



The Sir William Turner Foundation

Guidelines for Grant Applications

History of the Foundation

ON HIS DEATH in 1692, Sir William Turner left £5000 to pay for the creation of a ‘free’ school at Kirkleatham. The school was built on the Kirkleatham Estates in 1709 and accepted its first pupils in 1710. This building is now the Kirkleatham Hall Museum.

The school did not thrive. In 1868 the governors, led by Lady Teresa Newcomen, a direct descendent of the Turner family, built a new school on Coatham Road which later became known as *Coatham Grammar* or *Sir William Turner’s School*. After 100 years on Coatham Road, the school moved to new premises on Corporation Road.

In 1975 with the advent of comprehensive education, Sir William Turner’s School moved to the former *James Mackinlay School* on Redcar Lane, becoming *Sir William Turner’s Sixth Form College*. The Sixth Form College became part of *Redcar & Cleveland College* in 1994.

When the Redcar Lane site was closed and sold for development, the foundation chose to invest over £3.25m, being the majority of its share of the income from the sale, in the new college building.

For many years the foundation provided individual leavers’ bursaries. It became apparent in the 1990s that too small a fund was spread too thinly over too many beneficiaries and the increasing cost of course material rendered the grants ineffective.

The foundation changed to awarding grants to departments within the college and, in support of the college’s annual achievement awards it provides prizes to students who had made the greatest achievements in the academic year.

The Sir William Turner Foundation exists to support and enhance the education of young people in the Redcar area. At present it chooses to deliver that support through Redcar & Cleveland College.

Practical guidelines overleaf

Departmental Grants - Application Guidelines

- Departmental Grants are intended to enhance or to add value to the experience of the students.
- Grants are not awarded to purchase equipment that would normally be funded through curriculum support.
- Grants are not awarded to ‘front fund’ charitable fund-raising or commercial activities within the college.
- The funds are limited to the annual income generated by the foundation’s investments. Typically this currently provides a total fund of around £10,000 p.a., plus a further sum for achievement awards.
- The awards are competitive. Inevitably, the number and value of applications exceeds the available funds.

Points to make clear

- How many students will benefit from the proposed programme/project? *The trustees have their own ‘per capita’ guideline to assess the ‘value for money’. Be realistic!*
- How will the students benefit? *Don’t use jargon and do be specific. A sentence such ‘This will greatly enhance their development opportunities’ means very little! Describe what the benefits will be, or specifically what the students will learn from the experience.*
- Applications to fund equipment should indicate the anticipated life-span of the equipment and the realistic number of students likely to benefit from it. *Explain why it cannot be funded from curriculum funds and how the cost of any consumables or maintenance will be funded.*
- Copies of properly documented quotations for equipment, travel costs etc., must accompany the application.
- The foundation rarely funds 100% of a proposed programme or project. *It is essential that students contribute or fund-raise towards the cost of outings and trips abroad.*

Although it is a fine line, the foundation’s over arching principle is to support the students, rather than the college.

Time Scale

- *Autumn term:* applications are invited: submit to The Principal’s office one week before the Christmas holiday.
- *January:* applications are considered and applicants are notified within days.
- Awards are to be spent during the same calendar year.
- Partially or fully unused grants revert to the foundation at the end of the calendar year and may be re-applied for.
- Unless a programme is ongoing, the foundation does not normally carry over funds from one year to the next.
- Although not universally ideal, this has proved to be the most effective and manageable cycle of events.
- *The support of the foundation should be acknowledged in all announcements to the press and within the college.*