

Reading Youth Fund

Application Guidance Notes

We are excited to announce the launch of the **Reading Youth Fund**, a dedicated £50,000 fund to provide critical support to organisations who focus on the Young People in our community. The fund is a transformative initiative aimed at enriching the lives of young people aged 12-18.

Since the start of 2022, we have collaborated with over 40 local community groups who offer unwavering support, including to Young People in Reading, but we have witnessed a large gap when it comes to this demographic. Budgets have been cut, youth clubs have disappeared, and more and more young people have nowhere to go after school, at weekends, or summer holidays, resulting in some getting enticed into crime or at least in spending more time on social media.

About these guidelines

We understand that fundraising takes time and effort, so we aim to be as clear as possible about what grants our Trustees are likely to support in respect of the Reading Youth Fund, how to apply for a grant from the Fund, and how long your application will take.

The Reading Youth Fund has been allocated £50,000. It seeks to assist organisations in Reading to help support opportunities for Young People to engage in sports, arts, music, drama, teamwork, and personal growth. The Foundation recognises the vital role that these activities play in shaping well-rounded individuals and aims to make them accessible to all, regardless of financial limitations.

The Trustees are flexible in their consideration of any grant application, however the key criteria is that your organisation will provide a direct benefit to individuals or a community within a 5-mile radius of Reading town centre.

What we fund

Whilst our Trustees will consider funding for day-to-day expenditure and capital projects under this fund, we are primarily seeking to support specific needs, projects, and/or activities.

What we will not fund

We are unable to support grants which do not provide a direct benefit to individuals or a community within a 5 mile radius of Reading town centre. In addition, we will not fund grant applications from:

- Community Interest Companies (CICs)
- Local authorities, housing associations, councils or government agencies
- Profitable enterprises

We will also not support the following activities:

- Anything which takes place overseas
- Campaigning, lobbying, and awareness raising
- Feasibility studies
- One-off or annual gala events or festivals, even if they are for fundraising purposes
- Sponsorship
- Start up costs and organisations without a track record

Reporting requirements

There are no requirements for a report to be issued as to how the funds have been spent, however we would encourage and love to receive any feedback you can provide as to how your award has been used, which will be shared with our Trustees.

Withdrawal of funding

We may, in our absolute discretion, at any time change the eligibility criteria or other terms and conditions of the application process.

Grant Terms & Conditions

Unless superseded within these guidelines, our standard Grant Terms & Conditions shall apply to any award made. A copy of these can be found [here](#).

Making your application

We want the process of applying for this grant to be as simple as possible, and unlike our standard grant application procedure, we have prepared a simplified form for organisations and local groups to complete.

The application form can be found [here](#).

Submitting your application

The easiest, preferred, and quickest way to submit your application is via our website. However, if completing our application form offline this can be emailed to mail@johnsykesfoundation.org, or if this is not possible, please post your application to:

John Sykes Foundation
Unit 6a
The Village
17-23 King Street
Reading
RG1 2HG

What happens next?

A member of our team will review the application and we aim to issue a decision within 14 days, unless further questions or queries arise.

If you are successful, we aim to remit funds to you within 14 days of the award date.