



Frequently Asked Questions: Financial Support

Is Financial Support available to Sixth Form students?

Yes, depending on your circumstances. A bursary is available to students if they meet certain criteria. All Sixth Form students can apply for a TOTUM Card and 16-18 PhotoCard for half-fare bus and rail travel.

Student Union Card (TOTUM Card)

All sixth form students are eligible to apply for a TOTUM Card, the new name for the National Union of Students card. You can apply for a TOTUM LITE Card which is free, or a TOTUM Card where you pay for a 1-year, 2-year or 3-year card. Both cards offer you a wide range of discounts on shops, entertainment, travel, music and technology.

For more information go to www.totum.com you will need your school email address to verify that you are a student.

16-18 PhotoCard for half-fare bus and rail travel

A 16-18 PhotoCard is for West Yorkshire residents age 16 to 18. It gives you half-fare anywhere in West Yorkshire at any time of day including evenings and weekends for more information go to <https://ticketsandpasses.wymetro.com/under-26-students/16-18-photocard/>

School Bursary Fund

Students who currently receive free school meals automatically qualify for a bursary.

Students with a household income of less than £25,000 will be eligible to apply for financial assistance to help cover their expenses whilst in Sixth Form. This is not a weekly payment; it is a re-imbusement, so you will need to provide receipts.

How to apply

If you think you may be eligible for the School Bursary Fund, please contact Mrs Gillibrand in the Sixth Form office.

The following rules apply to the 16-19 Bursary for the 2020-21 academic year:

- All evidence provided must be up to date and current i.e. documents should be dated within the last three months. Students who were eligible during 2019-20 will need to re-apply for the current academic year.
- The family income level is less than £25,000.
- There will be a personal annual limit which is usually £350 in the first instance. However, depending on circumstances, that initial limit may be larger. This amount will be reviewed regularly and eligible students will be notified of any increase.
- The £350 will only be released if attendance is above 95% for this period. It will be released in instalments.
- Attendance between 90% and 95% will see a 25% reduction in bursary available to the students.
- If attendance falls below 90%, there will be no further monies available until it goes above 90% once more.
- Claims for large items cannot be made after 1 April 2021 for the current academic year.



How can I spend my bursary?

Your bursary is to help pay for things you really need to stay on for further education at sixth form. It can be spent on:

- Transport tickets to and from sixth form
- Refreshments and meals in school through your catering account.
- Equipment for your course e.g. an appropriate school bag, folders, revision cards, pens, art materials to use in personal study, textbooks, football boots or kit for PE, practice head or hairdressing tools for Hair and Beauty that can be kept at home.
- Activities and trips (day and residential) which are part of the academic enrichment or wider enrichment programmes
- Access to university open days, interviews and other educational events.
- Certificates for MOOCs that you have undertaken,
- Subscriptions to academic journals or magazines

Students eligible for the bursary can also apply to borrow a school laptop for the year.