

St Wilfrid's Sixth Form Bursary Policy (2023-24)

The **16 to 19 Bursary Fund** targets support towards the most financially disadvantaged 16- to 19- year old students, those who most need help with the costs of staying on in full time education. There are two main types of student bursary, these are the Vulnerable Student Bursary and the Discretionary Bursary.

1. The Vulnerable Student Bursary

This bursary is for the most vulnerable young people – young people in care, care leavers, those on Income Support or Universal Credit and disabled young people in receipt of both Employment Support Allowance and Disability Living Allowance (or Personal Independence Payment). This bursary applies to you if:

- You are in or have recently left local authority care
- You get Income Support or Universal Credit because you're 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.

We will need proof that you are eligible, for example, this could be a letter from your Local Authority showing that they are in care or a care leaver or a letter from the Department of Work and Pensions showing the benefits that you receive. In order to assess each student on their need for the vulnerable student bursary the application will involve a Vulnerable Student Bursary application form.

2. The Discretionary Bursary

The main bursary fund is awarded on a discretionary basis by institutions. How an institution decides how use this funding is up to them and they can award discretionary bursaries to any student that is facing genuine financial barriers to participating. At St Wilfrid's we will only determine the full value of the bursary once the total number of applicants is known, therefore, you will not know how much funding can be awarded until all applications have been submitted. The discretionary bursary is awarded to students based on total household income **inclusive of** any benefits or self-employment income. Note we will need proof that you are eligible.

Eligibility Assessment

You can look at the chart below to find out if you are eligible for the bursary. If you think you are eligible, you will need to fill in the Discretionary Bursary application form and we can process your application further.

Bursary Type	What is my maximum household income?	What will I receive?
Band 1	Household income does not exceed £16,190 (including all streams of income, any benefits and child tax credit you may receive).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A payment will be made directly to the student once every term (3 payments in total). Bank details will be required. • Free School Meals (A meal can be purchased up to the value of £2.41 on each school day. This award is placed onto the student's ID card. Please note that the money must be spent on each day, as it cannot be rolled over).

Band 2	Household income is less than £25,000 (including all streams of income, any benefits and child tax credit you may receive)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A payment will be made directly to the student once every term (3 payments in total). Bank details will be required.
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Following the assessment of your eligibility, the amount you receive will be calculated dependent on the costs you have and what you need for your course. This bursary should be used for any resources and activities essential to your academic studies such as money for books, equipment or travel costs to school or college. The amount paid to each student is not a flat rate and will depend on the student's own personal circumstances. Note that the discretionary bursary is paid subject to maintaining a **minimum of 95% attendance**. Should the attendance level drop below 95% prior to the end of the term for which the bursary has been paid, the bursary payment for the following term may be withheld.

How do I apply? You will need to fill in the application form for the Discretionary Bursary which will be available for you at enrolment and at the start of the year. The form can also be downloaded from the Sixth Form page of the school website at **any point** throughout the academic year should your home circumstances change. The evidence needed to support your application must be submitted along with the form, the evidence required is outlined on the application form but if you have any questions then please email smcmonagle@saintwilfrids.com or ring Miss McMonagle on 01254 604000.