


# St George's School

	<b>Bursary Fund Guidance for Students</b>	
	<b>Committee: SAS</b>	
	<b>Co-ordinator : B Cullis</b>	
	<b>Last Reviewed : Autumn 2024</b>	<b>Next Review : Autumn 2025</b>
	<b>Policy links to the bursary application form</b>	

**This policy is intended to apply to the government bursary scheme, aimed at supporting vulnerable 16 to 19 year old students in full time education.**

The scheme is made up of two parts:

1. A full bursary payment of £1,200 to the most vulnerable students
2. A discretionary fund to be distributed according to school policy\*

## **Qualification for a full vulnerable bursary**

Students in years 12 and 13 who meet the following vulnerability criteria will receive up to £1,200 annual bursary.

- Students in care
- Students leaving care
- Students receiving income support or universal credit in place of income support in their own right
- Students in receipt of Employment and Support Allowance or Universal Credit and Disability or Personal Independence Payments in their own right.

Please provide proof of eligibility. Any award of payment will be made directly into the student's bank account.

## **Discretionary bursaries**

To be eligible for the discretionary bursary, students must be facing financial barriers to participation in education.

In keeping with government guidelines and financial support for school activities and St George's school's a 16-19 bursary can be applied for by students whose parents are entitled to any of the following state benefits:

- Free school meals
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit, provided the parent is not entitled to Working Tax Credit and their annual income assessed by the Inland Revenue does not exceed £16,190
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit.
- Working Tax Credit during the four-week period immediately after employment finishes or after you start to work less than 16 hours per week
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance

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Students will need to provide proof of entitlement to the parental benefits listed above prior to a bursary being awarded

*\*It should be noted that the school will receive a fixed-sum grant from the government for awarding discretionary bursaries and this may limit the number of discretionary awards available or reduce the amounts paid.*

A limited number of further discretionary bursaries may be available at any point of the academic year if families can demonstrate genuine hardship due to an unexpected change in financial circumstances, subject to sufficient funds being available from the government grant received by the school.

### Entitlement expectations

Students eligible for the 16-19 bursary must meet the criteria of a 100% attendance, unless absence is authorised. If this criterion is not met, payment will be forfeit for the whole period of unauthorised absence. The process of application and payments will remain confidential.

Students should apply by completing the St George's 16-19 Bursary application form giving details of circumstances and eligibility.

The school reserves the right to withdraw the entitlement to a Discretionary Bursary should circumstances change.

All cases will be considered on individual merit in conjunction with school ethos and government guidance which can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/16-to-19-education-financial-support-for-students>

Examples of what the bursary can be used for

- Transport
- Essential books and other equipment for your course
- Equipment or specialist clothing
- Academic trips
- Transport cost incurred to attend university open days

What it cannot be used for

- Music lessons
- Tutoring
- Non-academic trips
- Overseas trips where the content can be found within England at a much cheaper cost and/or field trips that are not an essential part of a student's study programme goals
- The maximum contribution that can be used from the bursary towards a **qualifying trip** is £400.