16-19 Discretionary Bursary Fund Policy Information Academic Year 2026 - 27

The Government sets aside some money for Schools, Colleges, Training Providers and Local Authorities to allocate to young people who need financial support to stay on in further education. This is called the 16-19 Discretionary Bursary Fund. It could help with any education-related costs that may arise during the school year which are linked to a student's A level Courses, including transport to school, extra help to buy books, stationery or equipment, or pay for educational visits relating to a student's A level courses.

To apply for a bursary, students must be at least 16 years old and under 19 years old at the start of the 2026-27 Academic Year i.e entering Year 12 or 13 of Sixth Form education. They must also be taking part in full-time further education.

There is a limited amount of funding which means that it will not be possible to support every application. Therefore, priority will be given to those students from the families with the lowest household income and/or highest demonstrated need. Eligibility will be dependent on household income and evidence of household income will be required: (Maximum household income of £33,000). There are certain standards of behaviour and attendance criteria that a student must fulfil; such as attendance to lessons and behaviour in school and this is constantly monitored throughout the Academic Year. If standards of behaviour and attendance fall, future assistance could be withdrawn or refused.

Young people in the defined vulnerable groups detailed below may seek assistance.

Priority Group 1:
Those most in need could be eligible for a bursary of up to £1200 a year. This includes young people in care, recent care leavers, young people receiving income support and disabled young people receiving both Employment Support Allowance and Disability Living Allowance. Evidence of support will be required.

Other students facing financial difficulties may also be able to claim funding (see Discretionary Bursary Criteria below – Group 2 and 3) to help with the costs of transport, equipment, books or other course related purchases. There are no weekly payments to students and funds will not always be guaranteed. Please check with the Bursary Fund Manager before you purchase items and you must always provide a receipt to claim funds back. Refunds are made by BACS to the Students/Parents Account. Any items purchased by Tadcaster Grammar School may be returned at the end of the Academic Year so that future students may utilise resources, where appropriate.

Group 2:
Discretionary Bursary - Students in receipt of Targeted Free School Meals. Application to be completed but no further evidence required.

Group 3:
Discretionary Bursary - Total Household income under £33,000 pa. Application to be completed and copies of relevant evidence required.

If you wish to apply, please either print or request a copy of the **Financial Assessment Form** and complete, sign and return it, along with copies of the relevant evidence to:

Mrs J Gadsby
16-19 Bursary Fund Manager
Tadcaster Grammar School
Toulston
Tadcaster
LS24 9NB

j.gadsby@tgs.starmat.uk

The Financial Assessment Form can be found here: **tgs.starmat.uk/sixth-form/16-19-bursary-fund**