

What is the 16-19 Bursary Fund?

The 16-19 Bursary Fund is a government-funded scheme intended to help support those young people who face the greatest financial barriers to continuing in education or training after age 16. There are broad guidelines set out by the government, but the school has some degree of discretion as to how funds are allocated and for what purpose.

The main restriction is that the funds must be used to assist with costs directly associated with attending school and cannot be used to support a student's general living costs. The school receives a fixed sum of money each year to allocate to students which can mean that the amount of financial support an individual student receives may vary from year to year depending on the number of qualifying applications that are received.

Do I qualify for a bursary?

There are two types of bursaries, the Vulnerable Bursary and the Discretionary Bursary

Vulnerable Bursary – bursaries for defined vulnerable groups which are assessed based on financial need to support participation at the school, such as transport costs, meals or equipment

Discretionary Bursary – discretionary bursaries awarded to meet individual needs such as transport costs, meals, essential books and equipment and assessed based on taxable household income

Bursary type	Criteria for application
Vulnerable Bursary groups	<p>The defined vulnerable groups are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• young people in care, including unaccompanied asylum-seeking children young care leavers• Care Leavers - young people getting Income Support or the equivalent Universal Credit (UC) in their own right• young people getting both Disability Living Allowance (or the new Personal Independence Payments) and Employment Support Allowance (ESA) (or Universal Credit as a replacement for ESA) in their own right <p>The young person does not have to live independently of their parents; they can claim ESA or UC, although their parents will not be able to claim Child Benefit for them if the young person's claim succeeds.</p>

Discretionary Bursary groups	Students living in a household where the family income is below £25,000 a year FSM take-up in Year 11 FSM entitlement (not necessarily taken up) in Year 11 Evidence of significant financial hardship
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Eligibility and Conditions

It is recognised that many students will face financial challenges during their time in the Sixth Form. However, bursary funding isn't a right, and schools have a responsibility to ensure that funds are awarded fairly to those it judges to be most in need.

In all cases it may be necessary to provide evidence of financial need before any funding is allocated. Consideration of factors such as attendance, behaviour and academic progress, together with adherence to the Sixth Form Charter will form part of the funding allocation process.

Larkmead School holds the right to withhold all or part of any funds allocated to a student. All 16-19 Bursaries reimbursements will be paid directly into the student's bank account on receipt of expenses incurred.

Eligible students must be under 19 on 31 August 2025 and enrolled on a full-time course. Applications for financial help are valid for one academic year only.

It is possible to make one-off discretionary bursary payments throughout the school year to help meet unforeseen needs or circumstances for those students/families who do not necessary meet the criteria listed above.

Types of evidence required to support Bursary applications are

- Universal Credit Entitlement/award letter – dated within the last 3 months
- Income Support Entitlement/award letter – dated within the last 3 months
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance Entitlement/award letter – dated within the last 3 months
- Annual Salary latest P60 or 3 months of latest payslips
- Self-Employed Copy of Self-Assessment tax return 2024-25

To apply for bursary funding students should contact **the School Office** who will be happy to provide you with the appropriate form and guide you through the process.

Applications should be made by **31/11/2025**.

Full details of the 16-19 Bursary Funding Scheme can be found at

[**16 to 19 Bursary Fund: Overview - GOV.UK**](#)