

Godparents Anthroposophical Training Fund 2016



The Godparents Anthroposophical Training Fund (GATF) was founded in 1968 as the Godparents Association and has existed in its current form since 1977, instigated by Mercury Provident Ltd in conjunction with the Camphill Regional Economic Sphere Meetings for England and Wales. The charitable aims were reconstituted in 2004. Our Charity registration number is 1102158

GATF has, as its remit, the provision of interest free loans to individuals wishing to undertake anthroposophically based professional training in the United Kingdom. The loans are available to applicants for the second and subsequent years of their training to support the tuition fees of their chosen course. The loan agreements are legally binding and require both references and a guarantor. All applicants are interviewed and their identity checked.

We noticed a drop in applications this year, due to the WESTT course not having a second year. Out of 30 applications, 5 withdrew their applications. The trustees gave 25 student loans to one American, one Australian, nine British, one Chinese, one Finnish, three German, one Hungarian, two Italians, one Mexican, one Nepalese, one Portuguese, one Romanian and two Spanish students. Twenty students were on teacher training courses, three studying eurythmy, and two on artistic courses. In total the Trustees agreed loans of £50,628; a further £8,600 was given in loans from the Children's Fund. The trustees also agreed Retrospective Grants of £8,542.

As the funds are restricted we rely on donations and interest on the funds to cover the running costs. We are grateful to all our regular supporters.

We are delighted to have received a donation of £150,000 from Drayton Manor Trust. The trust is unfortunately closing down and distributing the funds to like minded Charities. Drayton Manor School was founded by Gunter and Ursula Wulkau in 1963 as a home school for special needs children. The money is restricted and is to be used for therapy support for children with special needs in Steiner schools, grant money to support final year students on named courses, support for dyslexia training and a grant for administration. The trustees are drawing up procedures for applications to this fund.

Trustees:

Michael Mehta	chair
Angela Clark	Niki Nakamura
Sue Peat	Jon Syed



From a former Plymouth University student:

Thank you Godparents for enabling me on my path and your patience during this time – it's been a tapestry!

11 Church Street Stourbridge DY8 1LT

Registered in England No. 5002529 Registered Charity Number 1102158

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Guidance Notes for Loan Applicants

Eligibility

- ✘ The Training Fund offers financial assistance to students undertaking the following courses:

Steiner Waldorf Teacher Training
Rhythmical Massage Therapy
Anthroposophical Art Therapy
Bothmer Movement
Eurythmy and Eurythmy Therapy

- ✘ The Trustees will not fund the first year of a course, accommodation/food costs or give retrospective loans.
- ✘ Loans are interest free and are given towards **tuition costs only** for one academic year. Students requiring financial assistance in subsequent years will need to re-apply annually.
- ✘ The maximum amount of loans given over the duration of a four year course is £6,000.
- ✘ Non European Economic Area (EAA) students will be required to hold a visa valid for the duration of the course. A copy of the visa should be sent with the loan application.
- ✘ The Trustees will only consider applications from students who have been accepted on their training course and who do not owe the course any money.

Applications

- ✘ Completed application forms, signed by the course leader, must be sent with the non refundable administration fee to the GATF Office by the **end of February**.

Referees

- ✘ Applicants are required to give the names and addresses of two referees who have known the applicant for at least five years. We will contact the referees to verify the applicant's suitability for a loan. References from family members are not accepted.

Interviews

- ✘ Interviews will be held between March and May. The Trustees will consider all the applications and students will be notified of the decision by the end of July. Proof of identity (passport or driving licence plus a utilities bill or bank or credit card statement) will be required at interview, together with a copy for our files.

Guarantor

- ✘ If successful, students will be required to provide an independent Guarantor who will undertake to repay the loan in full if they are unable to do so.

Loan repayment term

- ✘ A GATF loan is a legal agreement and is to be repaid within five years of completing or leaving the training for long courses and four years from the start date of the loan for short courses.

Monthly repayments

- ✘ Students on all courses will be required to set up a monthly standing order for a minimum of £30.00 from the start of the loan.

Loan agreement

- ✘ Funds will be paid directly to the course and will not be released until the loan agreement form and guarantee have been received and monthly repayments have commenced.
- ✘ It is a condition of the loan agreement that students keep the Trustees informed of any changes in their circumstances or contact details.

The Trustees reserve the right to vary any of the above or to make exceptions.

The decisions of the Trustees are final and personal or telephone appeals will not be considered. Any concerns should be put in writing, addressed to the Trustees.

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From a former Art Therapy student:

I would like to thank you very much for the help you have given me for my studies with this loan. I am very grateful for this. I hope that in my future work I will eventually be able to give to the world and people something valuable in the fields of art therapy, education and anthroposophy.



Children's Fund:

We ask that any requests for help come via a Steiner Waldorf School or kindergarten. The Trustees give priority to families in need of short term help to keep the children in school for reasons such as poor health of a parent, loss of employment etc. Loans are subject to the same process as the training fund, and a standing order is required before the money is released to the school or kindergarten.

The trustees of GATF are pleased to announce they have a small amount of money available for interest free loans to distribute from the Children's Fund for this academic year. They will consider all requests in February 2017. Applications should be in by **January 10th 2017**. If you have a family in your school who you would like to put forward, please ask for the relevant form.

We also have a small amount of grant money available for supporting therapies for children with special needs. The trustees will consider granting up to 75% of reasonable fees. Priority will be given to Anthroposophical therapy and urgent short term therapies. Please request

an application form if you have children who would benefit from this grant.

Donations can be sent to GATF, 11, Church Street, Stourbridge DY8 1LT. Cheques payable to GATF Children's Fund. Please help support this valuable fund.

From a parent receiving help from the Children's Fund:

Let me take this opportunity to thank you for doing such an incredible job helping children and families in times of need.

My very best wishes to you all.



From a letter from a former student:

Thank you for lending me the money to pay for my Kindergarten training with Lynne. It was a very worthwhile experience. I work at a Waldorf School where I co-ordinate and lead seven Parent and Child Groups. I have been working with the Kindergarten and Parent and Child Groups for fourteen years now. I found the Kindergarten training to be invaluable.



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Extract from financial statements

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 JULY 2016

The following figures are taken from our Trustees' report and financial statements as inspected by Gibbons Mannington

Fixed assets	2016	2015
Tangible assets	£2,745	£1,345
Programme related investments	£188,187	£222,216
	£190,932	£223,561
Current assets		
Debtors	£861	£878
Cash in bank	£614,019	£461,024
	£614,880	£462,024
Creditors amounts falling due within one year	-£2,150	-£1,913
Net assets	£612,730	£461,146
Restricted funds	£803,662	£683,372
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT		
Income		
Donations	£162,187	£18,061
Legacies	0	£5,000
Interest receivable	1,343	£1,152
Other income		£1,605
	£163,530	£25,818
Less: Expenditure		
Education	£41,807	£30,442
Governance costs	£1,734	£2,378
	£43,541	£32,820
Surplus/deficit for the year	£119,989	-£12,002
Balance of fund at end of year	£803,661	£683,672
<i>A full copy of the accounts is available on request.</i>		
Loan repayments for the year	£99,257.00	£79,047

Please note we can only give grants if we have donations to cover the amount. If you would like to support our work please send donations to the office.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas!