



*creative
play*

Funding Pack



About Funding

“How much will it cost?” & “Where can we source the funds?”

When embarking on a playground development project the first obstacle is often funding.

Funding can be pretty overwhelming! Here are our top tips and things to consider to help you secure your playground funding:

Planning is KEY: Start with clear aims: what do you want to achieve, and who will benefit? Give yourself plenty of time—grant applications aren't approved overnight.

Get everyone involved: Build a fundraising team and include the children too. Their enthusiasm can be infectious, and getting them engaged adds momentum.

Write a to-do list and assign responsibilities: Clear roles keep the project on track and make progress easier to manage. School and community events are a fun way to raise money—and every bit counts.

Make your project stand out!: Highlight what makes it different during the grant application process.

Demonstrate need: Describe the current problem and explain how your proposal will solve it. Will it benefit the wider community? Back it up with evidence, and don't be afraid to show genuine passion.

Set a timeline for when you'd like the playground completed: This helps funders understand when the money is needed.

Work out your budget: What's the total cost? How much have you raised? How much are you applying for? Make a list of items and prices - or ask your play provider for a no-obligation quote.

Be selective with funders: Check eligibility criteria before applying to make sure your project fits their remit.

Do your research: Look into local opportunities, current trends, and what each funder expects from applicants.

Plan for the future: Let funders know how the playground will be maintained long-term once funding ends.

And finally - stay positive: A confident, enthusiastic tone can make all the difference.

To help you hit the ground running with your application, we've pulled together some of the key funding sources available:

The National Lottery Community Fund

National Lottery Funding can help you make a difference in your community. National Lottery Awards For All offers funding to support what matters most to communities.

How much?

£300 - £20,000

Who can apply?

Local authorities, registered charities, schools and community organisations.

 www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/under10k

Sport England

Sport England invests in sport and physical activity to make it a natural part of everyday life, with a vision to get more people moving.

How much?

£15,000

Who can apply?

Sports clubs, charities, community organisations, local authorities and schools.

 www.sportengland.org/funds-and-campaigns

Sport Scotland

Sport Facilities Fund (SFF) supports capital projects that create or improve places where people take part in sport and physical activity.

How much?

Up to £100,000

Who can apply?

Community organisations and schools.

 www.sportscotland.org.uk/funding/sport-facilities-fund

Sport Wales

Sport Wales aim for Wales to be a more active, healthier nation. A national organisation responsible for developing and promoting sport and physical activity in Wales.

How much?

£300 - £50,000

Who can apply?

Community groups & non-profit organisations.

 www.sport.wales/grants-and-funding/beactivewalesfund



FCC Community Fund

FCC Communities Foundation awards grants to community projects from funds donated by FCC Environment through the Landfill Communities Fund and Scottish Landfill Communities Fund.



How much?

£2,000 - £100,000



Who can apply?

Local authorities, registered charities and church council.



www.fcccommunitiesfoundation.org.uk



ASDA Foundation

The Asda Foundation supports small, grass roots organisations in several ways. Working with Asda's Community Champions in store, we are able to work with a range of organisations.



How much?

£5,000 - £20,000



Who can apply?

Local authorities, registered charities, schools and community organisations.



www.asdafoundation.org



Veolia Community Grant

Community Grant Scheme is available to constituted not-for-profit organisations and local authorities. Grants are available to create or improve buildings and outside spaces for the benefit of the community.



How much?

£10,200 - £75,000



Who can apply?

Local authorities, registered charities & non-profit organisations.



www.veoliatrust.org/funding



Enovert Community Trust

The Trust is committed to supporting community and environmental projects, such as improving and creating new children's play areas, restoring green spaces, and enhancing community sports and recreation facilities.



How much?

£50,000



Who can apply?

Local authorities, registered charities & non-profit organisations.



www.enovert.co.uk/enovert-community-trust/funding



Viridor Credits

Viridor Credits Environmental Company is an independent, not-for-profit organisation which provides funding for community, heritage and biodiversity projects around the UK through the Landfill Communities Fund and Scottish Landfill Communities Fund.



How much?

Up to £15,000



Who can apply?

Non-profit organisations.



www.viridor-credits.co.uk/apply-funding



HS2 The Community and Environment Fund

The Community and Environment Fund (CEF) has been created to benefit communities along the route that are demonstrably disrupted by the construction of Phase One of HS2 from London to West Midlands and Phase 2a from the West Midlands to Crewe.



How much?

£10,000 - £250,000



Who can apply?

Schools, local Authorities, community groups, registered charities and non-profit organisations.



www.hs2funds.org.uk/home/community-environment-fund



BIFFA Award

Biffaward is one of the most respected Landfill Communities Fund schemes, and has awarded more than £100 million to worthwhile projects since 1997.



How much?

£5,000 - £75,000



Who can apply?

Local Authorities and non-profit organisations.



www.biffa-award.org/recreation

Creative Play is proud to be an active member of the The Association of Play Industries (API).

These experts have compiled an up-to-date list of funding sources specifically for the purpose of developing school and community play areas:

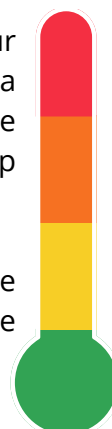


www.api-play.org/resources/funding



Alternatively, you may want to do your own fundraising! You could even create a fundraising thermometer, so every time you hit a particular target, just colour up to the mark.

Why not display this at the front of the school so everyone can see what you're doing - and they may even contribute.



The key points of consideration when completing a funding application:

- 1** Check that you meet all the **eligibility criteria** set by the funding provider **before applying**.
You can explore our [Funding Application Library](#) to research some of the main funding opportunities available.
 - 2** Once you've chosen a funding opportunity, be sure to **read all the guidelines carefully** so you're clear on the requirements **before you begin the application**.
 - 3** **Remember the Three P's:**
Project | Plan | Permission
See below for more information
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PROJECT

Be clear about the project you want to fund. The more detail you provide, the stronger your application will be.

You should also consider:

1. What funds do you already have in place?
2. How much are you wanting to raise?
3. Why do you want to undergo this project in the first place?

PLAN

Next, start gathering the information you'll need for your application. Our [Starting Your Application](#) guide is here to support you when it's time to complete the form

PERMISSION

Check whether planning permission is required **before applying for funding**.
Your local council can advise you on this and guide you through the process if needed.





Starting your Application

Start by providing key details about your organisation - some applications may require this information in depth. The more you can gather from the list below, the stronger your application will be

- **Name and Address of your Organisation**
- **Type of Organisation**
- **Website**
- **Banking Details**
- **Insurances**
- **Recent Accounts**

1. Name the project

2. Ideally, you should assign a main contact for the application

Who will take lead responsibility - ie. a headteacher, teacher, school business manager

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3. And preferably, also a senior contact

Someone to be 'second in command' in case the main contact is unavailable

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4. Clearly outline the project you're seeking funding for, including what it involves and the timescales you're aiming to achieve

ie. sensory garden, including play equipment & safety surfacing.
To be completed for next term (3 months)



5. Detail why your project is needed, providing evidence

ie. outdoor classroom/ learning facilities, more sports facilities to combat child obesity

6. Provide a list citing who will benefit from the project and how it will impact the children

ie. provide safe open outdoor play facilities for more built-up urban environments, inclusive play equipment that can be utilised for all pupils, including those with Special Education Needs

7. Provide a cost breakdown (inc products / activity details)

PRODUCT	PRICE	AMOUNT REQUESTED
EXAMPLE		
JCI02 Jungle Climber Midi	£8,495	

8. State where your cost estimates come from

Creative Play, name of suppliers, etc.

Before submitting:

Double-check the form is complete and all required documents are included



C

Cake Sales – These always go down well. Who doesn't love a treat? And the children love getting involved.

Coffee Morning – Why not host a Coffee & Tea morning for parents? Maybe sell some left over cakes from the Cake Sale (if there are any!)

Car Wash – Kids love washing cars, it's a fun activity people love supporting.

R

Raffle – Ask local businesses or parents for prize donations. You'll be surprised how quickly a tempting prize pool comes together.

Running – Get kids, staff, or even parents to do a sponsored run – bonus points for fancy dress!

E

Egg and Spoon Race - Charge a small fee to take part in the race for a chance to win a prize.

A

After School Film Night – Get the projector out and let the kids enjoy a film after school, with a small charge for the movie and extra for some popcorn and drink.

Art Day – Kids enjoy creating art, so why not make a day of producing pieces for parents to purchase?

T

Toy Sale – A toy sale is a great way to make money from old toys children now find boring.

Talent Show – Let kids show off their talent - while making money!

I

Indoor Games – An indoor games session with the children, charging a small fee to play.

Ice Cream and Smoothie Making – Want a fun activity to take part in over the summer? Make and sell cooling treats!

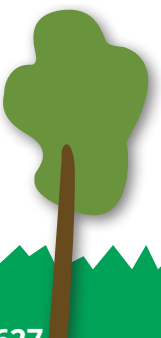
V

Volunteering – This is probably one of the most successful ways of funding! Volunteer to do something within the local community and ask for donations - if you tell them what it is for, the results can often be surprising.

Valentines Dinner and Dance – Great chance for the little ones (and some grown ups!) to team up with a partner for a boogie.

E

Eco Day – These are always popular with the children. By encouraging them to build a tent or a den, they are also partaking in some team building exercises.



P

Packing Bags – Ask your local supermarket if the children can spend the day packing customers' bags. Be sure to take along a box for donations.

Pyjama Day – Come to school in your pyjamas! For a small fee children and teachers alike can experience their most comfortable day of the year.

L

Lunch – But unlike any other! Invite a local chef to volunteer their skills to provide the children with a special lunchtime meal. Just be sure the charge covers the cost of the supplies!

Limbo Competition – Children pay an entry fee to participate in the competition which tests just how low you can go! A version for brave parents can usually generate some income too.

A

Assault Course – Charge children and adults a small fee to see if they can overcome a challenging series of obstacles.

Y

Your Own Clothes Day – Let the children express themselves by wearing whatever they like! For a small fee, of course.

Yoga – Recruit the talents of a local yoga instructor to pop in for an hour and conduct a session with the children.

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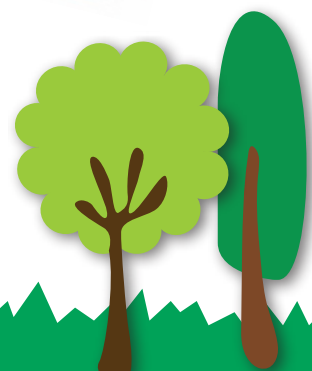
This guide is just a glimpse of the many ways you can kickstart your playground funding journey.

Whether you're applying for a grant or launching your own fundraising efforts, follow the steps in this pack and you'll be well on your way.

Why not add a bit of fun and motivation with a fundraising thermometer? Colour it in as you reach each milestone and display it somewhere visible - like the school entrance - to get everyone involved. Every penny makes a difference!

Creative Play are here to help support you through the process...

Feel free to get in touch by calling 01244 375 627
or emailing us at play@creativeplayuk.com



Why not go the extra mile and form a dedicated fundraising team? Assign roles based on each person's strengths, and bring in children, parents, the PTA, or even local community members.

With more hands on deck, you'll gain the momentum needed to make the project a real success.

NAME	ASSIGNED ROLE

