

## Financial Support Available Whilst at College

### Reigate College 16-19 Bursary Fund

Financial assistance is available for students through the Reigate College 16-19 Bursary Fund. The fund is designed to help students who are in the most need. The fund has two elements:

#### **1. Vulnerable Bursary**

Young people in care, care leavers, young people in receipt of Income Support or Universal Credit in its place and disabled young people in receipt of Employment Support Allowance who are also in receipt of Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payments will be eligible to receive a bursary of £1,200 a year.

#### **2. Discretionary Bursary**

Students who are in households that have an income of less than £23,000 per annum\* may apply for a discretionary award. Students in this category will be eligible for financial assistance to help with costs associated with their education, such as books, transport, field trips and equipment. Evidence of income will be required, such as Tax Credit Award Notice. The amount of the award will depend upon individual circumstances and available funds.

\*Amounts may vary from year to year. Full details of the current scheme and eligibility criteria can be found on <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/16-to-19-bursary-fund-guide-for-2016-to-2017> and the Reigate College application form on <http://www.reigate.ac.uk/sites/default/files/reigatecollege/downloads/2016-2017-Bursary-application-form-with-free-school-meals.pdf>.

Bursary students are not required to pay the £55 book deposit, however, if books are not returned/damaged this amount will be deducted from the last Bursary payment.

#### **Further Education Free Meals**

A student who is eligible for the Vulnerable Bursary will automatically qualify for a free meal on any day that he/she attends College. Students who are in receipt of the Discretionary Bursary may qualify for free meals if they are in receipt of one of the qualifying benefits. However, please note that being in receipt of qualifying income or working tax credit on its own do not constitute eligibility.

Application forms and further details can be found on the Reigate College Website or directly from the College.

#### **Help with Transport Costs**

*Students who live in the Administrative County of Surrey but not London Boroughs with a Surrey Address*

#### **Bus and Train Student Fare Card Scheme**

Students who live in the Administrative County of Surrey can apply for a bus or train card which entitles them to discounted travel. Early application is advised as past experience has shown that processing the cards can be delayed and students will have to pay full fare until they receive their card. Further details are available online from: [www.surreycc.gov.uk/studentfarecards](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/studentfarecards).

In addition to the above, Surrey County Council operates a limited scheme for students in the following categories:

- Students who are in receipt of 16-19 Vulnerable Bursary – see above
- Students whose families are in receipt of the maximum Working Tax Credit or who meet the eligibility criteria for Free School Meals
- Students who are unable to use the Student Fare Card because the College is not on a public transport route
- Students who have a disability and/or learning difficulties and/or who are medically ill and who will incur extra transport costs to travel to school/college as a result of that disability or condition

The scheme allows eligible applicants the opportunity to reclaim some of their transport costs back from Surrey County Council. Details of both schemes are available from County Hall, Penrhyn Road, Kingston upon Thames KT1 2DY – ☎ 0845 6009 009 or by visiting: <http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/school-transport/post-16-transport-to-school>.

#### **Students who live outside the Administrative County of Surrey**

Assistance with travel expenses for students above school leaving age is a discretionary matter for Local Education Authorities. Students should contact their local authority for more details. Students should also consider looking at the Oyster Card system which has now been extended to Redhill Station.