

6<sup>th</sup> May 2022

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A University of Kent Academies Trust School

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Financial Support for Students and Families**

In the current challenging economic climate, I wanted to take the opportunity to provide you with some information on possible avenues of financial support available to families attending the Academy.

#### **Support with meals onsite:**

Your child might be eligible for free school meals if you access:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance or Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on
- Universal Credit, provided you have an annual net earned income not exceeding £7,400 (£616.67 per month)

The funds are paid directly into a student's ParentPay account, so that they can purchase food from the Refectory using the usual biometric system. This ensures total confidentiality. If you live in Medway the link to their website is below, if you live outside of Medway then you would need to contact your local authority. Again, please contact us if you need any support making an application.

[https://www.medway.gov.uk/info/200164/school\\_information/354/free\\_school\\_meals](https://www.medway.gov.uk/info/200164/school_information/354/free_school_meals)

#### **Financial support with uniform/resources:**

We have access to some subsidised support with uniform for those families who are eligible for free school meals through the generosity of Uniformbase, our uniform suppliers and the pupil premium funding that we receive. Each year Uniformbase set aside a small fund for us to be able to support families with the cost of buying and replacing uniform. We also have a supply of donated uniform items which are available onsite.

Please contact Student Services if you would like more details.

We are also able to provide support for those students eligible for free school meals in other

ways, such as help to buy revision resources, materials and trips.

### **16 - 19 Bursary:**

This is for students attending the UKAT Sixth Form, the bursary is money that you, or we can use to pay for things like:

- clothing, books and other equipment for your course
- transport and lunch on days you attend

Even if you feel you do not fit any of the eligibility criteria for any of the of subsidy systems suggested above, but are struggling, please always contact us and we will always try our very best to provide solutions and support.

Yours faithfully

Jenny Best  
**Deputy CEO and Executive Principal**



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Awarded by Arts Council England



**TeachFirst**

