

BRIGHT FUTURES

Our monthly guide to
student finance, getting out and about and
help for families

MARCH 2021

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Student Finance

If you're from England and starting a degree in 2021/22, you can apply for tuition fee loans, loans towards your living costs and extra funding depending on your personal circumstances.

Tuition fees

Universities in England, Northern Ireland and Scotland can charge you up to £9,250 a year for tuition.

If you're planning on attending a UK university, you can apply online to Student Finance England for a loan of up to £9,250.

This will cover your tuition fees in most cases.

Funding your living costs

You may also be eligible for a maintenance loan to help with living costs. The amount you get will depend on your household income and where you live during term time. If you have a low household income (£25,000) you are likely to get full financial support.

If your household income is higher, you'll get a lower amount of support – with the implication that you'll find the difference elsewhere. This might be through contributions from your parents, a part-time job or savings.

Extra funding

If you need support – for instance, if you're a single parent, or leaving care to enter higher education – you may be able to get extra funding.

The same applies if you have a disability, learning difference or mental health problem. You can read more about this on our student finance and funding page.

It's also worth looking for other financial support such as a bursary, scholarship or award from your university or college. You won't have to pay this back. It also won't count as household income, so it won't affect the amount of loan you could get.

Getting Out and About

We know holidays can be expensive so we've developed a fun-filled list of free activities and ideas that the whole family can enjoy.

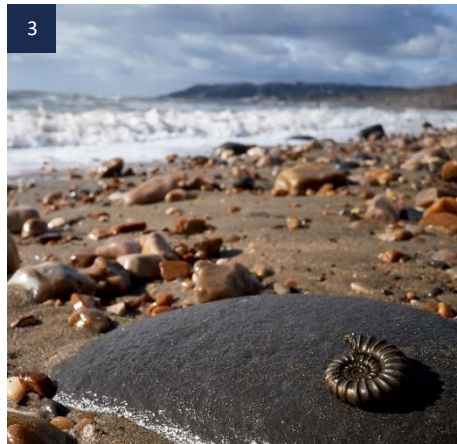
From wildlife enthusiasts to adventurers and those who just want a stress-free day out, our list of free things to do in South Devon is designed to give you plenty of choice - and apart from transport, parking and maybe the odd treat like a local ice cream, they're all free.



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1. Explore one of the many historical sites found across the Blackdown Hills AONB
2. Go rock pooling at Wembury and see what creatures live below the waves
3. Step back in time and go fossil hunting along the Jurassic Coast
4. Go letterboxing on Dartmoor
5. Visit the Mamhead Obelisk and enjoy stunning views towards Dawlish Warren and Exmouth
6. Watch the fishermen return with their catch from a day's fishing at Beer
7. Follow the Templar Way, the historic granite trail from Dartmoor to Teignmouth
8. Spot dolphins, seals and basking sharks off the South Devon coast
9. Visit Slapton Sands and Torcross – see the Sherman Tank from the D-Day Landings
10. Have a sandcastle building competition on Teignmouth beach

Extra Help

Claiming Jobseeker's Allowance? Each Jobcentre Plus has a little-known 'Flexible Support Fund' to help support jobseekers looking for work.

Each centre decides how to use their fund which can include things such as cost of transport, childcare, work clothes, tools and more (during the job search or to enable you to accept an offer of employment) if an adviser believes it'll make the transition into work easier. Ask your local office if it provides any help.

The cash can be requested for any reasonable expense, yet no one has a right to the money - it's completely at the discretion of each adviser, who will look for specific needs. If you think it'll help you, speak to an adviser at your local Jobcentre Plus.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Those on benefits who are looking for work

WHAT IS THE MAXIMUM AWARD?

It varies

WHAT DOES IT COVER?

It helps cover the costs of looking for or going back to work