

## Financial Support for Students in 2018-19

### *16-19 Bursary Scheme of up to £1,000 over two years*

At Carmel College we have a bursary scheme for full time students of all ages. The bursary scheme consists of a number of elements:

#### **Targeted Bursary**

A Targeted Bursary of up to £1,200 per year may be payable to young people in the following defined vulnerable groups: **in care, care leavers, young people in receipt of Income Support or Universal Credit** (in their own name) because they are financially supporting themselves or financially supporting themselves and someone who is dependent on them and living with them such as a child or partner, and **disabled young people in receipt of both Employment Support Allowance (or Universal Credit) and Disability Living Allowance (or Personal Independence Payment)**. Funding for this group of young people will be held centrally and the College will draw down funds on behalf of eligible students. You can apply for this bursary using the same application form as the General Bursary. Please note, however, that students meeting the above criteria will not automatically qualify for the Targeted Bursary if, for example, their financial needs are already met and/or they have no relevant costs or their financial needs are limited.

#### **General Bursary**

The General Bursary is aimed at financially assisting young people in ways that best fit their needs and circumstances. Awards will be targeted towards those young people who face the greatest financial barriers to participation, such as the costs of transport, meals, books and equipment. For 2018-19 academic year the General Bursary award is £500\* payable over 3 terms (ie term 1 £166, term 2 £167, term 3 £167).

#### **Transport Bursary**

Students eligible for the General Bursary **who live outside a 3 mile radius of College** may also receive a Transport Bursary if they have purchased a bus pass. For eligible students travelling on the Arriva or Merseytravel services, the Transport Award will be paid directly into the student's bank account and will cover the cost of a term pass (ie bus passes will not be issued by College). The Transport Bursary does not apply to students in receipt of the Targeted Bursary.

#### **Free meals**

To be eligible for a free meal in the academic year 2018-19 you must be aged between 16 and 18 on 31 August 2018. If you turn 19 during your year of study you will remain eligible for a free meal until the end of the academic year. Students who are aged 19 or over on 31 August 2018 and who meet the '19+ Students' criteria below may also be eligible to a free meal. Free meals are targeted at disadvantaged students. For the purposes of eligibility, disadvantaged is defined by the students being in receipt of, or having parents who are in receipt of, one or more of the following benefits shown below (with the exception of Personal Independence Payment).

#### **Eligibility**

Full time students **aged under 19 at the start of the academic year** who satisfy the residency criteria in the ESFA Funding Guidance 2018-19 and meet the following household income based criteria may apply for the General Bursary:

##### **You or your parents are in receipt of:-**

- Income support
- Income based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment Support Allowance (ESA)
- Personal Independence Payment
- The guarantee element of state pension credit
- Support under part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit (provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit) and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190 as assessed by HMRC\*
- Universal credit with net earnings not exceeding the equivalent of £7,400 per annum
- Working Tax Credit run on – paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

\*Subject to the availability of funds and the number of eligible applicants.

***For 2018-19 the College discretionary annual household income threshold should not exceed £25,000 to be eligible for the General Bursary. To be eligible for free meals the government threshold for entitlement remains at £16,190.***

### ***19+ Students***

Full time students aged 19 and over who satisfy the residency criteria in the ESFA Funding Guidance 2018-19 and meet the following criteria may apply for the General Bursary:

- Student is continuing on a study programme they began aged 16 to 18 ('19+ continuers')
- Student has an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP)

### ***Other help***

- Extra financial support may be available in extenuating circumstances
- Students who have caring responsibilities may need extra help
- C2L (Care to Learn) provides funding for childcare to help young parents continue in education after the birth of a child. The scheme provides funding for childcare whilst the young parent is engaged in a study programme and is not able to provide care for their child. It can also help with travel costs involved in taking the child to the childcare provider. If you have a child you can apply for Care to Learn funding via the Student Bursary Support Services (SBSS) on-line portal, or via the student helpline 0800 121 8989.
- In the event of extended work placements being offered by the College, students may be able to access financial support to assist with expenses such as travel, equipment or clothing.

### ***Assessment and payment of bursaries***

Receipt of a Targeted Bursary or a General Bursary is conditional on the student meeting agreed standards set by the College, including targets relating to attendance and/or standards of behaviour. Awards are subject to funding availability.

### ***Administration and distribution of awards***

Applications and guidance for 2018-19 are available for download from the College website under the tab 'How we support you' then 'Financial Support'. A Bursary Panel will assess your application and we aim to notify you of the decision within 10 working days of receipt of the form. The Targeted Bursary will be payable over 10 monthly payments subject to students meeting their targets. The General Bursary will be payable termly subject to students meeting their targets. All payments will be made directly into student bank accounts via BACs payment. General Bursary payments may vary depending upon individual financial circumstances. Assistance with the cost of student transport will be a priority.

### ***Equal Opportunities***

The College will not discriminate against students on the basis of protected characteristics as defined in equalities legislation, section 149(1) of the Equality Act 2010.

### ***Appeals Process***

Students will have the right of appeal against Bursary Panel decisions via the College appeals process. Appeals should be made in writing directly to The Principal, Mr Mike Hill.