

Other Support Available

The rising cost of living has left lots of people with new money worries. If you're struggling, the following may help you to understand what support is available outside of college.

For further information and support, please visit the Student Information Centre (SIC).

Bus travel

- KCC 16+ Travel Saver - Discounted bus travel to and from Colleges in Kent for those aged 16 to 19. A card for the academic year saves up to 50% on full fares. Find out more [here](#). **Please only purchase this if you have not applied for a Bursary Pass as we cannot refund this cost.**
- Stagecoach App - Individual and season tickets are often cheaper on the app. Find out more [here](#).

Rail travel

- 16-17 railcard - Purchase a [railcard](#) and get half-price train tickets. **If you are applying for a bursary, we will pay for this railcard, but you are responsible for purchasing it.** You will need a form of ID to apply.
- 16-25 railcard - Purchase a [railcard](#) and get 1/3 off most rail fares.
- Southeastern trains "The Key" - The Key allows you to buy full price "Flexi Season Tickets" which, if you make the same journey twice a week, you will find that on most routes it offers better value for money compared to buying daily tickets. Find out more [here](#).

General

- [KSAS](#) - Kent Support and Assistance Service can help with food and other essentials in a crisis for those living in Kent.
- Food Banks - There are many different types of food banks available but you can make a general search for your local food bank [here](#).
- Your local Children's Centre - Your local children's centre can direct you to relevant support and advice and may even have a food bank scheme available. You can find your local one [here](#).
- [British Gas Energy Trust](#) - For support with your bills.
- Your Local Council - most councils will have advice and signposting available to their residents. For example:
 - [Canterbury](#)
 - [Thanet](#)
 - [Dover](#)
- [Citizens Advice](#) - Financial advice to help you make the right choices, including help to deal with your debt problems, how to avoid losing your home and how to get your finances back into shape. Tel: 03444 111 444. You can also chat with an adviser online.
- [National Debtline](#) - Independent financial advice for your debt problems. Tel: 0808 808 4000. You can also chat with an adviser online.
- Entitled To - A helpful [website](#) for information on income-related benefits, contribution-based benefits, and how your benefits will be affected if you start work.
- Policy in Practice - For simple [information](#) on benefits, tax credits, Universal Credit, how these are calculated

and how your benefits will be affected if you start work or change your working hours.

- The [Money Advice Service](#) - Free and impartial money advice to help improve your finances. Tel: 0800 138 7777
- Money for Life - Easy to understand organisation aimed at 16- to 25-year-olds. Extensive [information](#) on all things money related.
- The [Money Saving Expert](#) - Guides and tools to help you save money while studying.