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# Expression of Interest for capital funding projects – Early Years expansion

**Please use this form to express your interest in capital funding.**

Brighter Futures for Children has received £270,383.00 to support the delivery of the expansion of the 30-hours early years entitlement for working families and delivery of wraparound provision in primary schools.

* £216,306.40 has been allocated for the expansion of the 30-hours early years entitlement.
* £54,076.60 has been allocated for the wraparound delivery.

The Department for Education has estimated that Reading Borough Council will need to create 258 (30-hour) early years places, by September 2025.

To better support working families of SEND children, Brighter Futures for Children will commit to funding expanded SEND places at a higher rate.

The Early Years team will continue with their own local analysis of the childcare market to ensure accuracy of supply and demand in Reading.

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| APPLICATION TIMETABLE | Date\* |
| Expression of Interest documentation shared with EY providers | By 6pm, Tuesday 2 July 2024 |
| Expression of Interest to be returned via email to Lorna McGifford, Brighter Futures for Children [lorna.mcgifford@brighterfuturesforchildren.org](mailto:lorna.mcgifford@brighterfuturesforchildren.org) | By 6pm, Saturday 13 July 2024 |
| *If applicable, site visits carried out by members of the Early Years team* | *Between Monday 15 July and Friday 19 July 2024* |

*\*Dates may be subject to change.*

### Capital funding will be weighted to projects that:

* Deliver outstanding or good childcare as judged by Ofsted,
* Increase the number of places available to children,
* Adapt and improve facilities to expand use or make available to a wider range of needs,
* Areas in Reading with low provision and/or high demand,
* Evidence project will be delivered by September 2025
* Demonstrate a clear plan to ensure sustainability.

Capital funding must be used to meet the costs associated with ensuring sufficient early years entitlement places for children eligible for the extended 30-hours from the term after they reach 9-months of age and up until the child starts school.

### Examples of the types of work include, but are not limited to:

• projects that enable and/or increase access to childcare places for eligible children;

• projects that adapt, re-model or improve existing childcare places to make them suitable for a wider range of needs.

### This could be achieved through:

• Expansion of existing childcare provision, including expanding existing provision to a different or additional site;

• Remodelling of existing provision to create additional capacity;

• Creation of new childcare places, whether via the creation of new settings, or expanding provision in existing providers;

The early years allocation of grant funding is **not** intended for:

* Routine maintenance or refurbishment of premises;
* Capital works to maintain and improve the condition of the school childcare site, which should continue to be covered by Devolved Formula Capital funding (DFC), the Condition Improvement Fund (CIF) or School Condition Allocations (SCA);
* Childcare providers not providing DfE Early Years entitlements

The funding is provided for capital purposes only and **cannot** be used for revenue expenditure of any kind, such as training or staff costs, resources/assets that do not meet the definition of capital expenditure given above (such as toys, books, clothing), etc.

Please be as thorough as possible when completing this form. Once received, the form will be reviewed by the Early Years team and a site visit may be required.

Please note - the Early Years team can agree to a project in principle, however, as a provider, **you are responsible** for ensuring any proposed project works have considered, but are not limited to:

* Planning requirements such as change of use, permitted development.
* Fire regulations.
* Terms & conditions of your building
* Impact of project on local community/residents
* Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Statutory Guidance
* Ofsted registration
* Parental demand and local supply of childcare
* Health and safety requirements

You will be required to demonstrate in your capital funding bid application form that you have considered the above.

## Provider details:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of Provider: | Response |
| **Current Ofsted/Independent Schools Inspectorate judgement:** |  |
| **Name & position of person completing this form:** |  |
| **Contact details:** |  |
| **Number of children on roll:** |  |
| **Number of children with SEND Support:** |  |
| **Current number of places registered with Ofsted** |  |
| **Are you currently working at your registered capacity?**  **If NO, please provide details for the reason/s why.** | (max. 100 words) |
| **Does your setting have a waiting list?**  **If YES, please provide:**   1. **reason why a waiting list is in use, and what action are you taking?** 2. **total number of children on your waiting list** | (max. 100 words) |
| **Do you own your property or have a lease lasting at least 5 years from 1 April 2024** |  |
| **Have you signed a copy of the 2024-2025 Providers Agreement?** |  |

# Proposed works:

### Please provide a summary, along with pictures and/or drawings, of the proposed works.

Please include square footage, and the age range of children the space will cater for

(max. 200 words).

# Cost/benefit analysis:

### What do you see the proposed benefits of these works to be (max. 200 words):

### What do you see the potential risks/costs of not undertaking these works to be (max. 200 words):

### What alternatives to the proposed works have you considered and why have these options not been selected (max. 200 words):

### How many more 30-hour places will you be able to offer: (max. 200 words):

### Approximately, what is the total amount of capital funding your project will require: (Please note, capital bid applications will require exact costings & quotes to be submitted) (max. 200 words):

### Will there be funding from alternative sources, either directly or in kind, that will contribute to the total cost of the project: (this is for information purposes only and will not influence the outcome) (max. 200 words)

# When do you expect the proposed works to be completed by: (max. 200 words)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** |  | **Signature** |  |
| **Position** |  | Date |  |

**Please send your completed Expression of Interest form to Lorna McGifford.**

[lorna.mcgifford@brighterfuturesforchildren.org](mailto:lorna.mcgifford@brighterfuturesforchildren.org)

**Expression of Interests must be submitted by 6pm, Saturday 13 July 2024.**