



# Adam Smith Scholarships

Part of Fife College

## Robert Black Childhood Studies Scholarship Guidelines

### What is the Robert Black Childhood Studies Scholarship?

This scholarship was set up by Robert (Bob) Black, former Board member of Fife College to support Fife College students and give them a helping hand to progress their studies or find employment.

Throughout his successful career in the oil industry and since retirement Bob has taken a keen interest in education and widening opportunities for all. He has also been a member of the Scottish Children's Panel and is committed to helping and supporting young people to make good career and life choices.

Bob is delighted to fund this annual scholarship for 2026 to support students studying for a career working with children.



### Who Can Apply?

Those students studying the following courses:

- PDA Education Support Assistance (part-time)
- NC Childhood Practice
- HNC/HND Childhood Practice
- BA Childhood Practice (part-time)
- BA and BA (Hons) Childhood Studies

### What Do You Receive?

A fund of £1200 is available – this will be shared with a small number of students at the discretion of the panel.

Being recognised for this award is also a fantastic achievement and would look great on your CV boosting your further study and employment prospects.

### What Can You Spend the Scholarship On?

Equipment and resources that you need which will help you with your studies. Please advise on the application form.

### How to Apply

A link to the application form is available on the [Fife College website Scholarship Apply Here](#) page – if you require a hard copy form please get in touch. Please remember to explain clearly why you should be considered for this scholarship.

### What Happens Next?

**References:** We may ask a staff member who knows you for a reference.

**Email:** We will email all applicants to advise of the decision soon after the closing date.

**Certificates:** All award winners will receive a certificate – we may arrange for a photo to be taken to publicise your success, with your approval.

### Key Dates

Closing date for applications is **Monday, 20 April at midnight**. We expect to award this scholarship in May and will be in touch with all applicants at this time.

### Got a question?

If so, just drop us an email, [scholarships@fife.ac.uk](mailto:scholarships@fife.ac.uk)

If you would like some help completing your application form please email [employability@fife.ac.uk](mailto:employability@fife.ac.uk) - they would be happy to meet with you to give you advice and some helpful hints.

## Our 2025 Scholarship Winners

# A boost for future educators, thanks to Robert Black

► Celebrating Student Success with the Robert Black Childhood Studies Scholarship. Six inspiring students from Fife College have been awarded this year's Robert Black Childhood Studies Scholarship, each receiving £250 in recognition of their dedication to working with children.



Funded by former Fife College Board member Robert (Bob) Black, the scholarship supports students with financial assistance to help them progress in their studies or prepare for employment. Bob's long-standing commitment to education and to supporting young people is reflected in this award, which is now in its second year.

During a recent visit to the Kirkcaldy Campus, Bob presented certificates to two of the recipients who were able to attend in person: Gemma

Crichton and Emma Murray.

Gemma shared: "I feel very privileged and shocked to have been chosen for this scholarship. This will allow me to purchase a new laptop to help me going into the next year of my studies and any further studying."

Emma added: "I was very excited to find out I had been awarded this scholarship. I felt my hard work and dedication to the course had been recognised. I'll use the money to buy two new tyres for my

The 2025 recipients are:

**Kimberley Smart**

► PDA Education Support Assistance

**Leah Robertson**

► PDA Education Support Assistance

**Gemma Crichton**

► BA Childhood Practice

**Betty Gonzalez Fernandez**

► BA Childhood Practice

**Shona Clark**

► BA Childhood Studies

**Emma Murray**

► BA (Hons) Childhood Studies

car, and if there's any left over, I'll put it towards saving for my PGDE in primary education."

Fife College is proud to celebrate the achievements of these students and is grateful to Bob for his continued support in helping the next generation of childhood practitioners reach their goals.