpose of the 16-19 Bursary Fund is to support young people aged 16-19 in full time education who face financial barriers to participation such as costs of transport, trips, food, clothing or equipment. It is made up of two parts: a **Vulnerable Bursary** of up to £1,200 a year to the most vulnerable young people and a **Discretionary Fund** for schools and colleges to distribute.

Learners aged 16-18 from the following groups will be eligible for the **Vulnerable Bursary** of up to £1,200 per academic year:

- Young people in care
- Care Leavers
- Young people in receipt of Income Support/Universal Credit in their own right
- Young people in receipt of Employment and Support Allowance or Universal Credit and Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payments in their own right

For learners not in the above groups the school will consider each case to see whether they qualify for some financial support from the **Discretionary** fund. I must stress that it will not be at the level of the Guaranteed bursary and is based firstly on household income, which needs to be under £30,000 to qualify. Each application is then considered individually. Proof of household financial circumstances is required, but this information will be treated in the strictest confidence. Please do make a note of all costs and money spent prior to starting in Year 12 (ie. bus pass, clothing, equipment etc) keeping receipts where applicable.

If, for whatever reason, your financial circumstances change at any point throughout the academic year, please do contact me as we retain a part of this fund for such situations.

I will be discussing the 16-19 Bursary with all Year 12 students in more detail in September and requesting them to collect an application form from me if they think they are eligible for some financial support. Should you wish to speak to me beforehand, please do call me on the above Sixth Form telephone number or email the Sixth Form.

Yours sincerely

Julie McCaslin

16-19 Bursary Administrator



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