



**cashforkids**

# **GENERAL**

**GRANTS**

## **Eligibility Criteria**

National

**Cash for Kids exists to improve the lives of disadvantaged children and young people from the moment they're born up to and including the age of 18. We support those affected by poverty, illness, neglect or who have additional needs.**

Applicant information will be treated as **strictly private and confidential**.

## **Area Covered**

Grant applications can only be made to support children and young people **up to and including 18 years old** who reside within **the UK**. If you're unsure whether you fall within our area please get in touch.

Applications should be received by the specific grant deadline dates given on our website - please visit [cashforkids.org.uk/grants](https://cashforkids.org.uk/grants) for the latest information.

## **Funding Guidance**

### **Eligibility Criteria**

The Eligibility Criteria may be reviewed and amended at any time, and changes will be updated on this document. Any affected live applicants will be contacted to advise of the amendments.

### **Award Size**

Average grants made are **between £1,000 and £3,000** but we will consider applications for smaller and larger amounts.

### **Application Types**

#### **Individual children**

Applications may be made by a parent / guardian, or a professional supporting the application. All applications will require two quotations or online links to the items requested, a supporting letter or email from the professional supporting the application and proof of benefit entitlement.

If there is only one supplier (sometimes the case for specialist equipment) please include a note uploaded as the second quotation to explain the reasons why only one quote has been supplied.

Grants for medical equipment, sensory equipment, beds, therapy, technology products etc. must be accompanied by a letter from a professional that is specific to the application, detailing the impact the item being requested will have on the child's health and wellbeing. Generic letters relating to the child's condition / diagnosis will not suffice.

## Organisations

Applications may be made by charities (with annual turnover less than £1 million), schools, community associations and grassroots organisations (with constitution / formal governance documents and a safeguarding policy). All applications will require upload of audited / management accounts or income and expenditure. Two quotations or a full breakdown of costs are required. We do not accept applications from CICs.

Please ensure the total grant amount being applied for includes any delivery or additional costs as these cannot be added retrospectively.

**Incomplete applications will not be considered.**

## Examples of what we can fund

- Specialist equipment for children with additional support needs. This can include tablets or laptops if the child has a specific additional support need and their medical professional believes they will benefit from using this equipment. We will require a supporting letter from the professional. We may also fund tablets / laptops to children living in poverty to assist with their studies, via their school.
- Specialist equipment including beds, wheelchairs, hoists, sensory items etc.
- Projects that deliver holiday / after school activities for disadvantaged children. Often such activities will enable the children to have a healthy meal.
- Clothing and beds for children living in poverty. The family will need to provide proof of benefits received to gain such assistance and a supporting letter from a professional they are working directly with.
- The cost for specialist service provision to deliver a short-term project (maximum term six months).
- Music lessons for children who will benefit mentally or physically, if they have a condition or additional support need which will improve with music or music therapy (must have expert supporting documentation).
- PTAs – can apply on condition that the Headteacher is one of the named points of contact and supplies a letter authorising the application.
- Therapy (ABA, speech and language, Physiotherapy, counselling etc.) – up to a 50% contribution to a maximum of six months of sessions. Proof of the 50%

commitment must be seen in advance by way of a part invoice, proof from other funder or similar.

- Respite breaks – UK-only for children with disabilities or life-limiting conditions. Consideration must be given to distance to travel and how additional costs will be covered. Cash for Kids will only cover costs for the child and one carer.
- Summer Camps for children living in poverty or children with additional support needs.
- Registered charities with annual turnover under £1 million to deliver a project that supports disadvantaged children.
- Assistance dogs – an assistance dog is trained to perform tasks to help a disabled person and must be qualified by one of the charitable organisations registered as a member of Assistance Dogs UK. We will part-fund up to a maximum of 30% of the total cost, which will be payable once the applicant has secured the remaining 70% of funding. Only dogs from an accredited trainer found via [assistancedogs.org.uk](http://assistancedogs.org.uk) will be considered.

## **Examples of what will not fund**

- Charities with an annual turnover over £1 million. We may support local branches of charities that turnover more than £1 million with Gift in Kind as a grant from our Mission Christmas appeal. We will also accept support letters from professionals employed by charities with turnover over £1 million for individual case applications.
- Trips or projects abroad / school trips abroad / holidays abroad for families.
- Medical research or medical treatment abroad.
- Costs associated with developing an individual child in a particular sport.
- Pregnancy testing, advice, information or counselling on pregnancy choices.
- Political activity, party political organisations, or for direct lobbying or projects with a political element.
- Funds to be passed on to other organisations / grant making charities.
- To help with budget shortfalls or debt repayments.
- Projects unable to start within six months of the date the grant is awarded.
- Unspecified expenditure.
- A project which would, in the reasonable opinion of the charity's Trustees, harm the reputation of the charity.
- Salaries or core costs (other than to facilitate a short-term project / funding for staffing for a maximum of six months e.g., paying fixed-term staffing of a breakfast club in the school holidays for disadvantaged children)
- Household bills – applications of this nature should be made via our Cost-of-Living Grants.
- Cash grants to individuals or families.
- Therapy dogs – this is a general term for a dog that is used to benefit people

in a therapeutic way. Therapy dogs are not assistance dogs. An assistance dog is trained to perform specific tasks to help a disabled person and will be qualified by one of the charitable organisations registered as a member of Assistance Dogs UK. Please see the above section for more details.

- General home improvements (e.g. windows and doors or extensions), except for to improve accessibility for a child with additional support needs.
- Furniture that will not be used specifically by children.
- General, non-specific operational costs.
- Televisions.
- Rent or rates for premises.
- We do not grant to Community Interest Companies (CICs). This is due to a lack of regulation by the Charity Commission, Fundraising Regulator or OSCR. We may support CICs with Gift in Kind as a grant from Mission Christmas.
- Projects intended to influence people's religious choices or to promote a particular belief system. We can support community welfare activities by religious organisations.
- Sports Groups or Schools for sports equipment – groups will be given the opportunity to take part in our annual Sports Challenge in the first instance. Applications outside of the Sports Challenge window may still be considered.
- Cost-of-Living grants – applications of this nature should apply to our Cost-of-Living Grants.
- Educational bursaries or scholarships.
- Cosmetic or dental procedures.
- Cars.
- Funeral Costs or headstones. There is support available for families;
  - England - [gov.uk/child-funeral-costs](https://www.gov.uk/child-funeral-costs)
  - Scotland - [mygov.scot/funeral-support-payment](https://mygov.scot/funeral-support-payment)
  - Wales - [gov.wales/child-funeral-and-other-related-costs-information-html](https://www.gov.wales/child-funeral-and-other-related-costs-information-html)
  - Northern Ireland - [nidirect.gov.uk/articles/child-funeral-fund](https://nidirect.gov.uk/articles/child-funeral-fund)
- Extensive building projects and repairs / renovations will not be funded (we can agree if it is a renovation for accessibility reasons or general wear and tear).

This list is not exhaustive and is for general guidance. In exceptional circumstances we can take an out of policy application to the Cash for Kids Managing Director / Head of Granting for review.

## **Local Executive Board and Decision Making**

General Grant applications will be reviewed and voted on by the Cash for Kids Local Executive Board. Members are chosen carefully and are made up of individuals representing Cash for Kids, Bauer Audio, the wider business community, and external professionals who are active in the local community, hold influential positions and have in-depth knowledge of the area and a passion

for helping us raise funds.

The Local Executive Board have sole responsibility for the distribution of General Grants. This is not a governing role as the charity has a Chair and a Trustee Board for each of the legal entities.

The Local Executive Board will consider all complete and eligible grant applications on their own merit with favourable consideration being given to projects which directly benefit many children. Successful schemes will be good quality with careful consideration given to the safety and wellbeing of children.

Applications that meet criteria and have all supporting documents will be made accessible to the Local Executive Board in advance of each grant round meeting so they can be reviewed and voted on as approved, not approved or undecided. At this point all applications that are not approved by the majority are sent an email informing the applicant of the decision, and applications that have been approved by the majority are submitted for payment. Undecided applications will be discussed at the grant round meeting to reach a final decision.

The Local Executive Board will meet multiple times during the year following each grant window deadline to review applications, and Cash for Kids will reply to successful and unsuccessful applicants shortly thereafter.

Cash for Kids are continually fundraising, and General Grant Application windows will open where funds allow.

If a Grant is awarded by the Local Executive Board funds must be spent in accordance with the application made and completed within six months. Grants not fulfilled within six months will be redistributed to support other disadvantaged children and young people. If a grant is made and funds are paid but not used within six months they must be returned to Cash for Kids.

Applications for change of use after a grant has been awarded will only be approved by the Local Executive Board if the change is not significantly different from the original application. Significant changes will result in the grant offer being rescinded and a new application will be required the success of which will not be guaranteed.

## **Supporting Information**

Grant applications will require supporting information and financial information, as indicated on the online application form. Due to the volume of applications received, applications without all supporting information, quotes or links to items requested and required financial information will not be considered and

will be rejected at this stage.

## **Post-grant Evidence Requirements**

All successful applications will be required to provide evidence relating to the grant. This will include financial evidence for cash grants, case studies and photos / videos of the item / project funded. Full details of requirements will be on the grants awarded email.

## **Extraordinary Grants**

Applications for support when our General Grants application window is closed will only be considered in exceptional, time-critical circumstances where funds allow. Applications must meet our standard General Grants criteria to be considered. Examples of previous Extraordinary Grants include a respite break for a child in palliative care to make final family memories and beds for a family fleeing a domestic violence situation. Applications relating to Cost-of-Living will not be considered as Extraordinary Grants.

## **Strategic Partnerships**

Cash for Kids may form strategic partnerships with charitable organisations that exceed the turnover threshold in order to facilitate grant giving and best serve our beneficiaries.



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Registered Charity 1122062, SC041421 and SC003334