



#WeWill Social Action Fund Application Guidance Notes and Funding Criteria

Please read this document carefully before completing your application.

To apply for this funding, you must submit a completed application form to gabriellaribeiro@ormistontrust.co.uk and philippamorgan@ormistontrust.co.uk by December 16th, 2022. You will be notified of our decision by January 13th, 2023.

Please see two key additional documents which are essential to complete your application:

- The Ormiston Youth Social Action Fund application form
- Youth Social Action Implementation Guide (PDF)

To receive these documents, please send an email to the #WeWill Grants Team at the email addresses above with the subject line: #WeWill Youth Social Action Fund Request.

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1. Introduction

The Ormiston Trust is a grant-giving trust that primarily supports schools and organisations that enrich the educational experience of children, young people, and families across England.

The Ormiston Trust, with financial support from the National Lottery Community Fund and the #iwill campaign, is now offering open grants of up to £1000 to support schools who want to embed sustainable youth social action (YSA) at scale. The aim is for the social action projects to start in schools in mid-January 2023, with significant progress to be made in the programme by May/June 2023.

The #iwill Fund is made possible thanks to £54 million joint investment from The National Lottery Community Fund and the Department for Digital, Culture, Media, and Sport (DCMS) to support young people to access high quality social action opportunities.

2. What is Youth Social Action (YSA)?

“Youth social action refers to activities that young people do to make a positive difference to others. There are lots of ways in which young people can take practical action to make a positive difference. It can take place in a range of contexts and can mean formal or informal activities. These include volunteering, fundraising, campaigning, or supporting peers. Young people don’t have to try and save the world on their own. Taking small positive actions to improve your home, school, or local community can all make a big difference.” – **#iwill Campaign**

We believe social action can play an essential role: in young lives, the success of a school, local community or more widely. A range of benefits are possible, such as:

- An increase in young people's agency and engagement
- An increase in young people's skills and the development of character
- An increase in young people's enjoyment and wellbeing
- An increase in young person's civic engagement and active citizenship
- A positive impact on others in their community and or more widely depending on what action is undertaken.
- A positive impact on schools Ofsted rating, behaviour, attendance and profile within the local community

3. What is the funding for?

This Ormiston funding is not only to expand Youth Social Action into more settings in England, but it is also crucially to test and expand the extent of guidance on delivering effective high impact youth social action in schools. We want to work in partnership with you as you introduce or scale up YSA. Funding of up to £1000 in total is available for applicants who can implement a multi-stage YSA implementation process – Inspire, Explore, Plan, Act, Reflect, and Progress – in primary or secondary educational settings. We propose that each student engages on the process for at least 15 hours.

The supplementary primary and secondary guidance (i.e., the ‘Youth Social Action Implementation Guide’) is essential reading to understand what we propose in terms of key YSA steps to complete.

4. What are the key steps to access the funding?

This is a grant of up to £1000 per school to deliver the YSA key stages (i.e., Inspire, Assess, Plan, Act, and Reflect & Progress) as outlined in the supplemental implementation guide. Where an applicant wishes to apply for multiple school grants (such as from a MAT), we require that applications are submitted by each individual school.

To apply for this funding, you need to send us your application form by **December 16th**. You will be notified if you have been successful by January 13, 2023. It is possible that we will require to schedule a short discussion in early January if there are outstanding questions that we need to check with regards to the application.

Please note that if a singular school applies wanting to implement multiple YSA projects, we are limited in our capacity to fund multiple projects. If a school wishes to deliver more than three projects, we may not be able to fund them all.

Grant Programme Timeline

Application stage	Deadline and Time
Applications open	November 1 st , 2022
Online Information Session	Please email to register for this.
Application deadline	December 16 th , 2022
Decisions released	January 13 th , 2022
YSA projects begin	Mid-January 2023

For any questions or queries, please allow 3-4 business days for a response from the grants team.

Please review sections below for more guidance. Any enquiries, clarifications, and or questions as well as applications and documents should be emailed to gabriellaribeiro@ormistontrust.co.uk and philippamorgan@ormistontrust.co.uk.

5. What are the key funding eligibility criteria?

a) Eligibility criteria

Please ensure you have read the supplemental guidance 'Youth Social Action Implementation Guide' which further details and explains the following.

We would like applicants to:

- Commit to implementing the multi-stage YSA implementation process
- Commit to feeding back about the guides and resources and working with Ormiston to improve guides and resources which will be shared in May 2023 (subject to change) with the rest of the primary and secondary school education sector.
- Involve young people in the completion of the application
- Explain how young people, your school, and community will benefit from engaging in the YSA process
- Provide good estimates about the number of young people, the number of disadvantaged young people that you will engage, the number of students to be engaged with additional needs, and the target age range / year groups
- Demonstrate a commitment to sustainability

Exact amounts awarded will depend on your proposed plans set out in your application. Successful applicants will be able to demonstrate:

- Clarity of commitment and expression
- Significant student programme leadership
- Integration of YSA into the school day and the wider curriculum and, if possible, the core curriculum
- Plans for extensive skills training for young people
- Significant levels of student engagement in the YSA process
- Involvement of students in the application process
- Willingness to feedback and work in partnership with Ormiston on updating resources and guidance
- Interest in raising further funding from other sources
- Commitment by senior leaders and alignment with the school(s) vision and ethos

b) Projects not eligible to be funded

We will not fund projects or activities:

- For schools outside of England.
- For the personal needs of an individual.
- For private groups operating as a business for profit.
- Projects or activities which discriminate against participation on the grounds of race, religion, disability, gender, or sexual orientation.

This fund is also only open to primary or secondary educational settings. The fund is not open to the following institutions:

- Sixth form colleges
- International schools
- Scottish schools
- Independent schools
- Community groups or charities
- Those that have existing or potential funding from another #iwill social action funder over £500

We will not be able to accept any applications which does not meet the above criteria.

c) What options and/or flexibility do applicants have in delivering the YSA process steps?

Whilst we have several elements that we request grantees consider delivering, we are flexible in other ways, such as:

- We allow almost complete flexibility in what YSA issues students want to address.
- Single or multiple schools can apply.
- Joint working between schools is allowed potentially with some central MAT oversight and leadership involved.
- Schools can work with students in different year groups (although there are some challenges working at scale across multiple year groups where they have varying curricula requirements)
- Co-delivery of the YSA project with local charities or organisations

d) Funding Focus Areas

Social action projects can be focused on a very broad range of focus areas. Ideally, because these areas below fit with our existing toolkit resources, projects might fall into one or more of the following YSA focus areas:

1. Equality, diversity, and inclusion

The Ormiston Trust is committed to promoting equality, diversity, and inclusion in schools through our grants programme. This is to ensure that schools are an inclusive and supportive place to work, study, and visit, whilst also promoting long-term cultural change within schools. Equality, diversity, and inclusion-related projects can be related (but not limited to): anti-racism, gender equality, disability and neurodiversity awareness, and celebrating world cultures and diverse histories. This list is not exhaustive.

2. Environment and climate justice

The Ormiston Trust is committed to protecting the environment and tackling climate change and welcomes applications that focus on the environment and integrate environmental and sustainability considerations into their project development. Environment-related projects can be related to) themes such as zero-waste, biodiversity, conservation, reducing emissions, food sustainability, 'clean' transport, addressing eco-anxiety among students. This list is not exhaustive.

3. Wellbeing and Mental Health

The Ormiston Trust is committed to improving and strengthening young people's wellbeing and mental health. Projects in this category could include tackling or reducing anxiety, stress, and loneliness, encouraging movement, mindfulness, physical exercise, body acceptance, positive thinking, or reference any COVID-19 related issues. This list is not exhaustive.

4. Community-based issues

The Ormiston Trust is committed to supporting communities in exploring and addressing social, economic, and localised issues. Projects could be aimed for example at addressing food poverty, anti-bullying, anti-violence, tackling homelessness in the community, refugee and asylum seeker outreach, care work and much more. This list is not exhaustive.

Please note that we want students to have significant flexibility in what projects they create and so these focus areas are only *potential* areas for project delivery.

e) Programme Monitoring and Evaluation

At different stages of the programme schools will be required to complete and submit various evaluation resources for Ormiston Trust. This will be done through data collection, evaluation surveys, progress updates, and providing us with information on participating students. Reporting templates will be provided to successful applicants once decisions have been made by the Ormiston Trust team.

Please find a table of our monitoring and evaluation requirements for the duration of the programme:

Requirements
Early programme requests (Project action plan, student information, risk register, basic budget)
Student baseline survey
Baseline survey for staff
Progress report, including financial update and feedback on #WeWill resources
Final survey for students and staff
School case study, capturing student and staff perspective and resource key learning shared with Ormiston Trust

f) Publicity

The Ormiston Trust is keen to promote how projects have had an impact in schools and on students. We therefore will request the submission of a case study from each school describing your experience and the impact of the programme. In addition, there are standard descriptors of the grant that the #IWill campaign requires for any press released in relation to the grant. Details of these requirements will be set out in the offer letter for your grant if you are successful in your application.

6. What happens next?

Review Panel

Once we have received your application it will be assessed by a Review Panel consisting of staff grant officers and young advisors.

Grant officers may contact the nominated person on the application form if:

- a) There are technical questions raised by the panel about the application; or
- b) The application form is not complete; or
- c) There are supporting documents missing; or
- d) The application does not meet all the criteria and therefore not considered further.

You will be notified if your application has been successful by January 13, 2023.

7. Payment of Grant

Payment of the first tranche of the grant will be paid once a signed Grant Offer Acceptance Form is returned to the Ormiston Trust.

You must retain all original invoices, receipts, accounting records, and any other documentation relating to the expenditure of the grant funding, and you must send us certified copies of evidence of the expenditure incurred to deliver your project following the submission of your end of project evaluation form if requested.

Please note:

1. If your project is delivered under budget the Panel reserves the right to reduce its grant proportionally, or where funding has been paid in advance, the recipient organisation may be asked to refund any unused funding.
2. The amount of the Grant Funding shall not be increased in the event of any overspend by your organisation in its delivery of the Approved Programme.
3. The Grant Recipient shall promptly notify and repay to the Ormiston Trust any money incorrectly paid to it either as a result of an administrative error or otherwise. This includes (without limitation) situations where either an incorrect sum of money has been paid or where Grant Funding has been paid in error before the Grant Recipient has complied with all conditions attaching to the Grant Funding or the organisation ceases to exist.
4. The Grant Funding offer has been made on the basis that the costs presented within your application do not account for VAT which can be claimed back by schools
5. Where the project costs increase after the date that you have entered into this Agreement because an error has been made as to the amount of VAT payable and not recoverable by you, the Commissioning Panel shall be under no obligation to increase the Grant Funding to meet any VAT liability of your project.
6. The Commissioning Panel will not award or release funds to cover the costs of goods or services received prior to the issue of its letter offering grant support.