

FEES POLICY 2025/26

Date to be implemented from:	November 2025
Date to be reviewed by:	October 2026
Version No:	V10
Lead responsibility:	Barrett-Bell Ltd Directors

Distribution to:

All Staff	☒
SLT only	☐
Teaching Staff/Tutors	☐
Administration Staff	☐
Other (please specify)	☒ Students

Key Contacts:

Barrett-Bell Ltd Director	01438 727667
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This Policy supersedes any previous Policy of this name or instructions that pre-date this edition.

FEES POLICY 2025/2026

1. Introduction

This Fees Policy is intended to make clear to students and others how all major aspects of fee-setting and collection will operate, alongside arrangements for recovery and penalty in the event of financial default.

Course fee rates apply for all academic sessions between 1st August and 31st July of the following year. The payment of fees is the responsibility of the student. In the event of Advanced Learner Loans refusing a student's funding application, the student will be held personally liable for payment.

Please note that Barrett-Bell Ltd reserve the right to alter the timing and/or location and/or content of the course but will advise you of any changes at all times.

2. Setting of Fees

The Education Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) set the fee rates for this course annually, which cover: Tuition, Registration, Examination and Certification.

This Policy applies to all students registered on a course at Barrett-Bell Ltd.

Barrett-Bell Ltd reserves the right to correct administrative errors and to recover any associated shortfall in fees but will consider exceptional circumstances on a case-by-case basis.

All payments must be made in Pounds Sterling. Crypto currencies and foreign currency are not accepted.

3. Legal Entitlement to Funding

For learners aged 19 and over beginning study in academic year 2025/26, Barrett-Bell Ltd will adhere strictly to the Advanced Learner Loans funding rules 2025-2026. Learners aged 19 to 23 who do not already hold a full Level 3 qualification may be eligible for free tuition under the "Free Courses for Jobs" offer, rather than needing a loan. For those not qualifying for free tuition, the Advanced Learner Loan can be used to fund the full cost (up to the maximum loan cap) of an approved Level 3 qualification. The loan minimum is £300, and maximum loan amounts are determined by the guided learning hours (GLH) and the programme weighting of the qualification. Learners may choose to borrow up to the full eligible tuition fee, and any difference between the loan amount and the total course cost must be covered by the learner.

It is the learner's responsibility to confirm entitlement by meeting eligibility criteria (including residency, age, prior attainment) and to complete the loan application process before enrolment. The centre will provide guidance, issue the required Learning and Funding Information Letter, and support applicants in understanding their repayment obligations (9% of income above the threshold of £27,295 per year) once the course is complete.

Barrett-Bell will discuss your legal entitlement with you before the course enrolment and inform you of the funding we have available and if we are unable to facilitate your funding entitlement then we can signpost you to other organisations via the National Careers Service. If a student chooses to apply for a loan rather than exercising their entitlement to the Adult Skills Fund, this may mean that they give up their right to exercise their entitlement to Adult Skills funding in the future.

For detailed information of funding criteria and eligibility, please visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/advanced-learner-loans-funding-and-performance-management-rules/advanced-learner-loans-funding-and-performance-management-rules-2025-to-2026>

4. Liability For Payment

If Barrett-Bell Ltd do not receive funding from Advanced Learner Loan on your behalf, it is your responsibility to rectify any issues they may have with your application, otherwise you will be personally liable for payment.

In the event of Advanced Learner Loans refusing a student's funding application, the student will be held personally liable for payment.

All fees due must be fully discharged before completion of your award or qualification.

Learners opting to pay their own course fee's will have the opportunity to establish a payment plan. The details of this payment plan will be mutually agreed upon with the directors prior to the start of the course. It is essential that all outstanding course fee's must be paid before the learner completes the course. Failure to pay outstanding fee's will result in non-certification, preventing the learner from receiving their course certificate.

5. Finance Payment Arrangements

Applications for funding need to be made direct to Advanced Learner Loans (<https://www.gov.uk/advanced-learner-loan/how-to-apply>) and a new application must be made for before the start of your course.

If Advanced Learner Loans agree to fund a student, they will notify the DFE who will confirm the funding to Barrett-Bell Ltd. Fees will be paid directly to Barrett-Bell Ltd.

If you are having difficulties with your funding application, our administration staff can offer advice and guidance.

For more information on Advanced Learner Loans, please check their website for details <https://www.gov.uk/repaying-your-student-loan>. This is the Learner responsibility.

6. Learner Eligible for Co Funding

For courses part funded by the government the fee will be 50% of the listed un-weighted funding value, except where market conditions dictate otherwise. Additional costs may be applied for exams, materials or other fees.

7. Payment Issues

Whilst we recognise that the majority of students have their funding in place or pay their fees promptly and in full, we occasionally have issues with non-payment / no loan in place. This section details financial procedures that students are expected to comply with and the consequences of non-compliance. These procedures are applicable to all students.

- **Once enrolled** the student is responsible for the payment of fees from the start date of their course and any other associated charges, including any amounts due from third parties, which are not paid. Failure to settle fees on time will mean that Barrett-Bell Ltd will withdraw access to learning facilities and this may ultimately lead to deregistration from the course.
- **The student is responsible** for ensuring that their application for funding from Advanced Learner Loans are made before the start of their training and will remain liable for the cost of that course, to the extent it is not covered by Advanced Learner Loan payments. Application for the Advanced Learner Loans can be made at <https://www.gov.uk/advanced-learner-loan/how-to-apply>
- **Any requests by the DFE or Advanced Learner Loans** for further documentation and/or information must be complied with as soon as possible to ensure eligibility and prior to the start of the course on-site at the provider's premises.
- **Returning students with debt:** students who fail to pay their course fees debts from a previous academic year or who have been referred to a debt collection agency will not be permitted to re-enrol. Barrett-Bell may inform the DFE of such applications. All debts must be paid in full before an individual can return to undertake another course.
- **Debt Policy and procedures:** We aim to ensure that all students are treated fairly. Failure to pay course fees on time means enrolment may be revoked. If a student is unable to pay any fees or charges by the appropriate due date, they should contact our administration staff at the earliest opportunity, as we may be able to help. We will be sympathetic and assist where we can, however, the quality of teaching and provision is dependent upon funding, therefore we must act to recover all outstanding debts. Failure to pay affects everyone in the company.
- **External debt collection agencies:** Barrett-Bell Ltd reserves the right to refer debt in respect of any ex-student to an external debt collection for recovery.
- **Refunds:** Barrett-Bell Ltd will continue to collect outstanding fees from students who

withdraw from any course following the 14 day cooling-off period from the start of the course and refunds will only be available if we cancel a course. Fees will only be refunded in exceptional circumstances and will be considered on a case by case basis.

- **Verbal recommendations and comments** by staff or others cannot be relied upon in relation to course fees. The student will remain fully liable for the fees unless advised in writing by Barrett-Bell Ltd. We will only refund or reduce fees in circumstances where Barrett-Bell Ltd have caused a change in arrangements (e.g. changing the course or the start date) or as a result of a settled dispute. If you are in any doubt, please contact our administration staff before making a decision to withdraw from the course - we may be able to signpost you to support to enable you to complete your training.
- **Students who benefit from course fee loans** should particularly note that a mid-course withdrawal will in most cases leave them liable for significant fees. Their withdrawal does not mean they do not have to pay for the period they have attended. Again, in most cases the best advice is to remain on the course and gain your qualification.
- **If a student is asked to leave** by Barrett-Bell Ltd due to unacceptable behaviour, non-adherence to the student Code of Conduct or low attendance, the student remains liable for any outstanding fees.
- **Barrett-Bell Ltd** are under no obligation to reinstate an individual's registration for the current academic year or any subsequent academic year once it has been terminated, even after full payment of outstanding fees and charges.
- **Cooling off period:** Learners are given a 14 day cooling-off period should they start the course and decide it is not for them. If this is the case, then they must inform the admin team and follow the withdrawal procedure as directed. The staff will discuss the reasons and try and support the Learner to other options.
- **Withdrawal:** Course fees and charges are determined on the basis of enrolment status and regular attendance. This means that if a student stops attending but does not inform Barrett-Bell that they are withdrawing from the course, they will be marked as absent but may still be liable for course fees. If a student decides to withdraw from a course, we advise they discuss any difficulties with their tutor and contact our administration staff for information on the correct withdrawal procedures.
- **Anti-money laundering regulations:** Barrett-Bell Ltd will not accept any payment from persons or organisations unless they relate to a valid charge, levied or impending. This is to comply with UK Money Laundering, Terrorist and Transfer of Funds Regulations and the proceeds of Crime Acts. Any suspicious payments and or refund requests may be reported to the appropriate regulating body. Barrett-Bell has robust procedures for its financial accounting and auditing and will not support any type of economic crime.

8. Withdrawal Procedure

Students considering withdrawal from their course are advised to contact the administration team by phone, email or in person. (01438 727667 for Stevenage).

A copy of our Withdrawal Procedure can be obtained from our administration team and can also be found in the student handbook. It is important that you read this carefully and seek advice if unsure about any aspect of the procedure. The date of withdrawal will be taken as the date of receipt of the email/letter and will affect the course fees calculated and charged by both Barrett-Bell Ltd and Advanced Learner Loans.

Students who decide to terminate their studies before completion, must inform our funding administrator, Kerry Lander - in writing of their decision to leave and must receive acknowledgement of this being received. If you do not receive an acknowledgment within 24 hours please phone the admin team.

This is Barrett-Bell Ltd's evidence of the withdrawal date, failure to do so may mean that the student will remain responsible for the full tuition fee.

By email – Kerry Lander – kerry@barrettbell.co.uk

By post – Kerry Lander, Barrett-Bell Ltd, Unit L Gunnels Wood Park, Gunnels Wood Road, Stevenage, SG1 2BH

In person - office opening hours:

8.30 to 16.30	Monday to Thursday
8.30 to 16.00	Friday

If you have taken out an Advanced Learner Loan then you must inform them immediately of your date of withdrawal, otherwise you may be charged the full course fees. Barrett-Bell Ltd will continue to collect outstanding fees (up to the date of withdrawal) from students who withdraw and refunds will only be available if we cancel a course. Fees will only be refunded in exceptional circumstances and will be considered on a case by case basis.

9. Break In Learning

In exceptional circumstances, students may request a break in learning from the course. A break in learning can only be agreed with the student and our Funding Administrator – Kerry Lander.

If a student decides to request a break in learning, it is important that they inform the Funding Administrator – Kerry Lander – in writing and must receive acknowledgement of this being received.

By email - Kerry Lander – kerry@barrettbell.co.uk

By post – Kerry Lander, Barrett-Bell Ltd, Unit L Gunnels Wood Park, Gunnels Wood Road, Stevenage, SG1 2BH

If you have taken out an Advanced Learner Loan, you must inform them immediately of the

date of your break in learning, otherwise you may be charged for additional course fees, and you must reinstate the loan on your return.

10. Cooling Off Period

As statutorily required, students who start the course will have a 14 day cooling off period from the date they start their course should they decide the course is not for them. No tuition fees will be incurred during this time but the student must inform Barrett-Bell and follow the withdrawal procedure no longer than 14 days from starting the course.

11. Complaints

In the event of any matter of interpretation or application of this Policy, students may bring a complaint under Barrett-Bell Ltd's Complaints Procedure. Information regarding the student complaints procedure can be obtained from our administration staff.

12. Bursary

Barrett-Bell Ltd does not currently access any bursary money.

13. Learner rights and responsibilities

Barrett-Bell Ltd does all it can to enable students to learn. Students must adhere to the regulations stated above.

Where students do not follow the above procedures and then seek to re-join courses or seek reparation for missed time or early cessation of attendance, then Barrett-Bell will follow the regulations and guidelines issued by the DFE, Advanced Learner Loans companies.

Any student who believes their case to be impacted by 'exceptional circumstances' may request a review and any changes to the normal administration of this Policy would be at the sole discretion of the Directors. Only requests submitted within a reasonable timescale and supported by accurate data/documentation will be considered. The Directors decision is final.