

16 to 19 Tuition Fund

West Thames College is committed to providing the best possible academic support for its students at all times. The statement sets out how the College will use its 16 to 19 tuition fund allocation to mitigate the disruption to learning arising from coronavirus (COVID-19) in 2021-22.

The Department for Education has made funding available to support students who were academically disadvantaged and had their learning disrupted as a result of the COVID pandemic. The 16 to 19 tuition fund enables West Thames College to provide small group tuition for 16 to 19-year-olds in English, maths and other courses where learning has been disrupted. The guidance states that the supported students must be on a 16-19 programme of study and:

- have not achieved grade 5 or above in GCSE maths and/or English by the age of 16,
- have a grade 4 or above in English and/or maths, come from an economically disadvantaged background and would need catch-up support.

Students with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) aged 19 to 24 who have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) and Looked after Children (LAC) are eligible for support via the 16 to 19 tuition fund.

How the College will use the 16 to 19 tuition fund

West Thames College will use the 16 to 19 tuition fund to provide small group tuition for students aged 16 to 19 who have not yet achieved a grade 5 or above in GCSE English and/or maths. The provision will not be limited to tuition for English and maths, but will also be used to help mitigate the disruption to learning affecting students on vocational programmes of study where assessment may have been deferred because of lockdown.

Tuition groups will comprise three to five students (or up to seven in exceptional circumstances) and the tuition sessions will be scheduled in addition to their planned programme of study hours already timetabled for 2021/22. Tuition and additional support may be delivered using a blend of online and on-campus delivery. The tuition will be based on an individual needs assessment, the identification of an individual starting point, clear learning goals, expectations and outcomes. Students will be prioritised for small group tuition based on the guidance released by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA). The full guidance can be accessed [here](#).

Our commitment

The College is committed to ensuring the tuition fund is used in accordance with the Government's guidance by:

- Producing this statement setting out how the fund will be used to support the most disadvantaged students
- Publishing this guidance on the College website
- Recording the use of the fund, including references to individual students who receive support, the needs of those students, the number of hours of tuition delivered and retaining the evidence of the tuition provided
- Delivering the extra tuition and spending the allocated fund in the academic year 2021/22
- Notifying the ESFA of any underspend from the fund for it to be reclaimed