



The Young Westminster Foundation Brighter Futures Fund 2026 Application Form

Eligibility checklist

To make the application process as straightforward as possible, we have introduced a short eligibility form that must be completed before the full application stage.

We hope this initial check will save applicants time and help ensure that those applying meet the criteria.

Please contact Hazel Pedlar (hazel@youngwestminster.com) if you have any questions or need help with this form.

* 1. Is your organisation a current member of the Young Westminster Foundation and has it been a member for at least three months?

☐ Yes

☐ No

* 2. Has your organisation been operating consistently in Westminster for at least six months?

Your organisation must have been operating consistently in Westminster to apply.

☐ Yes

☐ No

* 3. Will all funded activities benefit children and young people in Westminster and be delivered within Westminster?

Activities must be for the benefit of children and young people in Westminster and must be delivered in Westminster.

☐ Yes

☐ No

4. Is your project delivery going to take place in North East Westminster, including the Church Street ward?

Projects delivering in North East Westminster, including the Church Street, Abbey Road, Maida Vale, Regent's Park, Little Venice, Marylebone and Hyde Park wards, are not eligible for the Brighter Futures Fund this year.

This is because a separate new funding programme for North East Westminster, Building Safer Futures Fund, will open in October 2026 for 2027 delivery. Please apply to the Building Safer Futures Fund for projects delivering in North East Westminster.

☐ Yes

☐ No

* 5. If you are a current Brighter Futures grantee (delivery 2026) will your project be complete by December 2026?

If your project is not complete by the end of December 2026 then you are ineligible.

☐ Yes

☐ No

* 6. Does your organisation have an annual turnover of less than £2 million?

Only organisations with an annual turnover below £2 million are eligible to apply.

☐ Yes

☐ No

* 7. Is your organisation currently in receipt of a YWF Small Grant - Core Funding award?

You cannot apply if your organisation is in receipt of a current YWF Small Grant - Core Funding 26 award.

☐ Yes

☐ No



Thank you for your responses. You have met the criteria to apply for Brighter Futures Funding.

Please start your application below.

Please complete all sections of this form that are applicable and upload your supporting documents where indicated. Please submit by **12 noon on Monday 2nd November 2026.**

Before completing this application form, please read the [guidance](#) carefully, ensuring that you meet all criteria.

There is no word count for your answers. We encourage you to keep your answers concise. Most questions only need a short answer, although in some cases we do want more information. Where you do write more we suggest that you try to keep your answer to around 300 words or less.

Please note: this form does not let you save and come back to your draft responses. Therefore, you will need to complete and submit your form in one go. We suggest that you prepare your answers beforehand and upload them to the form when you are ready. You can click back and forth through the form pages to view and check the questions you need to answer or you can view the questions in the [form here](#).

If you have any issues with completing this form, please e-mail hazel@youngwestminster.com.

Guidance of Using AI Tools

You can use AI tools to support your funding application, not write it for you. While it can provide a useful starting point, the content it generates is not always as strong as it may seem.

AI tools can be particularly helpful if English is not your first language or if you are new to writing funding applications.

The strongest applications are authentic and tell the story of your community and how you want to support them. Top tip: If you use AI, think of it like a helpful proofreader rather than the person writing your application. Applications that are too generic may be at a disadvantage.

Funded organisations are responsible for checking the accuracy of information they share in their application.

Section 1: Contact Details and Grant Request

* 8. Name of Organisation

* 9. Main Contact - Name

* 10. Main Contact - Email

* 11. Charity/Company Status eg: CIO, CIC, CLG

* 12. Total Amount Requested from Brighter Futures Fund

* 13. Total Cost of Programme/Project/Activity



The Young Westminster Foundation Brighter Futures Fund 2026 Application Form

Section 2: About Your Project

* 14. Title of the Programme/Project/Activity

15. Which of these themes best fit your project activity? (Please tick one from the options in drop down list below)

- ☐ Education
- ☐ Employability/Personal Development
- ☐ Play
- ☐ Sports
- ☐ Youth Club
- ☐ Youth Voice
- ☐ Creative Arts
- ☐ Early years
- ☐ Wellbeing
- ☐ Other (please specify)

* 16. How many children/ young people are you planning to work with?

* 17. What is the age range of children/young people?

- ☐ 0-5
- ☐ 6-12
- ☐ 13-19
- ☐ 20-25

18. Does this project target a particular group? *(If your work is not targeted, please leave blank and move onto next question)*

- ☐ Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)
- ☐ Asylum seekers/Refugees
- ☐ Young carers
- ☐ Early years
- ☐ Parents/families
- ☐ Not In Education or Employment (NEET)
- ☐ Other (please specify)

* 19. Region in Westminster

- ☐ North West
- ☐ South

Reminder: Projects delivering in the North East can apply to the **Building Safer Futures Fund**.

* 20. Venue (Name and postcode of where the work will take place)

21. When will the work be delivered?

Estimated Start Date	
Estimated End Date	
Duration	
Likely hours of project per week	

* 22. Term Time only

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No



The Young Westminster Foundation Brighter Futures Fund 2026 Application Form

Section 3: Project Aims

* 23. What are you planning to do? Please describe the project. Include the number of any sessions, events, workshops or other activities you will deliver.

* 24. What is the need you are trying to address with this project?
Please refer to any key evidence that supports this.

* 25. Do you have an existing cohort of young people that you are already working with? If not, how do you plan to recruit Westminster children/young people to attend this project?



The Young Westminster Foundation Brighter Futures Fund 2026 Application Form

Section 4: Youth Voice

* 26. How do you know that your project is wanted by children/ young people?

* 27. How will children/ young people be involved in shaping this project? (e.g.: consulted, youth led, co-created etc)



The Young Westminster Foundation Brighter Futures Fund 2026 Application Form

Section 5: How will you know your project is making a difference?

* 28. **What difference do you want your project to make for young people?**

We expect to fund projects that benefit children and young people in at least one of these ways:

- have better health and wellbeing, such as feeling happier, healthier and more able to manage stress
- feel more confident and believe in themselves
- feel they belong and are connected to others
- learn new skills and gain experience that helps them move into training, volunteering or work
- feel safe and know how to keep themselves safe

We are not expecting projects to make differences in all these areas, we want to know about the outcomes that relate to this project. Tell us what changes you're hoping to see.

*** 29. How will you know your project is making a difference?**

Tell us how you'll find out whether the project is making a difference to the young people taking part.

- ask young people what they think, through conversations, surveys, focus groups or interviews
- notice changes in how they take part or behave
- collect stories, quotes or photos
- Session records, e.g. who attends and how often

30. If you have a theory of change for this project, please attach here.

Please attach you theory of change for this project if you have one.

Choose File

Choose File

No file chosen



The Young Westminster Foundation Brighter Futures Fund 2026 Application Form

Section 6: Partnership: Please only fill in this section of the application form if you are applying as a formal partnership. Please provide details of the role each organisation has in delivering the project. If you are not applying as a partnership then please skip the partnership section and move on to section 7.

*** 31. Will you be working in a formal partnership with another organisation to deliver the project?**

☐ Yes

☐ No - *please skip section below and move onto next page*

32. List of partner organisation's name(s) and address(es)

33. What do the partner organisations do and where?

34. Who will lead the partnership?

35. How will delivery be split between partners?

36. How will the money be allocated between partners?

37. Any other partnership information



The Young Westminster Foundation Brighter Futures Fund 2026 Application
Form

Section 7: Early Help

* 38. The council's [Early Help Strategy](#) is committed to multi-agency collaboration and for local organisations to work together effectively.

In light of this, please demonstrate if and how your organisation works with other local organisations or services, this could include Youth Hubs and Family Hubs.



The Young Westminster Foundation Brighter Futures Fund 2026 Application
Form

Section 8: Quality Assurance:

* 39. These questions help us understand the quality and safety of your service. Please let us know if you require support from YWF in meeting these.

1) Do you have a safeguarding policy that has been reviewed and signed in the last year?

2) Is your safeguarding policy available on your website or Our City?

3) Do you have a designated safeguarding lead, and deputy safeguarding lead, who have been appropriately trained?

4) Do staff including volunteers have a relevant and up to date DBS check? (enhanced DBS renewed every 3 years/ or signed up DBS update service)

5) Do you have appropriate risk assessments for your activities?

6) Do staff who operate on site have paediatric first aid training?

7) Do you have a critical incident procedure that all staff are aware of?

8) Do you keep a training log for your staff?

9) Do you have a Health & Safety policy?

10) Are you Ofsted registered?



The Young Westminster Foundation Brighter Futures Fund 2026 Application Form

Section 9: About your organisational finances: Please input the data from your last annual accounts.

* 40. Your organisational finances

Year Ending (dd/mm/yy)	
Income	
Expenditure	
Surplus / (Deficit)	
Restricted reserves (including designated reserves, if applicable)	
Unrestricted/ free reserves	



The Young Westminster Foundation Brighter Futures Fund 2026 Application Form

Section 10: Supporting Documentation - In support of your application please upload the following documents (where applicable)

41. Programme/Project budget

Please include breakdown of all income and expenditure associated with the work/project/programme. It must also make clear what you will be spending grant money on.

Choose File

Choose File

No file chosen

42. Organisational budget

Choose File

Choose File

No file chosen

43. Please provide a copy of your latest signed annual accounts. Please either upload here or provide a link to the accounts in the response box below (Q45).

If your file is too large to upload please email it to hazel@youngwestminster.com

Choose File

Choose File

No file chosen

44. Please provide a link your latest signed annual accounts, where applicable.

45. Please provide a copy of your Safeguarding Policy. Please either upload here or provide a link to the Safeguarding policy in the response box below (Q47).

If your file is too large to upload please email it to hazel@youngwestminster.com

Choose File

Choose File

No file chosen

46. Please provide a link to your Safeguarding Policy, where applicable.

47. If you are collaborating with another organisation (e.g. school or youth hub) to deliver this project, you must upload evidence of support from the organisation (letter or e-mail).

Collaboration could include:

- Venue access
- Working with cohorts of children and young people
- Sharing equipment and resources

If your file is too large to upload please email it to hazel@youngwestminster.com

Choose File

Choose File

No file chosen



The Young Westminster Foundation Brighter Futures Fund 2026 Application
Form

Section 11: Declaration

* 48. I confirm, to the best of my knowledge and belief, all the information in this application is true and correct. I understand that you may ask for additional information at any stage of the application process.

I confirm that I am responsible for my project and will comply with relevant legislation to ensure safe practices and policies are adhered to for both staff and participants of my project.

Name

Position

Date

* 49. Final Submission Declaration

I confirm that I have completed this form and understand that this is my final submission.

☐ Yes



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How to receive a copy of your form responses:

IMPORTANT: If you want a copy of your answers please make sure to click in the box below and provide your email address when prompted. You will be able to view your responses in your email. Please note these expire after 90 days. If you want to save a copy of your answers please open the email, click 'view answers', right click, then click 'print', then choose 'print to pdf'. If you have any problems at all YWF can provide a copy.