



**Dorset
Community
Foundation**

Raising funds for those most in need

DCF Bursary Fund

2022/23

Impact Report

Students Funded in 2022/23

The DCF Bursary fund awarded bursaries to 84 students in 2022/23. 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 2022/23 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 to 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. 51 out of the 84 students who were awarded a bursary completed the evaluation forms.

- 95% of the students who responded said that attending the course has increased their knowledge and skills in their chosen vocation.
- 89% of the students who responded said that the DCF Bursary really made a difference to their academic year; comments refer to being able to do homework at home, reducing financial burden and associated stress, having the right equipment and being able to buy food
- 85% of the students said they wouldn't have been able to attend the course without the assistance of the bursary; the other students said that although they may have been able to attend, without the bursary their studies would have been more difficult, finances more pressurized, and they would not have been able to achieve their potential

Future Plans:

- 25 students will be continuing in education, studying the same course at a higher level
- 11 students are starting new courses in a similar field at college
- 3 students are going to university to study a course in the same field
- 4 students will be looking for employment or an apprenticeship
- 8 students are unsure

Student comments:

"The application was easy to fill out... I wouldn't have been able to travel there without the train fare. I am very grateful."

"(The bursary) was simple to apply for and incredibly helpful to for me to get through my college year. It has helped me have less things to worry about financially whilst I'm having such a hard time with every other aspect of living financially."

“My Bursary support allowed me to purchase some essential clothing items for my college course, and it covered my fuel payments, so I was able to travel to college and back each week. Without this fund I would have really struggled getting to college regularly.”

“I would have been only able to attend 1/3 of my college days without the grant meaning I would undoubtedly have failed. This grant has helped me by allowing me to attend college every day and continue my education”

“(The bursary) really helped me when I thought I’d lose all of my education and hard work.”

“(The bursary) made sure I could get to college as I take 2 buses each way which I couldn’t afford otherwise. It helped me to afford the uniform and to do my homework”

Case studies:

- 1) A DCF bursary supported a 16-year-old student studying Level 1 Plastering at Bournemouth & Poole College. He describes himself as very shy and someone who struggles to socialize and communicate. This is due to several conditions he suffers with, from autism to dyslexia, dyspraxia and speech issues.

“I tried my hardest at school but struggled there for 5 years in all lessons with pen and paper, and really want to go to college and use my hands and learn a skill. During lockdown it was very hard try to learn from home, as I had to share my mum’s work laptop... Plus my stepdad got kidney cancer and was very ill... he has now lost his job as he’s still poorly and recovering from surgery. I need to get from Christchurch to Poole at least 3 times a week by bus. I have been practising this with my mum, who is helping me get ready for college. This bursary would help by taking some money worries of my mum and dad. I don’t want to sit around and do nothing, I want to work and make money, maybe even have my own business one day, with my own van with name down the side.”

The DCF bursary enabled the student to purchase the required steel toe cap boots, specialist work trousers and a belt, as well as supporting bus fare and meals at college. The student told us the bursary had eased the financial pressures at home and that his parents would not have been able to afford for him to buy a hot lunch every day at college.

“(What I have enjoyed most) Learning about plastering and all the different techniques and tools. Also learning to be around people learning about everyday life skills. Plus, I won The Best & Most Improved Plasterer in Y1 which was amazing!!”



- 2) A DCF Bursary supported a 16-year-old student studying Level 2 Health & Social Care at Brockenhurst College.

"I live in a low-income family; my mother is disabled and my father cares for her - I also help. I need a bursary primarily to cover the cost of travel to and from college. The cost of living being as it is has put a profound struggle on our household. Six years ago, my family's life was turned upside down when we lost my little sister to sepsis. This situation has inspired me to want to do more for mental health. Completing this course would allow me to go further on to stage 3 then eventually I would like to help people struggling with mental health, be it children, teens or adults."

This student will be continuing these studies next year and says she would not have been able to complete her first year without the assistance of the bursary.

"The bursary has not only helped me with my travel costs but has also helped my parents who, like others, are having to deal with the horrendous current cost of living. This has truly helped to remove the anxieties that would otherwise be present."

- 3) A DCF bursary supported a 19-year-old Level 3 Technical Diploma in Equine Management student at Kingston Maurward College, who is both dyslexic and undergoing an ADHD referral. The student lives with her mother and sister and finds riding, and being with horses, extremely beneficial to her mental health and wellbeing.

"My mother is a single parent and works full-time. Our rental costs are high, and we are feeling the consequences and impact of the fuel household bills increasing and, furthermore, the cost of petrol, which my mother is dependent upon due to working within outreach across Dorset and my younger sister's school run (no bus option available). A bus pass has been extremely beneficial to me as I am able to independently get myself to college as much as required but this is a huge expense for my family."

The DCF bursary enabled the student to buy a bus pass and safety equipment needed for her course, including a body protector, riding boots, yard boots and riding hat. The student dreams of having a career in the riding industry and hopes to gain a place at university to study Equine Welfare and Behaviour (BSc Hons).

"I found the whole scheme informative and felt no judgement from any members. I would like to apply again, as it has helped me so much"

- 4) A DCF bursary supported a 17-year-old student on her second year of Level 3 Art and Design at Brockenhurst College.

“My stepfather is disabled and unable to work. My mum is his carer as well as looking after me and my brothers and sister. As we rely solely on benefits, every month is a struggle to pay bills and put food on the table. Attempting to complete my course work on my mobile phone is especially difficult as I cannot use the correct tools to edit and manipulate my photos. I chose photography simply because I enjoyed it at first, but once I got into my course, I learnt so much more about what pictures can mean to people and the memories they could hold. I want a career that allows me to create emotion and give other people the chance to look back on their time with others.”

The DCF bursary supported travel costs and a higher spec laptop, as recommended by the course tutor.

“I would not have been able to attend college and complete my work without the bursary scheme. It has allowed my family to save the money we did have, and we were able to buy food. After I leave college, I plan to go to AUB to complete a foundation year in art and if university is something that works for me, I will be staying longer to complete a photography course.”

- 5) A DCF Bursary supported a 16-year-old student in year 1 of a BTEC in Childrens Play Learning and Development at Brockenhurst College.

“We are a family with 5 children. My father works but my mother is registered disabled. I would like to request help towards the cost of the train. The fare is adding up and the household finances are already stretched. I have always wanted to work with children. I am a young carer to my mother and youngest brother. As he has learning difficulties, I am interested in going into SEN teaching.”

The student tells us she has thoroughly enjoyed the first year of her course and making new friends. She is starting year 2 of the course next year and hopes DCF can continue supporting her with travel costs.

“Being in control of my travel has made me feel more confident in myself. It has eased some of the financial pressure for the family, knowing that my travel costs are covered. The application was straightforward, and I am very thankful for the help I received.”

- 6) A DCF bursary supported a 17-year-old studying BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Music/Music Production at Bournemouth & Poole College. His father passed away 5 years ago, and his mum struggled combining her job as a receptionist with raising her 3 sons, made worse by the cost-of-living crisis.

“I have always loved music; I feel at peace when I am playing or listening to music. It helped me through when my father was so poorly and eventually passed away. Music is my world, and I am so grateful that I have been offered a place on this course. It means everything to me.”

A DCF bursary provided the student with a high spec laptop able to support the software used on the course, which took pressure off his Mum who was unable to afford this. He told us he has found a new confidence by playing his guitar in public for the first time, and is thoroughly enjoying the course, which he will continue next year.

- 7) A DCF bursary has supported a 19-year-old student through an Animal Care course since 2019. The student has ambitions to become a veterinary nurse, but her family, a single-parent household with two children, has struggled financially over the years.

"I am a 19-year-old autistic girl with a single mum who supports us on part-time salary with no help or input from my dad. She does what she can but the transport to Kingston Maurward College is more than we can afford. Your help has been invaluable to our family while I try and complete my studies. I would like to become a veterinary nurse as I have trouble dealing with people, but animals I can understand without confusion or fear"

Over the years, a DCF bursary has supported the student with transport costs, equipment, clothing, and a laptop. The student told us she would not have been able to complete the course without this support. She has completed her final year at college and believes the Animal Care Course has provided her with the necessary skills and confidence to fulfil her ambition of becoming a veterinary nurse.

- 8) A DCF bursary supported an 18-year-old studying Triple Sport Year 1 BTEC at Bourne Academy. The student is from a low-income family.

"(The bursary) would enable me to purchase the essential sporting equipment such as sporting shoes and sports clothes. I would also like to be able to buy a laptop as we are working a lot of the time in school on a computer for our assignments. This would allow me to complete my work at home a lot easier. I have chosen BTEC sport because I have an interest in sports doctoring as I want to be a physiotherapist and a football coach at the weekends."

The student told us the bursary reduced anxiety levels for them and their parents, as it took pressure off the finances and enabled the student to buy a laptop and sports clothing they were unable to afford.

- 9) A DCF bursary supported a 22-year-old Level 3 Beauty Therapy student studying at Bournemouth & Poole College. The student has dyslexia and is undergoing therapy to manage a personality disorder. She pays rent to her family and is named on the tenancy agreement. The student was inspired to join the beauty industry after working in a care home and having a resident ask to be pampered. The student hopes to offer beauty therapy treatments and services to the care home industry.

"I want to go back to education, get my qualifications and make something better for myself, for my future. This bursary will mean a lot to me as it will give me the chance to work at my dream job and potentially allow me to maybe open my own business. I enjoy doing beauty treatments on other people, being able to hear them - sometimes people need that and a little conversation."

DCF supported the student with the costs of travelling to/from college, a uniform and laptop. The student told DCF she wouldn't have been able to complete her Beauty Therapy course without the Bursary.

"I would like to say thank you for giving a chance for me to study, I am truly grateful. I have been able to get my Level 3 beauty therapy qualification, which means I was able to get a job and help my family."

Appendix 1 - Students Funded in 2022/23

	College	Course	Amount awarded	Expenditure
1	Level 2 IT	Weymouth College	£299.00	Laptop
2	Level 2 Science	Bournemouth and Poole College	£333.64	Transport
3	Level 3 Performing Arts	Bournemouth and Poole College	£1,000.00	Train fare, college meals
4	BTEC Level 3 Performing Arts	Bourne Academy	£312.50	Clothing and college meals
5	Level 3 Skills for Working Life, Year 3	Kingston Maurward College	£110.00	Remaining bus fare
6	Level 3 advanced technical diploma in animal management (year 2)	Kingston Maurward College	£110.00	Remaining bus fare
7	Level 2 Animal Care	Kingston Maurward College	£1,000.00	Remaining bus fare and college meals contribution
8	A Levels: Film Studies, English Lit, Classical Civilisation, Year 2	Brockenhurst	£735.30	Bus fare
9	Level 2 Animal Welfare and Science	Kingston Maurward College	£ 990.00	Travel fare
10	Level 2 Creative Media Production	Wiltshire College- Salisbury Campus	£699.00	High spec laptop
11	Level 2 Performing Arts	Bournemouth and Poole College	£999.00	Travel fare and laptop
12	Uniformed Public Services	Bournemouth and Poole College	£299.00	Laptop
13	Level 1 Routes into Hair and Beauty	Weymouth College	£299.00	Laptop
14	Military Preparation	Kingston Maurward	£1,000.00	Train fare, laptop contribution
15	Level 2 Certificate in Animal Care	Kingston Maurward College	£150.00	Equipment/Uniform
16	Level 2 Business Enterprise	Bournemouth and Poole College	£1,000.00	Bus fare and contribution towards college meals
17	Creative media and animation	Weymouth College	£794.92	High spec laptop
18	Level 3 Animal welfare and science	Kingston Maurward College	£715.00	Remaining bus fare
19	Animal Welfare & Science	Kingston Maurward College	£715.00	Travel fare
20	Access to Higher Education Healthcare	Weymouth College	£299.00	Laptop

	College	Course	Amount awarded	Expenditure
21	Level 4 Counselling Practice year one	Yeovil College	£660.00	Required therapy sessions
22	BTEC Level 3 Sport	Bourne Academy	£474.00	Laptop and sports clothing
23	BTEC level 2 health and social care	Brockenhurst	£550.00	Remaining bus fare
24	BTEC Level 3 Sport	Bourne Academy	£474.00	Laptop and sports clothing
25	Level 2 Hairdressing	Weymouth College	£339.80	Laptop, college meals, and uniform
26	Level 3 Beauty Therapy	Bournemouth and Poole College	£914.00	Laptop, bus fare and uniform costs
27	BTEC National Foundation Diploma in Childrens Play Learning and Development	Brockenhurst	£480.60	Train fare
28	Military prep year 2	Kingston Maurward College	£110.00	Remaining bus fare
29	Level 2 Health and social care Diploma NVQ	Weymouth College	£299.00	Laptop
30	BTEC Performing Arts	Brockenhurst	£554.40	Train fare
31	BTEC Level Sport (single)	Bourne Academy	£529.00	Laptop, sports clothing and books
32	Year 1 Uniformed Protection Services	Kingston Maurward College	£1,000.00	Bus fare
33	Level 3 Beauty Therapy	Bournemouth and Poole College	£771.00	Travel fare, laptop, and uniform
34	Level 3 Health and Social Care	Weymouth College	£561.00	Petrol, college meals
35	Animal Welfare	Kingston Maurward College	£629.00	Laptop, and remaining bus fare
36	Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Countryside & Wildlife Management	Kingston Maurward College	£375.00	Transport and equipment
37	Level 1 Plastering	Bournemouth and Poole College	£935.00	Equipment, public bus fare, and college meals
38	BTEC Level 3 Forensics and Criminal Investigations and Applied Science	Bourne Academy	£561.50	Transport and college meals
39	Level 1 Hairdressing	Bournemouth and Poole College	£299.00	Laptop
40	Level 1 Sport and Uniformed Public Services	Bournemouth and Poole College	£809.00	Laptop and public bus fare
41	Level 3 Diploma Arts and Communication, Year 1	Bournemouth and Poole College	£299.00	Laptop

	College	Course	Amount awarded	Expenditure
42	Level 3 Outdoor Adventure Extended	Kingston Maurward College	£1,000.00	Travel fare and kit
43	Level 2 Barbering	Bournemouth and Poole College	£749.00	Laptop and bus fare
44	Level 1 Routes into Art	Weymouth College	£619.00	Travel fare and laptop
45	Outdoor Adventure	Kingston Maurward College	£1,000.00	Bus fare
46	Level 3, Art and Design (photography) Extended Diploma, Year 2	Brockenhurst	£999.00	Remaining bus fare, and high spec laptop
47	Level 3 Diploma in Professional Cookery	Weymouth College	£299.00	Laptop
48	Level 2 Performing Arts	Bournemouth and Poole College	£413.60	College meals
49	BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Music/Music Production	Bournemouth and Poole College	£509.00	High spec laptop
50	Level 3 Equine Studies	Kingston Maurward College	£838.00	College meals and equipment
51	Level 2 Beauty	Bournemouth and Poole College	£299.00	Laptop
52	Level 3 Beauty Therapy	Bournemouth and Poole College	£299.00	Laptop
53	BTEC Level 3 Sport	Bourne Academy	£584.00	Laptop, sports clothing and books
54	Level 3 Advanced Professional Cookery	Weymouth College	£432.00	Travel fare
55	Level 3 Military Preparation	Kingston Maurward College	£880.00	Travel fare
56	Level 2 Health and Social Care	Weymouth College	£373.59	Laptop, uniform, textbook and stationery
57	Level 2 Hair Dressing	Bournemouth and Poole College	£654.40	Kit, uniform and materials cost, and public bus fare
58	UAL Games development	Wiltshire College	£699.00	High spec computer
59	Level 4 Step into College and Work	Weymouth College	£299.00	Laptop
60	Level 2 in Childcare	Weymouth College	£299.00	Laptop
61	Level 3 Extended Diploma in Business	Brockenhurst College	£641.00	Travel fare
62	Level 3 Photography Extended Diploma	Weymouth College	£459.00	College meals
63	Level 2 Technical Certificate in Horticulture	Kingston Maurward College	£150.00	Equipment/Uniform

	College	Course	Amount awarded	Expenditure
64	BTEC Level 3 Music	Bourne Academy	£337.50	Petrol costs and college meals
65	Level 2 Travel & Tourism	The Blandford School	£ 299.00	Laptop
66	BTEC Level 3 Performing Arts	Bourne Academy	£485.00	Clothing and interview fare
67	BTEC Sport and 2 A Levels	Bourne Academy	£560.00	Bus fare, course clothing
68	Level 3 Technical Diploma in Equine Management	Kingston Maurward College	£1,000.00	Bus fare
69	Level 3 Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care	Bournemouth and Poole College	£750.00	Travel fare
70	Level 2 in Blacksmithing, Welding and Fabrication	Kingston Maurward College	£299.00	Laptop
71	Level 2 Beauty	Bournemouth and Poole College	£299.00	Laptop
72	Level 3 Sports Coaching and Leadership BTEC	Weymouth College	£475.00	Lunch meal costs
73	Level 1 Engineering	Yeovil College	£384.00	College meals
74	Level 3 Art Diploma	Weymouth College	£499.00	High spec laptop
75	BTEC Level 3 Sport	Bourne Academy	£611.50	Laptop, sports clothing and college meals
76	Level 2 Beauty	Bournemouth and Poole College	£1,000.00	Bus fare and college meals
77	Level 3 Animal Welfare and Science	Kingston Maurward College	£1,000.00	Travel fare
78	UAL Level 3 Diploma in Creative Media Production and Technology	Bournemouth and Poole College	£324.00	Laptop, stationery
79	Level 1 Professional Cookery	Weymouth College	£299.00	Laptop
80	Level 2 Wildlife, Ecology & Conservation	Kingston Maurward College	£1,000.00	Travel fare
81	BTEC Level 3 Sport	Bourne Academy	£505.50	Sports clothing, college meals and books
82	Level 3 Extended Diploma in Military Preparation	Kingston Maurward College	£184.50	Transport and boots
83	BTEC Level 3 Forensics and Criminal Investigations	Bourne Academy	£299.00	Laptop
84	Level 3 Health and Social Care	Brockenhurst	£930.00	Laptop, bus fare, and stationery