

GRANTS CRITERIA

Introduction

Through the development of a Worcester Play Plan Worcester City Council knows that play is important for children and young people of all ages. Play helps people make friends, stay healthy and connected to each other. Play means different things to different people. The Play Plan sets out a vision for play across Worcester, to meet the needs of all our children and young people. Not forgetting their parents and carers. To support play Worcester City Council has set aside a community grants fund. These criteria outline the priorities and approach for funding the play scheme.

1. Aim

- 1.1 These criteria aim to ensure the best use of limited funding to help support the delivery of quality projects through a fair and transparent process.

2. Scope

- 2.1 Funding is available to community groups, charities and voluntary sector organisations working across the city of Worcester.
- 2.2 A maximum of £1000 will be awarded to each successful application (you may apply for a smaller grant).
- 2.3 The scheme aims to support play provision during October half term 28/10/2024 - 01/11/2024 or Christmas term 23/12/2024 - 03/01/2025. Each application must:
 - a) Be based in Worcester.
 - b) Provide a minimum of 3 play sessions during the school holidays.
 - c) Be free to the participants; and
 - d) Be open to all and inclusive
- 2.4 It is desirable, but not essential, that the scheme provides:
 - a) food provision in line with the Holiday Activity Fund scheme where a free, healthy breakfast or lunch is provided to each attendee.
 - b) Inclusive / encourage/ support but not exclusively play provision for teenage girls

3. Eligibility

- 3.1 The application must be received from a community, voluntary or charitable organisation. Community Grants are not available to individuals, so a group must be formed in order to apply for funding. All applications must have relevant policies and procedures in place. All organization's applying must be able to deliver the play scheme themselves.
- 3.2 The project must benefit people who live within the city of Worcester. The project must be a separate activity with measurable outcomes as opposed to usual business operations and costs such as salaries, rent and utilities.

- 3.3 Where applicants have already received funding (from any source) for the provision of their activity they may not apply for funding under this scheme for the same event.
- 3.4 More than one application can be completed. Each application should be for a different activity and will be considered on its merits, not as a linked application.

4. Criteria

- 4.1 Each application will be reviewed and scored in accordance with the criteria set out in this document. The scoring will be conducted by Worcester City Council. Applicants will receive feedback on the application, including the scoring, on request. Assessment of applications by other applicants will not be made available for comparison. The decision of the Council's committee is final and there is no right of appeal.
- 4.2 The scheme is designed to support new initiatives. Applications should be made for new activity funding; existing and ongoing activities will be considered but priority will be given to new activities.
- 4.3 Each funding theme will be scored individually from 0-5 (low-high) with the overall scores determining whether an application should be funded. The successful applications will be reported to the Council's Policy & Resources Committee for review.

5. Monitoring, Assessment & Review

- 5.1 Successful applicants will be required to provide:
 - Case studies
 - Photos if possible (consent must be received from each child's parent / guardian)
 - End of project report
 - Quotes from children and parents / guardians about the offer and their experience
- 5.2 These criteria will be reviewed annually, and revisions reported to the Council's Policy & Resources Committee.