Headteacher: Mrs Kelli Foster
BA (Hons) with QTS

Mark Rutherford School
Wentworth Drive
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MARK RUTHERFORD SCHOOL

Friday 16th October 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: 16-19 Bursary Fund

In order to support your son/daughter with their post-16 studies we are able to offer a bursary fund. The '16-19 Bursary Fund' is a Government scheme designed to support students who wish to remain in full time non-compulsory education who may face financial hardship. We are now in the position to open up the application process and have identified three tiers of eligibility as outlined below:

Vulnerable Bursary (Tier 1):
These students are defined as 'Vulnerable Young People'; those students who are in care, a care leaver, a young person receiving Income Support (or Universal Credit) in their own name; and disabled young people receiving Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payments. The students are eligible for a bursary of £1,200 per year, pro rata.

Discretionary Bursary (Tier 2):
These are students whose parental household income is no more than £22,500 per annum, to include any benefits. The amount allocated to each student will depend upon how many students within the current Sixth Form cohort are eligible.

Discretionary Payment (Tier 3):
This is for any other student that requires financial support to ensure they stay in full time education or training. Financial support with transport, food, equipment, trips or other course related costs may be required and therefore students may apply using a specific application form. This is known as a 'discretionary payment'. Students eligible for Tier 1 or 2 cannot make further applications for a discretionary payment from Tier 3.

If you believe your son/daughter may be eligible for support from our bursary fund then they can collect the relevant application form from the Sixth Form Office. We can continue to receive applications for each of the tiers outlined above throughout the academic year. Therefore, if your financial or personal circumstances changes at any time please do not hesitate in seeking the financial support required to ensure your son/daughter can remain in full time education. In the first instance applications for the Vulnerable Bursary (Tier 1) and the Discretionary Bursary (Tier 2) are required by Monday 2nd November 2026.

Please do not hesitate to make contact if you need any assistance or clarification about the '16-19 Bursary Fund'.

Yours sincerely

The Sixth Form Team