

12 September 2011

Dear Parents

16-19 BURSARY FUND

The purpose of this letter is to inform you about financial support which might be available for students whose families have difficulty in supporting their continuing education post-16. Formerly, the Educational Maintenance Allowance (EMA) provided support for a large number of young people. The government is phasing this out and replacing it with a much less generous and narrowly targeted scheme for Sixth-Form students called the Bursary scheme.

The new scheme has allocated a modest amount of money to the school and Governors have taken on the responsibility of administering the fund.

In line with government policy, **guaranteed bursaries** will be paid to students who are in care or in receipt of income support and to disabled students in receipt of Disability Living Allowance. The remainder of the fund will be allocated by the governors in the form of discretionary bursaries. Please contact Mr Arbuckle as a matter of urgency if your son/daughter qualifies for a guaranteed bursary.

Applications for **discretionary bursaries** will be considered from Year 12 students and from Year 13 students who no longer receive EMA payments based on a means-test of household income. Students with a total household income below £20,000 will be eligible to apply for a discretionary bursary. However, eligibility does not guarantee an award if Chew Valley School judges other applications to have greater priority. Applications will, exceptionally, also be considered from students whose household income is just above £20,000 who face particular circumstances which jeopardise their continuing education.

The full policy regarding the administration of the 16-19 Bursary Fund is on the school website in the Sixth-Form section alongside the application form. The deadline for receipt of applications, together with the required supporting evidence, is Friday 30th September.

If you would like to receive paper copies of the relevant paperwork or require any assistance in completing the application form please contact Mrs Sam Carr, Sixth-Form Administrator (01275-332272).

Yours sincerely,



Mark Mallett
Headteacher