

The Feoffees Of the Common lands Of Rotherham

The Feoffees' Scholarship

The Common Lands of Rotherham is Rotherham's oldest charitable organisation, dating from at least the early 14th Century. The Trustees of the charity are the Feoffees and their role historically was, in many ways, akin to that of a modern town council. After the reformation they played a critical financial role in supporting Rotherham Grammar School and had always been represented on its Governing Body. After the Grammar School and Rotherham High School were abolished in 1966 Feoffee representatives were appointed to the Governing body of Thomas Rotherham College. At the incorporation of TRC in 1992 four Feoffees were required by Statute to be members of the TRC Governing Body. This situation continued until TRC moved back into the state-controlled schools sector in 2017.

One area in which the Feoffees continue to support education is by giving money through the award of scholarships to sixth form students educated in RMBC and about to enter university.

The Feoffees' Scholarship is valued at £1,000 and awarded to a second year sixth form student about to enter the first year of their degree course at university and who intends to undertake a course in English, Foreign Languages or History or a joint degree comprising a combination of these subjects.

Applicants for this scholarship are invited from students who meet the following criteria:

- i) *Holds an offer for a university course in one of above subjects or combination thereof, with the expectation of achieving 3 'A' levels at grades AAB.*
- ii) *Has an overall average attendance of at least 90% at their college/school sixth form. (unless there are exceptional circumstances such as prolonged illness which needs to be confirmed by the Headteacher.)*
- iii) *Has demonstrated the required effort and application on the A level subject courses they have followed during their sixth form 'A' level studies. (This must be confirmed by the sixth form which they attend.)*

To be considered for this award applicants are required to submit a letter of application of no more than 500 words, in which they should clearly set out:

- their reasons for wanting to pursue their chosen course, to include academic interest and potential career aspirations.
- how they believe the scholarship will help them in the pursuit of their studies

All applications received will initially be assessed by the sixth form at which the applicants are taking their 'A' levels and this institution will then submit their two preferred candidates to the Secretary to the Feoffees of The Common Lands of Rotherham, to include staff/headteacher comments of support.

Referred applications will be assessed by a panel of Feoffees. In assessing all submitted applications, the panel will consider:

- the student's commitment to their chosen course as demonstrated in the letter of application.
- attendance and evidence of the applicant's effort during their sixth form career.

In the event of two or more candidates being rated equally deserving then personal economic circumstances – such as receipt or otherwise of bursary funds etc. – will also be considered.

The award will be conditional on the applicant achieving a minimum AAB at A level and taking up their place to study a relevant course at university. The successful applicant will be announced after the publication of the 'A' Level results in August and the award will normally be presented before the start the first year of the degree course. In addition, a formal certificate of award of the scholarship will be made at the successful recipients sixth form presentation evening of that year. The successful student will be expected to permit a photograph of themselves receiving their scholarship award to be published in the press and also placed on to the Feoffees web site. The successful student will be required to submit a brief report to the Feoffees at the end of their first year of university study indicating how the scholarship has helped them.

Individual letters of application should be submitted to the respective Principal/Head Teacher of the students place of education one week before the end of the Summer term immediately prior to the student leaving. The two recommended applications, together with all supporting documentation, from each institution must be submitted to the Secretary to the Feoffees before the end of July of the year of application.