

Lower Heyford and Caulcott Community Fund

The trustees of the Lower Heyford and Caulcott Community Fund have decided to make some changes to the grants awarded to young people who are undertaking further education or training of some sort after leaving school.

The trustees are mindful of the costs involved for young people undertaking training after leaving school. We recognise the value of that further study and training can give in terms of helping improve future employment prospects. The economic downturn caused by COVID-19 has exacerbated the issue of unemployment and it is widely acknowledged that young people will find it more difficult to find work because of their age, inexperience and lack of skills.

Helping to address this issue of skills and further education is something tangible that the trustees consider they can do.

As a result, the trustees have agreed to increase the grants for young people. These will continue to be available for young people between the ages of 16 and 24. An annual award of up to £1000 will be paid each year for up to a maximum of 4 years (or the duration of the course if it is less than 4 years). The grants can be used for a range of courses and training e.g. apprenticeships, technical training courses, undergraduate, postgraduate training or a combination of these. People over 24 who are considering a change in career which involves re-training should consider applying for a career development grant.

The grants are intended to help provide financial support to the young person so can be paid against costs incurred as part of the course e.g. accommodation, IT, books, equipment etc. Whilst we will not pay travel costs for someone wishing to undertake a course overseas, we will consider helping with travel costs for an apprenticeship or other training if that is a significant cost. If anyone is considering applying for a grant but doesn't know whether their situation will be eligible, please get in touch with us so we can discuss. It is impossible for us to anticipate every type of scenario so if your situation is a bit different, then we need to know about it.

All payments will be against receipts for payments made for any of the eligible costs incurred.

These changes take effect from September 2020 and no changes will be made to grants paid in prior years. However, if a young person is already in receipt of a grant which started, for example, in 2019, they will be eligible for the new amount of up to £1000 a year for future years up to the maximum of 4 years (including any years already awarded).

The trustees reserve the right to review and, if necessary, change these arrangements at any time if circumstances require a reassessment.

Trustees of Lower Heyford and Caulcott Community Fund

October 2020

For more information on the Lower Heyford and Caulcott Community Fund, please look at <https://heyford.info/residents/lower-heyford-caulcott-community-fund/>

To get in touch, please contact one of the trustees or email us on help.lhccf@gmail.com