

# Student Financial Support Policy

## Process

<b>Responsibility of:</b>	Associate Director: Administration & MIS
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\* Available in a range of different formats and languages on request

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## **Introduction**

The Cheadle and Marple College Network Boards of Governors and C&M College Network Management is committed to promoting and guiding the application of financial assistance to those entitled in order to help support the financial costs of participating in learning.

Informed by our mission statement:

“The C&M Network – where people flourish, and achieve extraordinary things”

We aim to provide information, advice and application guidance relating to the following Government funded initiatives:

- 16 - 19 Guaranteed Bursary
- 16 - 19 Discretionary Bursary
- 19+ Adult Discretionary Learner Support
- 20+ Childcare Support
- Advanced Learning Loans Bursary

## **Compliance: Legal, Statutory and Internal Regulations**

The Financial Support Policy is underpinned by the following legal / statutory / internal regulations:

- ESFA Funding Guidance and Regulations
- The C&M College Network Financial Regulations
- Data Protection and GDPR 2018

## **Procedures and Protocols Supporting This Policy:**

- 16-19 Bursary Travel and Free Meals Procedure
- 19+ LSF Application Procedure
- Advanced Learning Loan Bursary Procedure

## **Scope:**

The Financial Support Policy applies to all employers and students meeting the eligibility criteria for any funding initiative available to The C&M College Network and repeals all previous policies in relation to financial support, bursaries, grants and loans.

Specific accountabilities of parties are:

- The Director of Finance holds ultimate accountability to ensure Government funded initiatives are applied in accordance with current ESFA Funding Guidance and College Policies and Procedures
- The Associate Director: Administration & MIS has responsibility to ensure that associated procedures and protocols are applied, monitored and revised as required

## Policy Statement

The C&M College Network is committed to promoting and guiding the application of financial assistance to those entitled in order to help support the financial costs of participating in learning.

16-19 Bursary Support Funds are allocated by the Educational Funding Agency, the 19+ Discretionary Support Funds and Advanced Learning Loan Bursary Fund are allocated by the Education, Skills Funding Agency (ESFA). The purpose of the funds is to reduce the financial barriers associated with study for students aged 16 and over with proven financial hardship. The funds support students to meet the costs of participating in courses, to attend regularly, achieve and progress.

The Bursary Support Fund supports students who are between 16 and 19 and assessed as being in need of financial assistance. The C&M College Network complies with the 16-19 Bursary Funding Guidelines issued by the ESFA. Young people must satisfy the residency criteria as stated in the document ESFA Funding Guidance Funding Regulations.

In order to further support students traveling a considerable distance to participate in learning, The C&M College Network will offer an Exceptional Distance Travel Bursary to assist with travel from specific locations that incur considerable cost. The Exceptional Distance Travel Bursary is not means tested and applies to 16-19-year-old full time students.

The 19+ Discretionary Student Support Fund supports students who are over 19 (excluding students studying a course at Level 3 or above funded by an Advanced Learning Loan) and assessed as being in need of financial assistance on a full or part-time course. The C&M College Network follows the residency criteria as stated in the ESFA Funding Rules.

The Advanced Learning Loans Bursary supports students who are studying a course funded by an Advanced Learning Loan.

Free Meals will be offered to eligible individuals and will be administered following ESFA compliance guidance.

All support fund initiatives are administered in accordance with current ESFA Funding Guidance and The C&M College Network Policies and Procedures.

**Signed:**

**Title:**

**Date:**



Principal

08/07/2020



Chair of Corporation

23/07/2020