

16 -19 Bursary Fund Information 24-25



The Government has set 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 or training. This is called the 16 -19 Bursary Fund.

This fund could help you with education-related costs that may arise during the school year, including essentials like a meal during the day or transport to the Academy. It might also provide you with extra help to buy books, clothing or equipment for your course, or pay for educational visits.

Each school, college or training provider receives an individual allocation of these funds for the academic year from the EFA. Once these funds have been awarded to eligible pupils there is no guarantee that further monies will be available to support learners who subsequently submit an application.

At Longsands, students who apply to the bursary commit to upholding an attendance of at least 90%. If attendance falls below 90% then the status of their bursary will be subject to a review.

The 16 – 19 Bursary Fund has two elements:

Vulnerable Student Bursary – you could receive up to £1200 if you:

- are in local authority care, or have recently left local authority care; or
- receive Income Support, or Universal Credit, in your own name; or
- are disabled and receive both Employment Support Allowance (ESA) and Disability Living Allowance, or Personal Independence Payments in your own name.

Discretionary Bursary - Providers may then use their discretion to make awards to young people in ways that best meet the needs and circumstances of their students.

Am I eligible?

To be eligible you must be at least 16 years old and under 19 years old at the start on the 31st August. You must also be taking part in full-time or part-time further education, or training.

Further information and advice for young people regarding the 16 -19 Bursary Fund is available from the Education Funding Agency website,

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/education-funding-agency>

N.B.

Bursaries will not be paid to young people on waged Apprenticeships. However, if you are on an Access to Apprenticeship programme, or if you are an un-waged Apprentice, you can apply for assistance through your training provider.

Who will the bursary be paid to?

1. **Vulnerable Student Bursary** – payable to those students who meet the eligibility criteria for this bursary as described previously;
2. **Discretionary Bursary** – to those students whose circumstances are as follows:-
 - Students who are eligible to receive a Free School Meal;
 - Students whose household income is below £21,500;
 - Students who have been affected by a sudden, exceptional change in financial circumstances.

How much will I receive?

If your application is approved as a Vulnerable Student Bursary you will receive a payment of up to £1200 in the academic year 2024 - 2025, payable in 6 equal instalments.

If your application is approved as a Discretionary Bursary you could receive a payment of between £400 - £800 in the academic year 2024 - 2025, payable in 6 equal instalments.

The amount you will receive will be determined by your individual circumstances and the requirements of the course you are studying.

All payments made under the scheme will be subject to you meeting the requirements set out in the Sixth Form Student Handbook.

Applications for the 16 – 19 Bursary can be submitted at any time, but it is important to recognise that there is a limited amount of funding available, therefore, all applications are subject to the availability of funding, at the time of your application.

Applications will not be considered once all funds have been distributed.

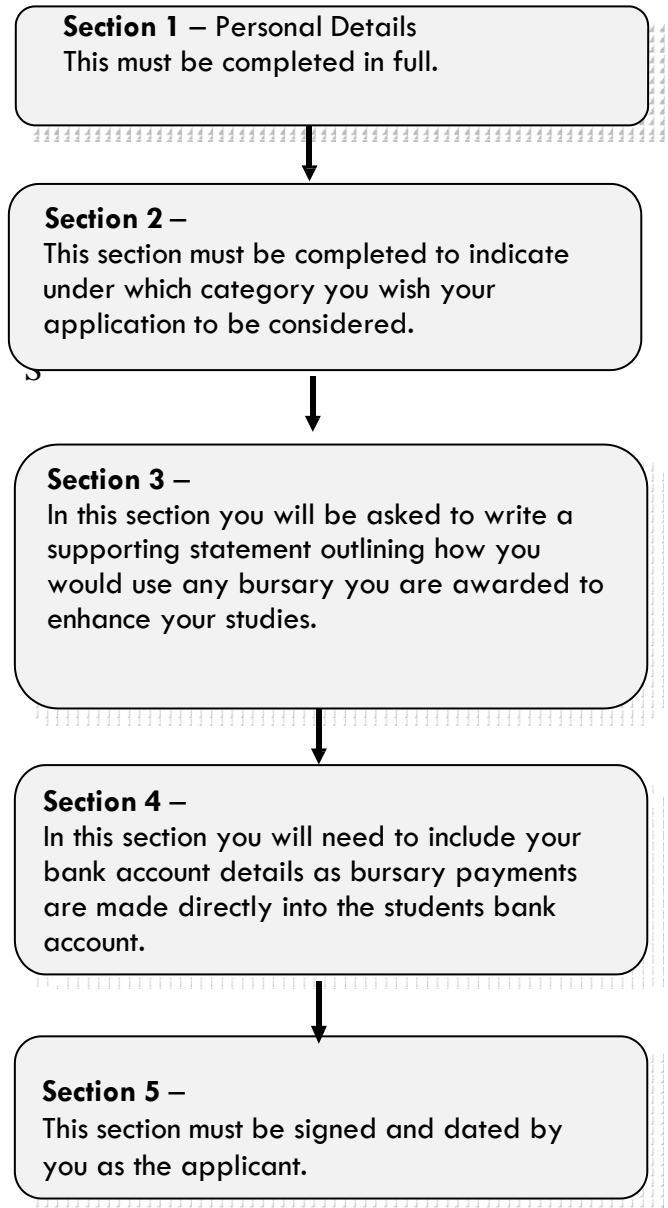
How will the bursary be paid?

The bursary awarded to you will be paid on a half-termly basis direct to a bank account that must be in your name.

How do I apply?

If having read this guidance you believe you are eligible for a payment under the 16 – 19 Bursary Fund, please complete the **16 – 19 Bursary Fund application form**. These can be collected directly from Mrs Walton.

The application form must be completed as follows:



How will I know if my application has been successful?

If your application is successful, you will be notified in writing showing how much has been awarded to you, and when you can expect to receive your first payment.

Application Deadline

Completed applications need to be submitted by **Friday 27th September** However late applications will be considered under category 4; exceptional change in financial circumstances.

What happens if my application is unsuccessful?

You have the right to appeal against the decision.

Appeals in writing should be sent to:

Dr Catherine Cusick
Principal
Longsands Academy
Longsands Road
St Neots
Cams
PE19 1LQ

You must submit your appeal request within 10 working days of receiving the decision letter sent to you. Your appeal will be presented to Dr Cusick for a decision. His decision is final; there is no further appeal beyond this point. You will be notified in writing within 15 working days of the outcome of your appeal.

Further information and assistance

If you require any further information, or wish to discuss your application, please contact:

Mr Callum Robertson
Head of Sixth Form
callum.robertson@astrea-longsands.org
01480 223373

