



**Personal grants and respite care for
parents and carers of QEII School
Students**

Grant application information for Parents and Carers

There are various personal grants available to parents and carers of our students, the following slides will give a brief overview of what is available and how to access them. Here are a few things to think about when applying for grants:

- You will need to check the terms and conditions of each fund to check that you are eligible before applying. You would also need to find out when application deadlines are.
- Grant amounts may depend on available funding. With some grant applications it can take several months before you get an answer back.
- It is always worth knowing where else you can apply to should an application be turned down or a funder can only partially fund you. Many donors will want to know you have exhausted all avenues of statutory funding .
- If you have questions about the applications contact the funder, they are usually very helpful!
- I am always here to help if I can!

Family Fund

Grants available for families on a low income.

Income and the impact of disability on your child will be assessed.

You will need to confirm your UK residency status.

You will need to provide a copy of your most recent benefit entitlement.

You can still apply if you don't receive any benefits.

The Charity will need information about your child's disability but, please note that your child does not need to have had a formal diagnosis.

If your child needs a high level of support in at least three of the areas below, you may be eligible to apply:

Personal care,
access to social activities,
education,
communication,
supervision,
medical treatment
physical environment (specialist equipment and adaptations etc)

<https://www.familyfund.org.uk/grants/am-i-eligible/>

Family Fund

Helping disabled children

Top tip when applying

Please provide as much information as you can on your application form, about the support your child needs, or receives. If we don't have enough information, it can take us longer to decide on a grant.

If your child is in local authority care

Please note that Family Fund is not able to provide grants for children or young people in local authority care. This does not include children who are classified as a 'Child in Need' under Section 17 of the Children's Act 1989 (England and Wales), and Section 23 of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995, and Section 17 of The Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995.

Children Today support children and young people with disabilities by providing adapted equipment to help them and their families live less isolated lives.

Children Today are able to accept applications for specially adapted equipment including, but not exclusively:

- adapted car seats;
- adapted buggies;
- adapted trikes;
- specialist seating systems;
- manual, powered and sports wheelchairs;
- wheelchair powerpacks; walking aids;
- portable hoists;
- tough furniture;
- posturepedic sleep equipment;
- weighted blankets and sensory equipment.

What they won't accept applications for:

- Communication equipment like iPads, apps and laptops
- Outdoor play equipment (unless it is specially adapted i.e. adapted swings)
- Home, garden or car adaptations
- Holidays and respite care

Applications are online, there is lots of info in their FAQ's section. Like other donors they strongly suggest you call them (01244 335622) to check your eligibility and also you will require a professional reference letter from your Occupational therapist, Physiotherapist, Hospital Consultant or Suitable member of SENCO team



Step 1: Call Children Today on **01244 335622** first so they can explain the application process and understand your circumstances so they can offer you the best possible advice and guidance.

Once confirmed your child meets the application criteria, it can take some time to arrange, it is recommend you request a professional reference letter from your child's:

- Occupational therapist
- Physiotherapist
- Hospital Consultant
- Suitable member of SENCO team

Step 2: Get 3 quotes for the equipment from their list of suppliers.

Step 3: Contact the charity for an application form.

Step 4: Fill in application form and attach all relevant documents requested, application forms can't be processed without this.

Step 5: Your application will be assessed at the next quarterly meeting, please contact the charity to find out when deadlines are.

Step 6: Application result! If successful you will receive a letter letting you know how much you have been rewarded. Sometimes the charity can only partly fund items due to numbers of applications etc, so they recommend you look at other funding avenues too.

Step 7: Once all funds are sourced and secured you can go ahead and order the equipment.

Step 8: Enjoy your new equipment! Recipients are asked to confirm receipt of goods and you can reapply after 12 months if you need more equipment.





The Cubitt and West Estate Agents Charity Fund at Sussex Community Foundation supports children and young people living in Sussex who have physical disabilities, long-term illnesses and/or life limiting conditions.

The fund will consider requests for funding via a professional, to be used for respite, equipment, short breaks and holidays for terminally ill children and other family support.

Applications must be made by a social worker or other professionals rather than family members. For example, professionals that can nominate an individual or family include (but are not limited to): charity employees, social workers, GPs and specialist doctors, occupational therapists or teachers.

You can contact Sussex Community Foundation by calling 01273 409 440 with any queries about the application process.

Alison Mullineux has successfully applied for this fund in the past for a QEII Family.

Newlife provides a wide range of essential specialist equipment such as beds, buggies, wheelchairs, seating systems, and much more.

What information do you need for an application?

An assessment for the equipment being requested from Newlife needs to take place before you apply.

At the assessment you need to request a quote from the supplier and state that you are applying for charity funding.

You will also need a professional linked to your child's care to provide a supporting letter which contains the following information:

- Child's Name
- Date of birth
- Confirmation of diagnosis/ condition (or suspected)
- Why the equipment is being requested and is it considered urgent.
- What difference will provision of the equipment make to the child.
- Full confirmation of specification and costings (this will be found on your quote please share with your professional.
- Has a funding request been made to statutory service/ other charities and what was the outcome.

Once you have all the information above you will be ready to complete an application form.

If you require any support with the pre application and application process, please contact the nurse helpline: **Freephone 0800 902 0095 Monday to Friday 8am – 8pm**





Able Kidz can provide grants to help with the purchase of specialist equipment, computers and software to the children or school and also assist in funding extra tuition needs of a child.

The application process is in writing to the address below and is as follows:

- A letter of application which outlines the child's circumstances and how Able Kidz might help,
- An outline of costs involved,
- **A letter in support of the application from a teacher or educational professional**, this should be on letterhead or from their professional email address. It should include an outline of the educational difficulty and how the item being applied for might help the child overcome this difficulty. Please be aware that while proof of medical diagnosis might be informative, it is insufficient without the letter of support.
- **The number of applications to us has risen sharply in the last 12 months. Please call us on 0300 365 4102 or email to info@ablekidz.org to discuss your requirements before making an application.**

Applications and enquiries should be sent to:

The Grants Officer
Able Kidz
124 City Road
London EC1V 2NX

Respite Care information

- As with grants it is worth remembering that funding is hard to come by at present with more people than ever seeking assistance from charities and agencies.
- Most providers ask that you contact them to ensure you meet eligibility.
- You will often be invited to visit the facility to make sure it is suitable for your child.
- Funding seems to be mixed depending on the location so best to have all paperwork in order prior to a conversation
- Not all facilities require your child to have a confirmed diagnosis, again this is why a conversation first is so important.

Guild Care – Ashdown Club

The Ashdown Club provides sensory based play, arts and crafts and day trips into the local community for children aged 5-18 with complex needs.

What do they offer?

- Six hour breaks for local families
- A range of structured activities, including sensory play, arts and crafts, books and learning toys,
- A sensory room instils feelings of calm and relaxation with soothing lights, bubbles and music
- School holiday sessions offer trips out, outings and in-house activities.
- A **Youth Club** for young people age 14-18, with learning disabilities and/or autism with a focus on increasing independence and preparing for adulthood.

When does it run?

- Saturdays and school holidays.

Get in touch

- To find out more about costs, availability and any other queries you may have, please call our Customer Service Team on [01903 528600](tel:01903528600)

Fees and funding

- You are eligible to access short breaks funded services if you receive (or would be eligible if applied) the middle or high rate care component of Disability Living Allowance (DLA). Self-Assessment forms are available from Ashdown on request if you do not already receive DLA.
- This service is supported by West Sussex County Council funding and other generous sponsors. This support enables these special days to be available at no extra cost to families other than the standard session fee.

Cherry Trees

- Cherry Trees accepts enquiries from parents, carers, social workers or other professionals.
- Parents do not need to have a social worker to access Cherry Trees. If they feel that they can meet a young person's needs and the family feel that Cherry Trees is the right for them, they hope to offer some respite hours.
- New parents/carers need to get in touch first and arrange an informal first visit. Following this visit they ask for an application form to be completed.
- Hopefully they can then arrange a visit for your child to come and see Cherry Trees and enjoy getting to know and all the fun things to do there.
- Please get in touch with Paula Rankin, Head of Care, on 01483 222506 or care@cherrytrees.org.uk
- Most children have packages agreed by their social workers. These packages are supported with voluntary income. However they do offer a reduced parental rate for those not supported by a social worker and a bursary fund. We aim to ensure that finance is not a barrier for children accessing our services.

White Lodge

Treetops is our wonderful children's home that provides short breaks for disabled children up to the age of 18

- Social worker/parent makes contact with Treetops Manager.
- Manager will assess if the service is appropriate and has capacity for provision.
- Manager to arrange home and school visits and speak to other professionals involved in the care of the child/young person.
- Manager to conduct an 'impact risk assessment' which will detail if the service is able to safely meet the needs of the child/young person.
- Manager/Key worker will make an appointment with parents/carers to compile a detailed All About Me document.
- Financial arrangements to be confirmed with your social worker.
- Settling in sessions to be arranged to introduce the child/young person to the service.
- Ongoing risk assessment to ensure the needs of the child/young person are continually being met.

Contact info:

Treetops Team

01932 568365

treetops@whitelodgecentre.co.uk

Chailey Heritage Foundation

CHF offer short breaks for children and young people aged 3 to 19 with complex disabilities and health needs located in residential bungalows in Chailey, East Sussex.

- Short breaks provide families and carers of children and young people with disabilities the chance to take some time off.
- Children are supported by a team of experienced staff who work hard to provide a fun and meaningful break.
- A homely and relaxed environment ensures children and young people staying there feel safe and comfortable. All bungalows are fully accessible, with in-built hoists, sensory areas, open plan living spaces and a garden for residents to enjoy.
- There is also a holiday club during the Easter and summer holidays .
- Access to short breaks at Chailey Heritage Foundation can vary depending on funding. Parents can approach CHF directly, or local authorities, case managers, or continuing health care providers can contact them. Parents are able to fund overnight stays and day provisions from personal budgets or privately.
- If you are interested in accessing short breaks, please get in touch to arrange an informal visit so you can be shown around.

Get in touch

Telephone: 01825 724 444

Email: office@chf.org.uk

Springboard

- They offer supportive youth club services across West Sussex in Horsham, Crawley and Worthing, and take referrals from aged 6 up to 30 years.
- They don't require a formal diagnosis to access services, however demand is high, so they encourage you to make the enquiry as early as you can in case a waiting list is in place.
- Sessions are divided up by location, age and need. They always encourage you to call up and talk through the needs and requirements with a staff member.

Age 6-18 Groups

- Suitable for children and young people with SEND aged 6-18 years living in Horsham, Crawley and Worthing.
- Sessions run from Springboard House (Horsham), Manor Green College (Crawley), Palatine/Pause Centre (Worthing), and in both the local community and trips further afield.
- In house and community-based sessions offering opportunities to socialise, learn life skills, gain independence and make friends.
- Run on Saturday mornings and afternoons during term time.
- Various full days during school holidays.
- Sessions are divided by age and support required.

Contact Details: 01403 218888 hello@springboardproject.com