



**Dorset
Community
Foundation**

Raising funds for those most in need

DCF Bursary Fund

2021/22

Impact Report

Students Funded in 2021/22

The DCF Bursary fund awarded bursaries to 37 students in 2021/22. All students were in financial disadvantage and some faced additional issues such as those with disabled parents, those with Special Educational Needs and those not living with parents/guardians. (A list of all students funded in 2021/22 is provided in appendix 1)

We are able to make these grants available thanks to historic Trust Transfers and the generosity of private donors who want to support young people fulfil their potential. The requests for funding are always more than we can award so Dorset Community Foundation is keen to speak to individuals, companies or charitable trusts who feel they may be able to help us support more students in need in future years.

Evaluation forms

At the completion of the academic year, we send evaluation forms to the students we have supported, in order to understand what difference the bursaries have made to their lives and education, and to offer an opportunity to provide feedback about the bursary scheme. 19 of the 37 students completed the evaluation forms.

- 100% of the students who responded said that attending the course has increased their knowledge and skills in their chosen vocation.
- 100% of the students who responded said that their course gave them greater skills and confidence to apply for employment in their chosen field.
- 95% of the students who responded said that the DCF Bursary really made a difference to their academic year.
- 89% of the students said they wouldn't have been able to attend the course without the assistance of the bursary; the remaining students said that although they may have been able to attend, the bursary greatly reduced financial pressure & anxiety.

Future Plans:

- 13 students will be continuing in education, studying the same course at a higher level, 3 students are starting new courses in a similar field at college, and 1 student is going to university to study a course in the same field.
- 2 students will be looking for employment (either alongside studies, as apprenticeships or instead of studying) and tell us that the course has increased their knowledge of the employment and interview progress.

Student comments

"This Bursary allowed me to pay for my transport to collage without it I would not have been able to do my course"

"I wouldn't have been able to attend Kingston Maurwad College if I didn't get this bursary, the new waterproof jacket also purchased kept me warm in the colder weather and in winter, so I wasn't cold outside working with the animals"

"The Dorset Bursary has allowed me to travel to and from my college, without it I would have not had the finance to make it to the college I love so much because of my income."

"This bursary meant I could get to and from college without worrying"

“Without help from Dorset Community Foundation I wouldn’t have been able to better my education and prospects”

“The bursary made a lot of difference with travel as my parents struggled to pay”

“[The bursary] helped me with travel and food at college... [I have enjoyed] being able to learn how to do hairdressing and feeling more confident”

“[The Bursary] really helped me with transport, its massively helped me, as I don’t come from the wealthiest of families”

Case studies (students funded in 2021/22)

1) DCF have supported this 18-year-old student (pictured) through the Dorset Bursary scheme, since 2020. Her Mother is a carer for her father, who is blind and is diagnosed with non-Hodgkin’s Lymphoma cancer, as well as arthritis, hearing loss and Refsum’s (a genetic disease). The student herself is diagnosed with ADHD, Anxiety, ASD, Depression, and a thyroid disorder.



Because of her diagnoses, she struggled at school and found it very hard to communicate with her peers as well as teachers. Despite this, she told DCF she wanted to try her hardest with a new course at college, to achieve her goal of working with animals.

The student was supported through her first year of a ‘Skills for Working Life’ course, which she found really helpful in building her skills and confidence. The laptop, transports costs and equipment DCF funded enabled this student to attend the course both this year and last year. This year she continued her course and developed her knowledge on animal welfare. She achieved a ‘student of the year’ award for completion of work and attendance and she told DCF she was proud of the progress she has made. This next year, she is continuing with her course, and she hopes to build her confidence further to help her get back into the main classroom.

2) A 19-year-old student has been supported by the DCF Bursary for the three years, this year. The student is from a single-parent household where she lives with her four siblings. Her family have struggled financially over the years, but the student has been motivated by ambitions of becoming a veterinary nurse following her course in Practical Animal Care. While she sometimes struggles to communicate with her peers, she told DCF she feels she can understand animals without any confusion or fear. She has Autistic Spectrum Disorder and she explained to DCF that she enjoys the structure of college in helping her keep focused and on track for her

ambitions. Over the years, the student has been supported with her transport costs, equipment, and clothing, as well as a laptop to help her with her studies. The laptop enabled the student to complete her coursework despite the impacts of COVID on teaching at her college, these past few years. The support provided by the DCF Bursary was considered “invaluable” by the student, who believes she would not have been able to complete her studies without it. In September the student will enter her final year at college and finish her Animal Care course, she believes this course has provided her with the skills and confidence to enter employment.

3) DCF supported a young person this year who suffers with reduced mobility due to juvenal arthritis, which he developed after a bike accident. Because of this student’s injuries and arthritis, he initially didn’t pursue his desired career in carpentry, however this year, he told DCF the treatment he received made it an option again. It is this student’s ambition to one day work in carpentry when he is older and perhaps own his own business. He grew up building dens and sheds outside and he explained to DCF that this passion for woodworking would be reflected in the hard work he puts into his college course. This student is from a low-income family and the prospect of him attending a vocational course with significant expenses was a worry. DCF was able to support the student in purchasing two pairs of specialist work trousers with integrated knee pads to accommodate his arthritis and mobility issues. DCF also awarded the student with a laptop which helped him complete his coursework. He told DCF that the laptop was really essential for his learning as his Autism meant that he learnt best with more visual inputs.

4) A 17-year-old student was supported by the DCF Bursary to help him attend a Horticulture course at college. The student’s family had struggled financially throughout the pandemic, especially as his father had recently suffered from heart failure and was not able to work. His family was worried that the student would not be able to attend college without financial assistance towards his transport costs, which the DCF Bursary was ultimately able to support. The student himself had suffered from significant mental health issues over the lockdowns and he consequently applied for a course in Horticulture in the hope that the time and work outside would boost his mental health and general confidence. He previously found school increasingly difficult due to his dyslexia, so a practical course seemed better suited to his skills. The student told DCF that the course really helped him feel confident in himself and find a place within his peers. Without help from the DCF Bursary, the student told DCF “I wouldn’t have been able to better my education and prospects”.

Appendix 1 - Students Funded in 2021/22

	College	Course	Amount awarded	Expenditure
1	Level 2 Catering	Weymouth College	£1,000.00	Travel costs
2	Level 2 Diploma in Carpentry and Joinery	Bournemouth & Poole College	£596.60	Laptop and Equipment costs
3	Foundation Learning – Skills for Working Life entry 3	Kingston Maurward College	£183.95	Travel costs and Equipment costs
4	Level 3 Advanced Technical Diploma in Animal Management	Kingston Maurward College	£99.00	Travel costs
5	Step Into College & Work	Weymouth College	£351.60	Laptop
6	Level 3 Animal Care	Kingston Maurward College	£990.00	Travel costs
7	Level 2 Public Services	Weymouth College	£1,000.00	Travel costs

8	Literature A level	Brockenhurst College	£599.20	Travel costs
9	Level 1 Hair & Beauty	Bournemouth & Poole College	£50.00	Equipment costs
10	Level 2 Certificate in Animal Care	Kingston Maurward College	£770.00	Travel costs
11	Level 3 Animal Management	Kingston Maurward College	£1,100.00	Travel costs
12	BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Protective Services	Kingston Maurward College	£715.00	Travel costs
13	Level 3 Military Preparation	Kingston Maurward Collage	£956.60	Laptop and Travel costs
14	Level 3 Skills for Working Life	Kingston Maurward Collage	£500.00	Travel costs and Laptop
15	Level 1 Steps into Work and College	Weymouth College	£351.60	Laptop and Travel costs
16	Level 1 Electrical Installation	Weymouth College	£883.00	Travel costs and College Meals
17	Level 2 Progression	Bournemouth & Poole College	£351.60	Laptop
18	Level 2 Wildlife, Ecology and Conservation	Kingston Maurward College	£321.24	Travel costs
19	Military Preparation	Kingston Maurward College	£78.00	Equipment costs
20	Level 1 Childcare	Bournemouth & Poole College	£351.60	Laptop
21	Level 3 Outdoor Adventure, Extended	Kingston Maurward College	£236.25	Travel and Equipment
22	Level 1 Electrical Installation	Weymouth College	£351.60	Laptop
23	Level 1 Horticultor	Kingston Maurward College	£792.00	Travel costs
24	Access to HE Professions	Bournemouth & Poole College	£854.70	Laptop and College Meals
25	Level 2 Hairdressing	Weymouth College	£906.96	Travel costs and Laptop
26	Level 1 Childcare and Health and Social Care	Weymouth college	£969.00	Travel Costs
27	Military Preparation	Kingston Maurward College	£680.00	Travel Costs
28	Level 3 BTEC in Performing Arts	Bournemouth & Poole College	£351.60	Laptop
29	Level 2 IT	Weymouth college	£806.60	Laptop and Travel costs
30	Level 3 Computer Science	Weymouth college	£1,000.00	Travel costs
31	Level 3 BTEC National Sport	Weymouth College	£975.60	Laptop and College Meals
32	Level 3 UAL Diploma in Creative Media Production and Technology	Weymouth College	£887.89	High-spec Laptop
33	Level 2 Cookery	Weymouth College	£704.00	Travel costs
34	Level 3 Media Extended Diploma	Brockenhurst College	£600.00	Travel costs
35	Level 1 Electrical	Weymouth College	£904.46	Travel costs and College Meals
36	Level 1 Hair & Beauty	Weymouth College	£823.15	Travel costs and Equipment
37	Level 3 Criminology & Law	Bournemouth & Poole College	£351.60	Laptop