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| “I am delighted to be able to carry on my studies and complete my first year. Since I got the computer this week, I have been able to access recordings of classes and I can now join classes online which is great. There is so much that is difficult at the moment, but I am glad to keep going with my study.” "As I am sure you are able to understand, I cannot fully put into words how grateful I am to be awarded such a substantial amount of money. It has taken a massive weight off of my chest and should allow me to finish my studies to the best of my abilities.“Support for students across all levels of study |Included students who were ineligible for other sources of funding, such as International | Provided equipment on loan agreements, including broadband connections | Extended to offer financial assistance with rent, bills, and food | Provided essential support for students who lost employment due to the pandemic | Enabled students to continue their studies from home when campuses were forced to closeEmergency Study FundExecutive OfficeW | **Goal:** To provide student access to laptops during the Covid19 pandemic.**Submitted by:** Alison Wilson – Development Office**Project:** To secure funding which would allow the purchase of laptops, to be provided to students across the partnership, allowing them to transition to home study during the pandemic and attend online classes, access materials, and utilise support services.**Benefit to:** All students

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| ****Key message: Ensure students are able to study from home****  |
| Procure donations from existing and new donors to fund the purchase of laptops  |
| Set up an online application process |
| Liaise with LIS colleagues to purchase laptops, and equipment to facilitate broadband connections  |
| Convene a panel to process applications and allocate support to students  |
| Work with colleagues across the partnership to identify students in need |
| **Project delivery**  |  |
| Current donors were approached, and applications were made to emerging Covid19 funds. A webpage was also created seeking donations |
| Liaising with LIS and procurement colleagues, laptops were sourced and purchased, despite issues with a badly affected supply chain |
| Panel met 2-3 times weekly to process applications and allocate support to students, often within days of a submission  |
| Devices were deployed on loan agreements with a number returned and reissued to help others, once no longer required  |
| In time, the Fund was expanded to offer financial support with rent, bills and food. In early 2021, the provision of laptops was extended to reach apprentices on very basic income levels |

**Impact:**  c.£150,000 of donated funds were secured during 2020 and c.250 students had applied for support. The fund was able to support both FE and HE students, and latterly was extended to apprentices |