

16-18 Help towards the cost of study | 2024-2025

If you are over 16 and under 19 on the 31st August, or under 24 and have an EHCP plan, you may be eligible for financial support to help with the costs associated with your study.

Support can include financial assistance for items such as travel costs, food and kit/uniform needed for the course.

Applications are assessed on an individual basis. If you turn 19 during your programme of study, you will continue to be supported to the end of the academic year in which you turn 19, or to the end of your programme of study, whichever is soonest.

Travel Passes

The College provides a FREE Transdev travel pass if your household income is less than £37,500. A subsidised travel pass is available to all other 16-18 year olds. **Passes can be used anytime - including evenings, weekends, half terms and summer holidays!**

Please ask at Student Services if you need support with alternative travel arrangements.

Free Meals

To be eligible for Free College Meals you or your parents/carer must be in receipt of one or more of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190, as assessed by HMRC (but must not be in receipt of Working Tax Credit)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- In receipt of Universal Credit with net earnings of up to and including £7,400 (£616.67 per month)

If you do not fall into any of these categories but feel you would benefit from college meals please contact Student Services to discuss your individual circumstances.

Vulnerable Bursary

Learners in the defined vulnerable groups will be eligible for a bursary of up to £1,200 for courses that run for 30 weeks or more (pro-rata for courses that run for less than 30 weeks a year). Vulnerable groups entitled to this bursary include:

- In Care
- Care Leavers
- Receiving Income Support, or Universal Credit because they are financially supporting themselves or financially supporting someone who is dependant on them and living with them such as a child or partner
- Receiving Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payments in their own right as well as Employment and Support Allowance or Universal Credit in their own right

Care to Learn

Care to Learn is a Government scheme to help young parents with childcare costs whilst studying. You may be able to claim 'Care to Learn' funding if you are under 20 years of age and need help with child care costs. For further details visit the government website - <https://www.gov.uk/care-to-learn>.

Discretionary Bursaries

If you are not eligible for bursary under any of these categories you may be able to apply for a Discretionary Bursary. These are awarded in exceptional circumstances on a case by case basis. Support available may include travel, bus passes, food, books, uniform and equipment.

How do you apply?

You can apply on the College's online secure portal 'Pay My Student' by logging on to:

<https://nelson.paymystudent.com>

You can use your Office 365 details to log in and begin your application.

Early applications are recommended as funds are limited and demand is always high.

For more information on our Financial Support offering, please contact Student Services to discuss your individual circumstances:

01254 354 143

studentservices@nelsongroup.ac.uk

