

Parents in the Lead Activities Fund

Application guidance notes

Parents in the Lead activities fund is designed to help parents run activities for their and other families expecting babies or with children under four, in the Better Start Bradford area (Bowling, Barkerend, Bradford Moor and Little Horton).

There is a quick, simple application form which parents (and those supporting them) complete to tell us about your ideas and what these will cost. We are particularly interested to hear from parents who are not currently involved in local activities for babies and children, to support them to organise activities. The majority of those benefiting from this fund must be families expecting babies or children under four and their parents.

We would love to hear from you with new and interesting ideas for activities for parents and under 4's

Parents include dads, mums and grandparents and also families expecting a baby.

Activities should:

- Contribute towards the social and emotional development of babies and toddlers (under four)
- Develop communication and language in babies and toddlers (under four)
- Improve nutrition and health in babies and toddlers (under four)

Examples of activities that could be run:

You don't have to do these but it could give you ideas

- Activities for dads and their young children
- Activities involving grandparents
- Activities involving groups of sisters and brothers
- Playgroups
- Growing and outdoor activities
- Baby sign language classes

What we cannot fund:

- Applications from people other than parents/ grandparents/prospective parents/carers of 0-4's
- Activities outside the Better Start Bradford area
- Applications from someone who will be paid to run activities
- Parties, sweets, cakes, trips, screen based activities (activities on tablets/laptops/computers)
- Programmes already delivered by Better Start Bradford

More detailed examples:

Example A: "Parkside dads want to run a craft and activity group for their young children. We have a few dads who want an opportunity to do something each week with their children and provides an alternative to computer games. We want to run this from our local community centre on Saturday mornings for 2 hours. We will have a range of activities for the children to do from painting, collage, Lego, jigsaws etc."

Example B: “Some members of our antenatal group who live near each other in Barkerend want to continue to meet now our babies have been born. This is for mutual support and to start baby sign language classes, once we have learned sign language ourselves. The activities fund would allow us to pay for someone to teach us baby sign language and to lead the first month of sessions.”

Funding available

You can apply once a year for a maximum of £2,000. However we expect the usual amount the activities fund will give is £500. Please only ask for what you need.

Deadlines to receive your applications:

There are four deadlines throughout the year by which applications should be received:

28 February

31 May

31 August

30 November

Support from others:

Our community engagement team and wider Better Start Bradford family are here to support you. If your group does not already have a bank account, let us know and we will help you look for another group/organisation to support you in managing your money and help with your project. You may already have another organisation you are working with who you could speak to. **Please note** that we cannot pay funding into a personal bank account.

Keeping babies and toddlers safe:

Either your group or the organisation supporting you make this application will need a Safeguarding Policy and checks will need to be done on the background of volunteers. If you are bewildered by this please let us or the organisation supporting this application know.

Decisions:

Decisions are made by a small group that includes parents. The group will aim to meet within two weeks of a deadline. Once a decision has been made we will let you know. If successful we will also send you an agreement to sign before sending payment. We aim to have all this done within a month. Your activities won't be able to start until this has been done.

When your activities end:

We will need some basic information from you about how your activities have worked, what lessons you may have learnt from this and how you have spent the funding. **Please note** all monies given to a project must be accounted for.

If activities have worked well Better Start Bradford staff will want to talk to you about how they can be continued and what support there may be for doing this.

Any questions?

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us on 01274 723146 or by email at bsb@bradfordtrident.co.uk.

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