

# Northumberland College Learner Support Funds



## Learner Information 2009/2010

Learner Support Funds are made up of monies the college receives to support learners whilst they are studying.

The funds are used to help with:

- Travel to and from college
- Registered childcare
- Accommodation (residential bursaries)
- Emergency financial support

The funds are means-tested and are usually only available to learners who are not receiving another type of financial support such as Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) and Adult Learning Grant (ALG).

### Travel Support

Successful applicants may be eligible to receive up to £20 per week (term time only) to cover the cost of travelling to and from college. Allocations are based on public transport costs or, if travelling by car, we make a contribution of 10p per mile (based on the distance between the home address and the campus). Allocations are made on a monthly basis and are subject to attendance criteria being met.

### Registered Childcare

The college can provide a subsidy of up to £60 per week to help cover the costs of registered childcare incurred when studying at college (a maximum support limit is applied and the support is term time only).

The payment is made directly to the registered child carer on receipt of a completed invoice. The college can also pay for non-registered childcare but this is only in exceptional circumstances and when no other viable registered childcare is available. Please speak to an advisor if you wish to discuss this in more detail.

### Residential Bursaries

The college has halls of residence that provide accommodation for those learners who would find it difficult to travel to college on a daily basis. Bursaries reduce the costs of staying in halls, which will range from £15 per week to £35 per week. Please see our Hall of Residence leaflet for more information.

### How to Apply

Applications for Learner Support Funds are taken from September 2009 and funds are allocated on a first come, first served basis. Assessment interviews can be booked by contacting the Info Zone or the reception at Kirkley Hall, you will need to bring along the following information with you:

- Household income information (previous years P60, previous 3 months wage slips, letter from relevant benefits agencies etc). This must be for the applicant and any others in the household (spouse, co-habiting partner or, in some cases, parents).
- Weekly travel cost information.
- Childcare details (contact information and weekly costs).

