

Beacon Hill Academy

16-19 Bursary Policy



September 2026

The 16-19 bursary fund is a scheme set up by the DfE and funded by the ESFA. The fund provides financial support to eligible students to help overcome their specific financial barriers to participation so they can remain in education or training.

Examples of what the bursary can be used to fund include

- Travel
- Educational visits
- Books and equipment
- Clothing
- Specialist equipment

It cannot be used to provide learning support.

Eligibility

Students must be aged 16 but under 19 on **31st August 2026**

There are 2 types of bursary, a vulnerable bursary and a discretionary bursary.

Vulnerable Bursary

The vulnerable bursary which has a maximum award of £1200 is allocated to anyone who meets the following ESFA agreed criteria:-

- In care
- Leaving care
- Receiving income support or universal credit because they are financially supporting themselves or a dependant
- Receiving DLA or PIP in their own right **as well as** employment support allowance (ESA) or universal credit in their own right

Discretionary Bursary

Once the vulnerable bursary has been allocated, any remaining monies that the school has been given for the 16-19 bursary will be allocated to those who apply under the discretionary criteria. The amount awarded will vary depending on the number of applicants. Schools and academies are able to set their own criteria for the discretionary bursary.

For **2026-2027** at Beacon Hill, the criteria for the discretionary bursary will be any pupil whose parent/carers receive any of the benefits below:-

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Universal Credit with an annual earned income of £7,400 or less
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Receiving support under part VI Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Families with No Recourse to Public Funds

Application Process

Parents must complete the attached application form.

Proof of eligibility is needed for both vulnerable and discretionary bursary and this is detailed on the application form.

Parents/carers must send the supporting evidence and the application form to:

Liz Badman, Pupil Services Administrator, Beacon Hill Academy.

liz@beaconhill.thurrock.sch.uk

All applicants that meet the criteria and provide the required evidence by the agreed deadline each term will be awarded the bursary.

Payments will be made into a bank account which **MUST** be held in the students name.

Any unclaimed or returned bursary money will be transferred into the following term/years allocation and be re-allocated when the next round of applications takes place.