

Autumn 2016

Well, back into the new academic year

Personal Support Grants and **Vocational Grants** awarded before and after the summer break include the usual IT—laptops to support learning at home (homework and communication with school) and iPads with accessible and specialist software for children with additional learning and emotional / behavioural needs, as well as activities out of school that build confidence and integration with peers

Scholarship Grants: we had some extra funds to enable us to make an award to all applicants in the round, but these funds will not necessarily be available in future. We were able to make a grant commitment to 38 students for the duration of their course—totalling £300,000 plus.

In the light of the increased demand for our grants we are reviewing our policies and procedures, looking at being able to award grants to a larger number of students as a supplement to their loan and any other bursaries they get from their universities. We have found that often they are eligible for a bursary based on family income, so we should not feel that we are their only source of extra finances.

More details soon—but for now remember that Scholarship Grant applications for 2017 university entry go live in the New Year.

I am available

- * To do a presentation in an assembly to year 12s and 13s on Scholarship and Vocational Grants
- * Brief staff (especially those supporting SEND pupils) on Personal Support and Vocational Grants

Ask me if you have any other ideas

ooOOoo

CONTACT DETAILS

Jonathan Whitehead-Whiting Grants Officer - ODM
Wiltshire Community Foundation
Sandcliff House, 21 Northgate Street
Devizes . SN10 1JT

P: 01380 729284
W: www.odm.wiltshirecf.org.uk
E: jonathan.ww@wiltshirecf.org.uk

Never be afraid
to try something
new.

Remember,
amateurs built
the ark.
Professionals
built the Titanic.

anonymous

REMEMBER.....

PERSONAL SUPPORT AND

VOCATIONAL GRANTS are now

assessed on a regular basis, with an expected 6 week decision time, rather than waiting for set quarterly panel dates. This means that we are better able to respond to shorter timescales than our previous process allowed.

Please complete an Expression of Interest at www.odm.wiltshirecf.org.uk

ooOoo

SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS for 2017 university entry will open January 2017. Students will need to complete an Expression of Interest on the website to register. More information to follow



WHAT WE HAVE DONE....

Since the inception of the One Degree More funds
in 2007/08,

⇒ we have supported nearly 400 children and young people

⇒ With a total of £1.2 million

That is—

- ✓ 189 students going to university— £1.1m
- ✓ 40 with course related costs and equipment— £38,000
- ✓ 148 children and young people with additional needs— nearly £90,000

Know anyone we could help?????

WHO WE CAN HELP....

All our grants have 2 main **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**, along with addressing an **educational need** and being within the specified age range -

- **residency requirement**: the last 2 years being resident in Wiltshire County or Swindon Borough areas, and
- **evidence of a financial need**: a means-tested benefit being claimed by the applicant or their parents if living at home, for example Working Tax or Child Tax Credits.

Children in Care through Wiltshire Council or Swindon Borough Council are also eligible (subject to age and grant stream) as are recently arrived refugees

For more information please go to www.odm.wiltshirecf.org.uk

If you have a particular student or situation you want to explore 'in principle', please contact me to discuss

If you want to be removed from or added to the mailing list, please let me know — jonathan.ww@wiltshirecf.org.uk

What our grants are for....

Our grants are based on addressing an educational need outside of the school curriculum.

This can be for equipment (usually IT based) to support learning at home, or for activities that encourage and support the child's learning

For **Personal Support Grants** (any age) there has to be an identified need— educational or physical—that is a barrier to learning; the items or services applied for must be to address this barrier.

Requests for IT—laptop or iPad as appropriate—are considered by the panel to support learning at home (a key issue in the transfer from primary to secondary school) as well electronic communication with school and access to specialised software

Vocational Grants (age 14 upwards) can be very broad—originally set up to support the purchase of items for vocational courses, we have provided grants for IT for 6th formers as well as course materials for Art & Design and equipment for Photography.

In addition, transport to specialist courses not available in Wiltshire or Swindon have been supported, as well as financial support for young people on apprenticeships.

If you have a scenario that you think may fit, please contact me for an 'in principle' discussion. Jonathan W-W

Scholarship Grants (aged 17-24 at time of application) are awarded as a contribution towards living and course related costs at university. They are awarded for the duration of the course (subject to monitoring and there being no changes to family or applicant circumstances) and paid in instalments through the year.

**Wiltshire
Community
Foundation**

Giving money and support
where people need it most

