We need a system which recognises that nursing students are unique, and attracts students into the profession so we have the registered nurses we need in the future.

Until 2016/17, nursing students in England had their tuition fees paid for in full by the UK Government and received maintenance grants. Since the removal of the bursary, there has been a 30% drop in applications and the number of students accepted onto undergraduate nursing courses has fallen by 4%.

Now more than ever before, the Government must take action. With almost 40,000 registered nurse vacancies in the NHS in England, the RCN is calling on Government to invest at least £1bn a year into nursing higher education to attract more people into nursing.

Don’t underestimate the power of students. We are the future of nursing.

#FundOurFuture
rcn.org.uk/fundourfuture