

Student Bursary replacing EMA

As you will have heard new students starting a new post 16 course in September 2011, aged 16-18, will no longer have access to the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA). There will be an alternative Bursary available for some students who have a low household income. If you wish to apply for this Bursary you can ask for an application form in one of the following ways:-

- Collect the available information during Year 11 Open day on Tuesday July 5th
- Collect information and application form during the enrolment procedure at the start of term
- Request information and application form from College Registry as early as possible once your course starts, preferably before the end of September

The application form will also explain what evidence will be needed as proof of household income. Each application will be assessed and the Bursary will be awarded to the students who meet the criteria. Although the applications should be completed as soon as possible, we will not be able to make a final decision about the amount of support until all applications have been completed and returned, ideally before the end of September.

The money the college has received for this bursary is significantly less than would have been paid during the old EMA system. Therefore the criteria for support will have to be set at a lower financial threshold.

County Council Bus Passes

You may also be aware that new students starting a new post 16 course in September 2011, aged 16-18, will no longer be eligible to a free bus pass, even though they live more than 3 miles away from the college. However the County Council will be offering a reduced cost bus pass of £350 for the year, which can be paid in three instalments, September, January and April. This pass will only be valid on certain buses, details of which will be provided by the County Council and College Registry. Students should already have received the County Council Application Forms which will need to be stamped by College.

If you would like any further information please contact Liz Kershaw, the College Registrar, on 01229 828377.

Rod White

Director of Students