

Purpose: To inform and provide transparency on how Smart Training and Recruitment Ltd. will utilise their allocation of the 16 to 19 tuition fund in order to support students who have been academically disadvantaged due to coronavirus (COVID-19).

Introduction: The 16-19 tuition fund is a separate, top-up, funding allocation for the academic years 2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24 academic years. It will no longer be provided from August 2024. The fund is being provided to support learners to accelerate their learning where progress may have been halted by the intermittent restrictions during 2020, notably the multiple national COVID-19 lockdowns.

Learners must be aged 16-19 and must not have already achieved a GCSE grade 5 or above in maths and/or English by age 16. Students with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) – including those aged 19 to 24 who have an EHC plan - will also be supported by this provision.

As a dedicated training provider who puts the learner at the heart of their delivery, we are committed to removing as many barriers as possible that affect our learners, and without restriction connected to eligibility, however, for the purposes of this statement we are required to specifically state how we will utilise this specific additional allocation.

SmartTAR's use of this fund: Compliantly, and in accordance with the conditions laid out by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, SmartTAR will be utilising this allocation as below:

- Micro group training, and enhanced 1:1 tuition in English, maths and vocational learning for eligible learners, with a sector specialist tutor. This tuition will be an enhancement on the original planned hours for these candidates. This additional resource may take place in-person or on-line.
- Provision of tailored learning support specifically to provide targeted support in English and maths, and on a 1:1 basis.
- Supply of additional resources to assist and aid remote learning and power progression, including but not limited to: maths and English workbooks and revision literature and technical equipment.

Our commitment: As a responsible training provider, SmartTAR are committed to meeting all due diligence connected to this fund. We will retain concise documentation evidencing how we used this allocation. We will be transparent with the ESFA on how we have allocated these funds. We will be pro-active in reporting back any underspend.

Allocation transparency: Smart Training and Recruitment Limited did not opt-in to the 2021-22 16-19 Tuition Fund, due to funding remaining from our 2020-21 allocation. We did opt-in for academic years 2020-21, 2022-23 and 2023-24 with any unused funds returned as per current funding rules timelines.