

## Launceston College - 16-19 bursary fund statement

At Launceston College Sixth Form, we provide 16-19 bursaries for students to ensure they have access to their studies, where they would otherwise be unable to do so for financial reasons. We are committed to closing the attainment gap between students from disadvantaged and more affluent backgrounds, ensuring that every student participates in, and benefits from, a place in 16-19 education and training.

**There are two types of bursaries available:** discretionary and vulnerable. Each bursary is allocated based on students meeting the eligibility criteria. The government sets out specific criteria for the vulnerable bursary which can support students, whilst the eligibility criteria for the discretionary bursary is determined by our school. In **both** cases, the school is responsible for determining whether a student's application has been successful.

We are dedicated to:

- Distributing 16-19 bursaries via a fair and equal process that is transparent, accountable and easily understood.
- Ensuring that information regarding the application, award and administration of 16-19 bursaries is available to all.
- Widening access to, and participation in, Sixth Form education.
- Ensuring all students who have a need for financial support have access to bursary funding.

### General Eligibility

Students who are aged 16 or over and under 19 years old on 31 August of the academic year of study will qualify for bursaries. Students aged under 16 will only receive bursaries in exceptional circumstances.

Students aged 19 or over are **not** eligible for the **vulnerable group's bursary**, although they may be eligible for a discretionary bursary.

Where a student's circumstances change, they can apply more than once. In this case, the student will be reassessed, including a one-to-one interview to determine if there are any exceptional circumstances to consider.

All students will be assessed on individual need for either bursary. Evidence must be provided to support applications – a full list of supporting evidence is outlined in our 16-19 Bursary Application Form.

### Discretionary bursaries

We allocate discretionary bursaries based on those who are most in need of financial support. Our eligibility criteria for a discretionary bursary includes the following:

**Your household income is below £50,000 per year, please submit one of the following forms of evidence.**

- 3 months of bank statements for all adult wage earners in the household.

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- A recent P60 (from **all** adult wage earners in the household) **or**, if self-employed, audited accounts or an official tax return.
- If you are currently claiming means-tested benefits including Universal Credit, Working Tax Credit/ Child Tax Credit, Income Based Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) please provide statements from the last 3 months.

**Your household income is above £50,000 per year, but we can make special considerations based on any of the points below.**

- Students who have additional responsibilities, such as being a young carer or parent.
- Students who are from a single-parent family or have one or more dependent siblings in their family.
- Students who travel greater than 3 miles to the institution.
- Previously qualified for free school meals.

#### **Vulnerable Bursary Funding:**

To be eligible for a vulnerable bursary, students must meet one of the following criteria:

you are a **student** that is:

- Living in care, or a special guardianship.
- **And/or** you are receiving one of the following in your own name: **Universal Credit, Personal Independence Payments or Disability Living Allowance.**

*If you do not fall under any of the criteria for vulnerable or discretionary bursary funding, but consider yourself to be in financial hardship, please speak with the Sixth Form team so that a decision can be referred to the Head of Sixth Form.*

**If you wish to submit an application for consideration please complete an application form a member of the Sixth Form team will then be in contact.**