# **Top Tips** for successful Grant Applications





We recognise the essential role that early years, childcare and playwork settings play in the foundational economy and to children's wellbeing. As a result, numerous grants are being made available. Funding may be capital or revenue and can assist with sustainability (especially considering challenges presented by Covid-19) or to improve quality of resources.

### Here are our Top Tips!



#### Read the guidance

This will highlight what the grant can be used for, how much is available, who can apply, what additional documentation you must provide, and when the deadlines are. A grant panel usually makes decisions on your application against the grant guidance and criteria. Allow plenty of time, plan your application, don't rush it and do your research.



#### Check the criteria

Do you meet the criteria? For local authority funding, settings will generally need to be registered with Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW). There may be other requirements linked to specific funding, such as being registered for the Childcare Offer if applying for Childcare Offer Capital Grants or being a registered charity. Make sure that how you want to spend the grant fits the grant criteria. **Think about need not greed.** It's important that the grant fits your needs and that you don't alter your plans or aims to fit the grant! Don't waste your time on proposals that aren't a good fit. **If you're not sure, pick up the phone and speak to the funder.** 



#### **Closing date**

Check the grant closing date. Funds are limited and many grant schemes operate on a first come first served basis, so **apply as soon as possible**. Check how they want the application form to be completed – for example typed and sent by email. If you are waiting on quotes or other supporting information, contact the funder and explain.



#### **Application form**

Read the application carefully and note any information you will need. **Be clear and concise** about why the funding is needed and state how it will benefit the children in your care. Are questions scored? Remember, the higher the score, the more information you need to provide! Don't waffle! Stick to your aims, objectives and outcomes. Remember to **sell your setting and your plans**. The grant panel may know nothing about you. Be prescriptive and passionate! Read the application before submission, ensuring you have completed all questions and attached all required information. **Follow each and every instruction**. If you are not sure, ask! If your setting is run by a committee, ask for support from others on the committee.

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#### **Legal and financial information**

You will usually need to include financial information about your childcare business so that funders can ensure public money is allocated and used properly. Make sure your annual accounts are signed and dated, bank statements are no more than 3 months' old, and the name of your organisation is the same on your bank account. You may also need to provide a financial forecast. **Your national childcare organisation can help you with this**. If you run multiple settings / services but have one set of accounts, it will be useful to provide separate management accounts or supplementary information to provide clarity about the financial situation of the setting/service seeking funding.



#### **Supporting information**

If applying for capital funding to improve a specific area within your setting, you can **provide photographs** of the existing area and links to items you want to purchase so that a grant panel can evaluate quality and value. If available, include feedback from children, parents, CIW or other professionals that support your plans. You will often be asked for up to 3 separate quotes for more extensive work. You may also be asked to provide your governing document (e.g. Constitution or Memorandum and Articles of Association) as well as specific policies and insurance policy details. **Never** send the original governing document as funders will always ask for copies.



#### Do final checks

Proofread, spell check and remember to sign and date. Stick to specified formats, remember the little things count. **A well-presented application** will help show your commitment and promote your setting to the grant panel.



#### **Further help**

**Local authorities** usually distribute funding made available to the sector by Welsh Government. Check websites, sign up for updates and contact them.

**Cwlwm partners** have further resources and can support settings.

**Business Wales** provides financial support and advice.

Business Support Childcare and Playwork Providers | Business Wales (gov.wales)













www.clybiauplantcymru.org

www.meithrin.cymru

www.ndna.org.uk www.pacey.org.uk

www.cwlwm.org.uk

earlyvears.wales







The information below is in relation to Local Authority grant funding availability until March 2022 and is not an exhaustive list of wider funding opportunities.

Name of Local Authority	Link to grant information
Anglesey	Anglesey Childcare and Play Team has contacted all providers. Any queries and forms to be returned to:  GofalPlantaChwaraeMon@ynysmon.gov.uk  Round 1: Opens 11/10/2021, closes 30/11/2021  Round 2: (If there are funds left) Opens 1/12/2021, closes 31/01/2022
Blaenau Gwent	Childcare Provider Grant form available via <u>Blaenau Gwent CBC: Early Years Childcare &amp; Play Team</u>
Bridgend	Bridgend Childcare Team has contacted all providers.  Queries to: <a href="mailto:childcareteam@bridgend.gov.uk">childcareteam@bridgend.gov.uk</a>
Caerphilly	Grant forms to be circulated via the Special Childcare Bulletin. For further information, contact FIS: 01443 86 32 32/ FIS@Caerphilly.gov.uk after the Bulletin is circulated.
Cardiff	Current and imminent provider grant application forms will be available to download: <a href="https://www.cardifffamilies.co.uk/cardiff-childcare/business-support/">https://www.cardifffamilies.co.uk/cardiff-childcare/business-support/</a>
Carmarthenshire	Family Information Service Team: <a href="mailto:childreninfo@carmarthenshire.gov.uk">childreninfo@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</a> Application and all supporting documentation to be submitted by email to: <a href="mailto:childreninfo@carmarthenshire.gov.uk">childreninfo@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</a> Closes: 21/11/2021
Ceredigion	Providers to contact Childcare Unit via <u>gofalplant@ceredigion.gov.uk</u> for information.
Conwy	Providers to contact <a href="mailto:childcareprovidergrants@conwy.gov.uk">childcareprovidergrants@conwy.gov.uk</a> for information.  Closes: 25/11/2021
Denbighshire	Providers to contact <u>fis@denbighshire.gov.uk</u> for information.
Flintshire	The following link has been shared with all childcare providers: <a href="https://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Schools/Childcare-Development-Grants.aspx">https://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Schools/Childcare-Development-Grants.aspx</a>
Gwynedd	Gwynedd Childcare Team has contacted providers with details of the grant.  Contact FIS: <a href="mailto:GGTGwyneddFIS@gwynedd.llyw.cymru">GGTGwyneddFIS@gwynedd.llyw.cymru</a>

### Local Authority Childcare Grants 2021–2022: Availability and How to Apply



Name of Local Authority	Link to grant information
Merthyr Tydfil	Providers to contact Cymryd Rhan who are managing grants for Merthyr Tydfil: <u>Jenna.Hughes@cymryd-rhan.org</u>
Monmouthshire	Forms available from: <a href="mailto:childcare@monmouthshire.gov.uk">childcare@monmouthshire.gov.uk</a> Three application rounds with closing dates as follows:  Friday 05/11/2021  Friday 14/01/2022  Friday 04/03/2022
Newport	Childcare Offer Capital Grant for Covid-19 Recovery Support; Covid Recovery Revenue Grant for unfunded loss of income; Covid Equipment Grant for increased costs associated with Covid-19.  For application forms contact: <a href="mailto:family.informationservice@newport.gov.uk">family.informationservice@newport.gov.uk</a> or call 07790 912536  Closes:11/11/2021
Neath Port Talbot	Grants for childcare settings experiencing financial difficulties which, without financial assistance, may affect the provisions' ability to operate. Funding could assist towards the cost of wages, rent, safety equipment and sustaining good quality provision.  As a rule, sustainability grants will be no more than £2000.  Eligibility and Application Form: <a href="https://www.npt.gov.uk/media/15975/sustainability-grant-21-22.docx-?v=20210727125613">https://www.npt.gov.uk/media/15975/sustainability-grant-21-22.docx-?v=20210727125613</a> Completed applications and relevant documents to be returned to: <a href="mailto:eycu@npt.gov.uk">eycu@npt.gov.uk</a>
Pembrokeshire	For information contact: eycs@pembrokeshire.gov.uk



## Local Authority Childcare Grants 2021–2022: Availability and How to Apply



Name of Local Authority	Link to grant information
Powys	<b>CWTCH/Sustainability:</b> ongoing applications up until the end of <b>February 2022</b> for increased costs, self-isolation (within certain dates due to Welsh Government guidance changes) and any rental increases.
	Winter of Well-being: Closes 26/11/2021. Organisations can apply for up to $\mathfrak{L}10,000$ to offer activities between now and the end of March 2022.
	Capital Play Grant: closes Closes 08/12/2021. Organisations can apply for up to £15,000 for play resources and capital equipment. Further details imminent.
	Child Development Fund (CDF): Closing date (TBC). Organisations can apply for up to $\pounds 49,000$ to support organisations to support children's outcomes through Covid recovery. Further details imminent.
	Childcare Offer Small Grant Scheme: Closes 8/11/2021 for providers who deliver the Offer. Applications for up to £10,000 for items/building works to support the safe delivery of the Offer through Covid.
	For further information contact: <a href="mailto:childcareoffer@powys.gov.uk">childcareoffer@powys.gov.uk</a>
Rhondda Cynon Taf	Full information about grants available at:  News   Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs
Swansea	For sustainability support on the continuing impact of Covid-19 on businesses contact: <a href="mailto:ChildCareandPlayGrants@swansea.gov.uk">ChildCareandPlayGrants@swansea.gov.uk</a> . More details to be released shortly.
Torfaen	Torfaen Childcare Team will be emailing grant forms to all providers imminently. Contact the Local Authority for further information.
Vale of Glamorgan	Details at: Funding and Grants for Childcare Providers Vale of Glamorgan
Wrexham	Information to be shared via the Wrexham e-bulletin:  Wrexham free email update service

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www.cwlwm.org.uk

