

# The Connolly Foundation – Academic Excellence Award

Mrs Ashby

Head of Careers and Connolly Foundation Coordinator

The Connolly  
Foundation

# Contents

- What is the Connolly Foundation Academic Excellence Award
- Who is eligible to apply?
- How many awards are available?
- How do I apply?
- What does a good application look like?
- Who will write my reference?
- What are the deadlines involved?
- Who can I ask for help?

# What is the Connolly Foundation Academic Excellence Award

- A financial award of up to £1,000 per year of your degree course
- This is a bursary/scholarship to reward your hard work and academic achievements at college and NOT a loan – it does not get paid back on graduation
- This can be used as you wish e.g.
  - Supporting accommodation costs
  - Supporting living costs
  - Purchase of a laptop to aid you in your future studies
  - Purchase of necessary equipment / books etc for your course

# Who is eligible to apply?

ALL applicants must live in Bedfordshire to be eligible.

You must study 2 of the following A Level subjects:

- English Language, English Literature, Maths, Further Maths, Chemistry, Biology, Physics, History, Geography, Economics, French, German, Spanish, Italian, Russian, Psychology, Law and Physical Education/Sports Science (BTEC Sport is accepted).

Successful applicants will be required to achieve A level passes at grades A\*, A and B in a combination of two of the above subjects plus one other subject. The additional subject may be any on the school curriculum at A level or BTEC and passes must be at grades A\*, A and B or BTEC equivalent. Extended projects are not accepted as an additional subject.

# How many awards are available?

- The Connolly Foundation does not set a limit on the number of awards they grant per year, or per college. Each application is considered on it's own merits.
- As this is the 1<sup>st</sup> year that Kimberley College students have been able to apply, we are not able to say how successful students usually are in being awarded the bursary.
- **Your application statement will be key** in giving you a chance at securing this great opportunity.

# How do I apply?

- You must **inform Mrs Ashby** asap that you intend on applying for the award so that your college reference can be written in good time
  - Send an email to [yashby@wootton.beds.sch.uk](mailto:yashby@wootton.beds.sch.uk) to confirm your intention to apply
- Read through this presentation in detail to gain crucial information/advice on how to write a good application
- You must complete the Connolly Foundation – Main Award application form **IN FULL** and send to Mrs Ashby to check/for feedback. This can be found on SMH, on the college website or be requested from Mrs Ashby directly.

# What does a good application look like?

There are a number of sections to the application form as follows:

Part 1: Personal Details

Part 2: Course details (what you are currently studying at Kimberley) AND University application details

Part 3: Predicted A Level grades

Part 4: Career Aspirations

Declarations, bank account details and signature

Part 5: Academic/Personal Reference – completed by the college

## Part 1: Personal Details

First Name (in full)	
Surname (in full)	
Gender ( <i>please circle</i> )	Male                      Female
School Attended	<b>KIMBERLEY COLLEGE</b>
Tutor Group	<b>NOT SURE? – ASK YOUR TUTOR</b>
Date of Birth (DD/MM/YYYY)	
Age (in years)	
Full Correspondence Address (including postcode)	<p>Remember all applicants must live in Bedfordshire.</p>
Telephone Number	<b>ENSURE ACCURACY HERE –</b>
Email Address	<b>IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION</b>

**COMPLETE IN FULL – DO NOT LEAVE ANY GAPS**



**Part 2: Course Details**

Is this your 2 <sup>nd</sup> or 3 <sup>rd</sup> year in the Sixth Form?	
What subject(s) are you studying and at what level?	<b>e.g. Business – A Level Sports – BTEC</b>

Which Universities have you applied to?	Course Title	Offer Received
		<b>Yes – conditional</b>
		<b>No</b>
		<b>Yes – unconditional</b>

Full and accurate information required. In 'offer received' please put YES or NO and whether this is conditional or unconditional.

**COMPLETE IN FULL – DO NOT LEAVE ANY GAPS**

Part 3: Grades

AS Levels (if any)	Grades Achieved
A Level Subject	Grades Predicted
	<b>As detailed on UCAS application</b>

The foundation are aware that it is rare that students have an AS level qualification. If you do, enter it here.

**COMPLETE IN FULL – DO NOT LEAVE ANY GAPS**

**AIM: 500-700 WORDS – AND LET THEM GET TO KNOW YOU!**

**PART 4: Career Aspirations**

Please explain why you would like to go to University and what you would like to do for a career after you leave. We appreciate that you may not have made a final decision at this stage, but the Foundation would like to know about your future plans. Explain what courses you have applied for at University, why you are interested in them and why you think you will be suited to these courses. Please explain in as much detail as possible.

Read the guidance given on the application form (seen above)

The award is aimed at supporting academic excellence in our region – why do you think they should offer this award to you?

Remember that your UCAS statement will be attached to your application – this application statement should complement it and give them greater insight and NOT a copy of your UCAS statement

How do you think this award would support you to be successful in your future studies?



Please give your bank account details:	
Name of Bank:	
Name Account Held In:	
Account Number: <i>(<u>NOT</u> the 16 digit card number)</i>	
Sort Code:	

**This is where the award will be paid into in October – ensure accuracy**

Printed Full Name:	
Signature:	
Date (DD/MM/YYYY):	
Email address:	

**COMPLETE IN FULL – DO NOT LEAVE ANY GAPS**

# Who will write my reference?

- Once we have a list of all students who intend to apply we will allocate reference writers
- Mrs Ashby will complete attendance, punctuality and predicted grades (as on UCAS) information
- A member of academic teaching staff, linked to the subject you have applied for at University, will complete the academic qualities and personal qualities sections to support your application.

# What are the deadlines involved?

Task	Who	Deadline
Application form support available – via email	Mrs Ashby – Head of Careers and Connolly Foundation Coordinator	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March – Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> April 2020
Complete the Connolly Foundation Main Award application form in full (see attached)	Eligible students	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> April 2020
Application forms quality assured and any issues / changes needed communicated to students	Mrs Ashby and College Senior Leadership Team	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April 2020
College references written	Teaching staff	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> April 2020
Reference checked and UCAS Personal Statements attached	Mrs Ashby – Head of Careers and Connolly Foundation Coordinator	Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> April 2020
Applications sent to Connolly Foundation	Mrs Ashby – Head of Careers and Connolly Foundation Coordinator	Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2020
Confirmed A Level results provided to the Connolly Foundation	Mrs Ashby – Head of Careers and Connolly Foundation Coordinator	Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2020
Kimberley College receives a list of awards allocated to students	Connolly Foundation	October 2020
Award funds received and transferred to successful students	Mrs Ashby – Head of Careers and Connolly Foundation Coordinator	Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> October 2020

# What do I need to do now?

1. **ALL** students to contact Mrs Ashby with one of the following statements – by Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020:
  - a) I have received and read the information and WOULD like to make an application
  - b) I have received and read the information and WOULD NOT like to make an application (please state your reason)
  - c) I have received and read the information and need more information before applying (please state your questions)

[yashby@wootton.beds.sch.uk](mailto:yashby@wootton.beds.sch.uk)

# Who can I ask for help?

In the first instance Mrs Ashby should be the first person to contact for any questions / help with this process

She will be available for email support each day from 8:30am – 3:30pm.

[yashby@wootton.beds.sch.uk](mailto:yashby@wootton.beds.sch.uk)