



Autumn 2015

OCTOBER EDUCATION PANEL

The **October Education Panel** awarded.....

.....**7 Personal Support Grants** and
5 Vocational Grants.....

benefitting pupils and students at primary and secondary schools, colleges and young people on apprenticeships across Wiltshire and Swindon.

Personal Support Grants were awarded to help several pupil with additional needs access activities such as play therapy (selective mutism); horse-riding sessions to improve strength and stamina (cerebral palsy and other physical conditions); after-school club (ASD); as well as IT for use at home and materials for art/design coursework.

Vocational Grants helped young adults in terms of transport costs to Bristol for off-the-job training for an apprenticeship; pay for further training for arboreal qualifications; contribute to course fees and living costs for students aged 20+ who no longer qualify for government funding at level 3.

All these activities/items support the education and development of the young people and could not be funded through school or learning provider. Owing to the financial situation of the families, they could not afford to pay for these activities themselves, yet there is an obvious benefit to the young person.

*I would like to visit schools, colleges and other learning providers to update staff and learners on our grant availability.
Please contact me to arrange.*

*Do you work with students looking to go on to Higher Education?
Their main worry is finances.*

I am happy to talk to groups of students; attend parent evenings and brief staff on the availability of our **SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS**.

These are awarded to students whose families claim any means-tested benefit and can last for the duration of their degree course.

This time of year I often do assemblies to year 13 students. In the Summer term (or earlier) I am happy to speak to year 12s and attend any parent evenings. Please contact me to arrange.

“It does not matter how slowly you go as long as you do not stop”

Confucius

DATES

PERSONAL SUPPORT AND VOCATIONAL GRANTS

- * These will now be assessed on an ongoing basis, with an expected 4-6 week decision time, rather than waiting for set panel dates
- * Hopefully this means that we are better able to respond to shorter timescales than our previous process allowed

Complete an Expression of Interest at

www.odm.wiltshirecf.org.uk

ooOoo

SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS

For Autumn 2016 entry to university, applications will 'go live' in January 2016.

Keep an eye on our website and complete an Expression of Interest at

www.odm.wiltshirecf.org.uk



ABOUT US

Since the One Degree More grants programme was started in 2007 to help young people with their education aims, we have awarded over of £850,000+ to more than 300 young people aged up to 25:

- ✓ 135 have benefitted from Personal Support Grants averaging £590 each
- ✓ 25 have benefitted from Vocational Grants averaging £1,000 each
- ✓ 146 have benefitted from Scholarship Grants averaging £5,000 for the duration of their degree

Wiltshire Community Foundation is a grant making charity relying on its donors. It makes a significant contribution to local communities and individuals across Wiltshire and Swindon

ONE DEGREE MORE GRANTS

All our grants have 2 main eligibility criteria;

- along with addressing an **educational need**, grants are based on a **residency requirement**: the last 2 years being resident within Wiltshire County or Swindon Borough, 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 credits.

Scholarship Grants are open to young people who are under 25 and are on or about to start an undergraduate course at a UK university. Grants are to assist with living expenses and course related costs.

Vocational Grants are open to individuals aged between 16 and 25 and can be awarded for course related costs and equipment at 6th form, college or training through an apprenticeship up to a maximum of £1,000.

Personal Support Grants are open to individuals up to the age of 25 who have a disability or additional learning need. Awards have been made for IT equipment to facilitate study at home, for specialist courses & activities, school trips and vocational items up to £1,000.

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

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

GRANT RECIPIENTS' RESPONSES

We monitor grants to see that they have had the desired effect.

We also get spontaneous responses when the applicant, their parents/carers or others are notified of the award — it is obvious that it means a lot to them and is a relief

⇒ *I can't thank the panel enough for this kind offer. O will be so happy when I tell him he can go all week. Words fail me at the moment. (Parent)*

(A later email said that O—who has ASD) took a couple of hours to calm down!)

⇒ *That is fantastic news. This will really make a difference to this young lady. (School SENCO)*

⇒ *I was so pleased that this grant was awarded and I really think that it will make such a difference to what she is able to achieve at school. (School SENCO)*

⇒ *I can't express how much I appreciate this opportunity; truly, thank you (College Student)*

⇒ *Just a quick email to say thank you very much for all your help. S is really pleased about this and of course it will help further his development and career (Parent)*

⇒ *I'm delighted that I was awarded the grant. Honestly, I couldn't have been more happy. (Apprentice)*

CONTACT DETAILS

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**Wiltshire
Community
Foundation**

Giving money and support
where people need it most

