

A Quick Guide to Financial Support for Post-16 Students

16-19 Bursary

At Shaftesbury and Sturminster Sixth Form the bursary fund is used to support students remaining in post-16 education when financial issues might impact on their time in the Sixth Form. We aim to do this in the following ways.

- Students who the government has identified as 'highly vulnerable' such as students looked after by the local authority, care leavers, students who receive Income Support [in their own right] and those entitled to both Employment Support Allowance and Disability Living Allowance will receive a bursary of £1,200 in six half-termly instalments.
- Students who are eligible for free school meals or who come from families with a household income of below £26,000 will be able to apply for assistance to meet educational needs such as the cost of transport to school, equipment and educational visits. Once it is established a student is eligible for support, payments will be made from the bursary fund each term, but it is not guaranteed that the fund will be sufficient to pay all needs in full.
- If sufficient funds are available we may also be able to provide some support to students on a family income of £26-31,000.
- If sufficient money is available after all identified needs have been met we will also provide a termly lump sum payment to all students eligible for support under the scheme to go towards the general costs of remaining in education.

In order to make payments promptly, it is important that all students who wish to claim assistance in term 1 **return an application form to the school by September 28th**. Application forms are available from reception or the Sixth Form Office or can be downloaded from the school website.

<http://shaftesburyschool.co.uk/sixth-form/useful-publications/>

Other Forms of Assistance

- Free School Meals (claiming these may also entitle you to other assistance such as bursaries and clothing grants). See www.dorsetforyou.com/freeschoolmeals or phone Dorset Direct on 01305 221000.
- Reduced cost concessionary bus transport may be available depending on family income. See www.dorsetforyou.com/402557, Wiltshire residents should search the internet for "Wiltshire transport to sixth forms".
- Army Bursaries- If you are interested in joining the army there are scholarships that can assist you. If you are interested or would like further information, please contact your local army recruitment office <http://www.army.mod.uk/armyineducation/bursary/6th-form-scholarship.aspx>
- Shaftesbury School's Foundation Governors have an Old Shastonian Award which funds specialist training, equipment, or a gap year project of community benefit for a student who has completed Year 13. <http://www.lushtrust.org>
- The Charity of William Williams is able to make grants to students who live in the Blandford,
- Sturminster Newton and Shaftesbury/Gillingham area towards the cost of attending university. See <http://www.williamwilliams.org.uk/>
- For advice on other benefits see www.direct.gov.uk, www.citizensadvice.org.uk.

For More Information

Please contact the school office on 01747 854498 or e-mail office@shaftesburyschool.co.uk

A full copy of the school's bursary policy is available in the Sixth Form Section of the school website.