

## A call for project proposals by Bedford Giving's Resident Panel

### Application Guidelines – Strand 1 Supporting children under 8 with additional needs (SEND) and their families.

We are a group of 8 Bedford residents who have joined Bedford Giving to shape this open call and make grant decisions that will benefit families with young children in Bedford. This is one of three open calls we are making at the same time.

**We are inviting applications for projects that ...**

## **Support children under 8 with additional needs (SEND) and their families**

### Bedford Giving's Resident Panel call for applications

In developing this call we have considered our own knowledge and experiences of growing up and living in Bedford and looked at research and data highlighting the needs and issues in the borough.

This document provides guidance for interested organisations.

The overall budget for all three calls is £25,000. The minimum grant will be £1,000. The maximum grant will be £5,000.

### **We are looking for projects that:**

- Extend currently available support i.e. to other parts of the borough and/or for longer time frames.
- Make mainstream children's activities accessible to children with additional needs.
- Peer support from other parents of children with additional needs who understand the system.
- Support for parents home-educating due to SEND need unmet in school, rather than those home educating as a result of personal preference.

Perhaps you are already running something that fits these criteria, but need extra funding to keep it going or expand, or perhaps you need equipment such as sensory packs.

Perhaps there is something you've wanted to try, but worry a funder may not understand. The parent panel is looking for interesting ideas and it may just be what they would like to see.



# Bedford Giving

Would funding help you provide a service for lower cost or provide specialist activities/activity days for children with additional needs? Our parent panel want to hear your ideas that will make a difference.

If you are uncertain if your ideas meet our criteria, phone or email Keith Johnson for an informal chat on 01235 369525 or email [contact@bedfordgiving.org.uk](mailto:contact@bedfordgiving.org.uk)

The Panel will prioritise projects that:

- Provide needs-based support pre-diagnosis.
- Provide long term support rather than short term interventions.

## The difference your project will make...

- Parents/carers will be supported so that fewer 'fall-off the cliff edge'.
- Parents will be able to get a diagnosis for their child more quickly.
- Parents/carers will improve knowledge and skills to better look after themselves and their children.
- SEND children will have more opportunities to take part in activities they enjoy.

## Our focus is particularly on

Established organisations and new groups (subject to 'who can apply' stipulations below) currently active in Bedford Borough. We will, however, consider applications from outside organisations that bring something different to parents in the area.

## We are particularly interested to hear

From smaller community organisations and unregistered charities.

## Who can apply?

Not for profit groups with the following structures:

Community groups.

Unregistered charities.

Registered charities.

Community interest companies.

Groups applying must have a constitution or other governing document and a governing body or committee of least three people. The balance of power on the board must rest in an unrelated majority with no financial interest in the organisation.

## What we don't fund

Projects that are specific to schools.



# Bedford Giving

Projects lasting more than one year.

## How to apply

Application forms are available on the Bedford Giving website [www.bedfordgiving.org.uk](http://www.bedfordgiving.org.uk) or email Keith Johnson [contact@bedfordgiving.org.uk](mailto:contact@bedfordgiving.org.uk)

## Other ways to apply

New to fundraising? Find application forms confusing? Give Keith a call or drop him an email. We'll look at other ways to complete the application process- for instance via a pre-arranged telephone call or perhaps a face-to-face meeting.

## Decision making timeline

### Application deadline: 4 August 2023

Shortlisting complete: 18 August 2023.

Shortlisted applicants may be invited to meet the parent panel to talk about their application in more detail.

Short-listed applicants will be informed w/c 21 August 2023 and advised if they are invited to interview with the panel at the same time.

Interviews with short-listed organisations, where appropriate: 8 September 2023.

We ask all applicants to be available in the morning of 8 September, ideally to meet the panel in person.

Panel meets: 15 September 2023.

## If Your Application is Successful

Successful short-listed candidates will be informed w/c 18 September 2023.

## About Bedford Giving

Bedford Giving is a collaborative, cross sector partnership to improve the lives of children and young people facing disadvantage in Bedford.

Bedford Giving is grounded in evidence of local need.

In consultation with the local community Bedford Giving will pool resources (people, money and time, ideas and knowledge) for the benefit of local residents and fund solutions to local issues.

It is a tried and tested model pioneered by Islington Giving in 2010. There are now 14 placed based 'Giving' Schemes.



# Bedford Giving

## Purpose

- To be an independent voice raising awareness of the concerns and needs of Bedford's residents, particularly children and young people.
- To utilise collective resources (people, money and time), ideas and knowledge of the needs of the community, for the benefit of local children and young people.
- To increase our impact by identifying and cooperating in support of key projects which could make a significant contribution to the lives of disadvantaged children and young people in Bedford.

## Key Principles

- Bedford Giving is driven by a shared understanding of local aspirations and needs, not by funders, donors or any one stakeholder.
- Everyone has something to give. We will seek to involve the whole community in giving whatever they can - time, skills, resources, workplace opportunities - to multiply impact.
- By building deep collaborations with other funders, businesses, organisations and individuals we can have a greater impact together than we would do separately, attract new resources and develop new approaches to improve the lives of local people.
- Listening to, and learning from, local people with lived experience of the issues we seek to address and involving them in decision making is paramount and will improve the quality of our work.

