

EXPLANATORY NOTE - INDIVIDUALS

Scope of the Trust Scheme

The governing body of Trustees applies its income in a variety of ways for the benefit of children and young people. The John Watson's Trust awards grants to children and young people under 21 years old with either a physical or learning disability or who are in a situation of deprivation. The criteria of the Trust states that grants awarded should be for educational purposes. Although the Trust operates primarily within Edinburgh and the Lothians, funds can be allocated Scotland wide depending on each individual case.

Funding may be awarded to assist with:

- the provision of private tutors
- expenses for those in education e.g. books, uniforms or laptops
- travel costs for any purpose of an educational nature
- the participation in a university or college course for which they have registered or are about to register

For an application to succeed, **support from referees** is essential. It is important that referees chosen are able to give as full a picture of the child's situation as possible - teachers, social workers or GPs are good examples. You need to include their views on the application, and explain why funding is necessary.

Applicants will understand that there are likely to be many more applicants than can receive grants and that many of the types of grants are designed to cover cases of hardship or difficulty. It is necessary to identify those who meet the Trust's criteria and recognise where the need is greatest. Therefore the **statement about finances** is very important and should include income of all family members, including partners. Please include copies of the following where applicable:

- wage slips
- benefit award letters e.g. housing benefit, council tax benefit
- incapacity benefit
- disability living allowance
- child tax credit
- working tax credit
- educational maintenance allowance

Applications cannot be considered without this information, all of which will be treated in absolute confidence.

The Trust is not authorised to incur expenditure which would, in the absence of the Trust, be incurred from public funds; nor can the amount of the grants paid to individuals be such as to cause any reduction in any scholarship, bursary or other allowance paid out of public funds.

Queries should be directed to the Administrator at The Signet Library in Edinburgh on 0131 220 3249