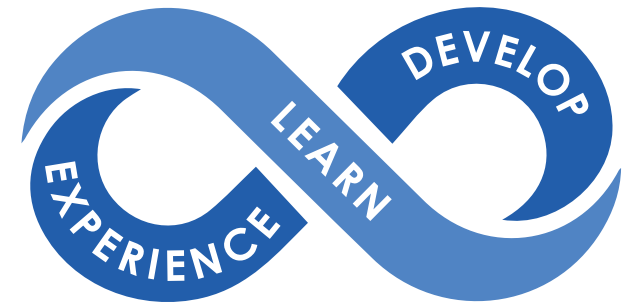


UK Youth Fund

Adventures Away from Home

FAQs

Adventures
Away from Home



UK YOUTH

UK YOUTH

About UK Youth

UK Youth is a national voice for the youth sector. We champion the critical role that youth work plays in the lives of young people. Our mission is to ensure all young people can access youth work and fulfil their potential. We will do this by impacting 1 million young people through innovative youth development and outdoor learning provision and convening 10,000 cross-sector professionals and young people to solve key issues and scale effective solutions by 2025.

We lead the UK Youth Movement – an extensive, national network across the breadth of the UK. In England alone, our Movement consists of 2,878 organisations, through which we have reach to an estimated 3.3 million young people, equivalent to almost a third of all 8–25-year-olds living in England.

UK Youth plays a unique role in addressing; the lack of investment in the youth sector, the lack of cross-sector understanding in how youth work makes a difference and the limited opportunities to embed effective solutions. These factors lead to mass inequality of access to youth services for young people.



Before reading the full application guidance and FAQ documents we recommend you thoroughly read the eligibility criteria.

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Key Information

1. Is my organisation eligible to apply for this funding?

This funding is only for providers delivering outdoor learning, which for the purposes of this fund UK Youth define as:

'Experiential learning within an outdoor environment to support a young person's personal, social, and educational development, improve health and wellbeing, engagement with physical literacy and environmental awareness. The outdoor space in which learning takes place is an integral part of the learning process.'

We are keen to reach as diverse an application base as possible and welcome applications from accessible outdoor centres capable of delivering the above criteria, including farms and arts or environmental focused organisation and who use the natural environment.

As part of the application, you will be asked to confirm the following eligibility requirements:

- **You** have authority to make this application for funding on behalf of your organisation.
- **Applicant organisation** is based in England
- **Applicant organisation** must be a charitable or not for profit organisation and can provide verification information if asked to do so.
- **Applicant organisation** must have been in operation for at least 2 years and be able to demonstrate previous delivery experience, benefiting young people.
- **Applicant organisation** can demonstrate safe working practices and provide a safe space for young people to engage in outdoor learning. This can be demonstrated through either:
 - 01 An external quality assurance certification for example CLOtC (Route 1 & 2), AALA or AHOEC Gold standard.



If you have any questions about your eligibility, you should email outdoorlearning@ukyouth.org and title your email **Eligibility** and we will aim to respond within 24 hours.

or for smaller organisations

- 02 Based on the [DfE Safeguarding Guidance](#) for providers of activities, after-school clubs, tuition and other out-of-school settings be able to provide:
- an effective safeguarding and child protection policy and a named designated safeguarding lead, including escalation and referral processes.
 - relevant and up to date documents that includes:
 - ▶ a health and safety policy,
 - ▶ fire policy including an evacuation plan,
 - ▶ staff and volunteer employment checks (DBS),
 - ▶ complaints policy,
 - ▶ have a staff behaviour policy.
- 🔗 **Applicant organisation** must hold public liability and indemnity insurance of no less than £5M. Successful applicants must submit valid insurance certificates as part of the verification process.
- 🔗 **Applicant organisation** must comply with the Equality Act 2010, the General Data Protection Regulation 2018 and Data Protection Act 2018, Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 and all other relevant statutory or regulatory requirements.

2. What can I do if my organisation is not eligible?

If your primary purpose is not the delivery of outdoor learning, or you are a youth organisation seeking opportunities for your young people, we recommend contacting your preferred local provider to see if they are applying for funding and register your interest in attending. Alternatively, you can contact us at outdoorlearning@ukyouth.org and title your email 'find me a venue' and with your consent we will pass on your contact details to any successful organisations delivering in your area.



Important Note:

Those who are successfully awarded funding must provide verified organisation bank account details, as we are only able to pay money into a valid UK bank account registered to the applicant organisation.

3. Why do I have to register before making an application?

You must be registered on our portal to access the application form. This ensures we have a record of all organisations who apply for our funding. It also allows us to keep our grant applications as simple as possible, since you will already have provided key information about your organisation during the registration process.

4. I am having trouble completing the form - can I phone UK Youth for help?

The quickest way to get support is to email outdoorlearning@ukyouth.org with your query.

5. Can you help me apply for funding / I have accessibility requirements and require a different format or additional support?

UK Youth are committed to making our grant funding accessible to all applicants and it is our intention to remove all barriers that may prevent an organisation from completing the questionnaire. Please contact us at outdoorlearning@ukyouth.org if you require additional support.

6. Do I have to complete the application form in one go?

We have tried to make the application form as simple as possible whilst allowing us to obtain the key information needed for us to administer the funding diligently. Before you start, we recommend making sure you have all your key organisation contact information available and to have considered how many funded places you would like to apply for.

You will need to answer each question to navigate through the application form. However, you can go back and edit your responses before you submit and the form.

7. When is the deadline for the application?

The closing date is **11am Tuesday 3rd December 2024**.

Following the initial assessment round, should available funds remain we may reopen the application window for a second round of assessments, but this is not guaranteed so we strongly encourage everyone to complete their application by 11am Tuesday 3rd December 2024.



Contact us at
outdoorlearning@ukyouth.org

Note - this inbox is monitored
9am - 5pm Monday to Friday and
we will aim to get back to you
within 24 hours.



Note - you cannot save a started application, so once started you have to complete the application and submit it.



8. How much funding will you be awarding overall?

We currently have an available funding pot of £1.1m.

9. How much funding can I apply for?

Our intention is to award a selection of both small and large grants to ensure we are providing a diverse range of opportunities for young people across England. There are no maximum or minimum caps on the amount each organisation can apply for, however preference will be given to organisations who can demonstrate they have the capacity and capability, given the timescale, to achieve their funding ask.

10. What if I apply for 25 places and only deliver 23 places?

For Adventures Away From Home, 50% of the grant payment will be made in advance and 50% will be paid on completion of your delivery.

Your contract agreement will be based on the final number of places offered to you. We accept that there will be changes to your delivery throughout the delivery period and therefore ask you follow the guidelines on the right.

A variance up to 10% will normally be accepted when evidenced, however any variance in final numbers above 10% will reduce your final payment amount.

UK Youth may be able to support finding replacement groups through our Youth Organisations Network, but we cannot guarantee this and all delivery including rescheduled dates must be completed within the agreed delivery window.

If in doubt, please contact us at outdoorlearning@ukyouth.org



For minor changes – i.e., changes to delivery dates within the delivery window or small changes in numbers (less than 10%) we ask that you email us at outdoorlearning@ukyouth.org with an update, especially if this delays your final delivery.

For major changes – i.e., significant changes to numbers or the cancellation of a whole group, we request that you contact us immediately to discuss switching the funding to alternative young people or where this is not possible reducing your final payment amount.



11. What does the funding cover and how can I tailor the programme to my organisation's delivery expertise or capacity?

We want to acknowledge the breadth of outdoor learning providers across England and therefore there are no mandatory activities listed within the criteria, the criteria instead focus on the outcomes gained from the outdoor learning experiences and the contact time organisations will have with the young people attending.

Essential Funding Criteria

- Represent value for money by maximising engagement time with experienced facilitators/instructors in an outdoor environment at an appropriate ratio to the activity taking place, and where appropriate aligned to NGB guidelines
- Follow the ethos of experiential learning, inclusivity, respect for the natural environment and promote courage, curiosity and celebrate participation.
- Each programme strives for excellence and has clear learning outcomes linked to our impact outcomes:
 - 01 Young people - Increased access for under-represented young people to inclusive outdoor learning opportunities.
 - 02 Young people - Improved young people's socio-emotional skills, fostering their personal growth.
 - 03 Youth practitioners - develop stronger relationships with young people and gain new skills through their group's outdoor learning experience.



Specific One Day visit Essential Funding Criteria:

- Include a minimum of 4 hours direct engagement time.
- Every young person is provided with a meal as part of their experience.

Specific 2 night Residential Essential Funding Criteria:

- Include a minimum of 12 hours direct engagement time.
- Every young person is provided with full board accommodation across the duration of their 2-night stay. This should at a minimum include 6 meals of which two must be hot meals.

These are minimum benchmark criteria and funding assessments will look to ensure that each organisation meets or exceeds these criteria.

12. Safeguarding & Health and Safety Requirements?

Organisations must preferably hold at least one externally verified and assessed quality assurance certification, which includes a review of your safeguarding and Health and Safety policies and procedures. This can be demonstrated through:

- 01 An external quality assurance certification for example CLOtC (route 1 and 2), AALA or AHOEC Gold standard

Organisations who do not have externally verified and assessed quality assurance certification, which includes a review of your safeguarding and Health and Safety policies and procedures can demonstrate these requirements by:

- 02 Following DfE Safeguarding Guidance for providers of activities, after-school clubs, tuition, and other out-of-school settings and are able to provide:
 - > an effective safeguarding and child protection policy including escalation and referral processes.
 - > named designated safeguarding lead,
 - > relevant and up to date documents that include:
 - ▶ health and safety policy
 - ▶ fire evacuation policy and procedure
 - ▶ staff and volunteer employment checks (DBS)
 - ▶ complaints policy
 - ▶ staff behaviour policy

As a part of our quality assurance programme for Adventures Away from Home we reserve the right to conduct in person quality assurance checks incorporating the above, during your delivery window, which will be agreed at least one week in advance at a mutually agreed date and time.

Successful organisations awarded a grant will be asked to provide evidence of the above, as part of our due diligence and compliance checks, and funding will not be paid until these have been completed.



All organisations should comply with their own procedures throughout the delivery of this programme however if there is a major H&S or Safeguarding incident directly linked to the delivery of Adventures Away from Home programme, **organisations must report this to us within 24 hours** to outdoorlearning@ukyouth.org Please title the email 'AAFH Incident'.



13. Do I have to be part of the UK Youth Network to apply?

No, but you will become a UK Youth Network Member, (no cost), if you apply for AAFH funding and we encourage all applicants to sign up to the Newsletter to take advantage of opportunities for young people and your organisation including gaining free access to events, campaigns, training, peer support, themed networks, and programmes. Using our connections across the UK Youth Network we may also be able to signpost youth organisations to your provision, if you would be interested in this please email outdoorlearning@ukyouth.org and title your email 'connections'.

14. When will I receive notification on the outcome of my application and when could I receive the funding?

All successful applicants who have submitted their application prior to **11am Tuesday 3rd December 2024** will receive confirmation of their funding grant by no later than 5pm Monday 9th December 2024.

Once you have been notified of a successful grant application, we will send you a contract grant agreement for you to sign and return so that your 50% payment can be made. Typically, we will make payment within two weeks of receiving your signed contract grant agreement.



15. When does the grant have to be spent by?

50% of your grant will be made on receipt of your signed grant agreement and all delivery must be complete by 31st March 2025. We will pay the remaining 50% of your grant on confirmation you have successfully completed your delivery plan and returned the required / agreed impact data.

16. What reporting requirements will there be?

The Adventures Away from Home programme will be evaluated by the UK Youth Evaluation and Impact Team and validated by DCMS evaluation team. The evaluation will seek to answer the following questions:

Please note – you will be notified on the outcome of your application via the email address provided in your application, so please make sure the email address used in your application is monitored during this period or notify us if you need to submit additional contact details.



- 01 How do short-term outdoor learning experiences support young people facing barriers to participation in developing socio-emotional skills, equipping them for educational resilience, positive social relationships, and overall health and well-being?
- 02 How do short-term outdoor learning experiences support youth practitioners to develop stronger relationships with young people, gain new skills and contribute to their professional development?

To answer the evaluation questions the evaluation team will monitor a number of outcomes including but not exclusive the following:

- 👉 Young people - Increased access for under-represented young people to inclusive outdoor learning opportunities.
- 👉 Young people - Improved young people's socio-emotional skills, fostering their personal growth.
- 👉 Youth practitioners - develop stronger relationships with young people and gain new skills through their group's outdoor learning experience.

We will therefore collect data to demonstrate these outcomes to help influence policymakers and commissioners to invest further in the Outdoor Learning Sector.

We want the reporting requirements to be proportional to the size of the grant and we will be providing further information to successful grantees.

17. Where has the money come from?

This is part of UK Youth's campaign to provide equitable access for all young people to outdoor learning, to develop their socio-emotional skills equipping them for educational resilience, positive social relationships, and overall health and well-being?

UK Youth has established 'Adventures Away From Home' in partnership with DCMS to offer young people facing significant barriers to participation. This includes but is not limited to those with: Disabilities, English as an additional language, living in communities with high poverty rates, Special Education Needs, young carers, young people in care, girls and

young women, LGBTQ+, minoritised ethnic backgrounds, experience of the secure estate, poor academic attainment, displaced young people.

The programme offers opportunities to engage in outdoor learning experiences that positively affect key areas of their development through connections with others and nature. Experiencing a challenging but safe space to develop resilience and self-confidence and creating a positive and joyful experience with physical activity.

18. Can I make more than one application?

Only one application per organisation can be made, however, each organisation can **apply for both residential and day visit funding.**

Organisations with more than one centre should apply centrally unless each centre is operated independently. If in doubt, please contact outdoorlearning@ukyouth.org so we can advise prior to submitting your application.

19. What age range is eligible for this funding?

The fund is targeted at young people aged 11-18, or up to 25 for those with Special educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

20. I've made a mistake on the form I completed. Can I amend it?

Please check your application thoroughly before submitting. However, we understand these things happen. Please email outdoorlearning@ukyouth.org with the words 'error correction' in the title and include the correct information in the body of your email.

Any requested amendments must be made by 5pm on 2nd December to ensure we can update your submission before this is reviewed by our shortlisting panel.





21. Will you fund organisations that have started operating from this year?

No. Your organisation must have been operational for at least two years.

22. Can we apply if our organisation does not have a website?

Yes, technically you can still apply to the fund if you do not have a website, but we would need to still be able to undertake all our compliance checks before grant funding is paid.

23. Will I get feedback if I am unsuccessful?

No. Unfortunately, we do not have the resources to provide individual feedback. But we will notify all applicants on the outcome of your application.

24. Who will make the funding decisions?

All eligible submissions will be assessed by a grant panel that will include young people and will follow a clear assessment framework.

25. The funding is targeted at young people facing significant barriers to outdoor learning participation, who is eligible?

Eligible young people include but not limited to those with: Disabilities, English as an additional language, living in communities with high poverty rates, Special Education Needs, young carers, young people in care or who are care experienced, girls and young women, LGBTQ+, minoritised ethnic backgrounds, experience of the secure estate, poor academic attainment and displaced young people.

You will be asked to outline the groups of young people that you plan to work with for this funding. Groups of young people whereby the whole group are not eligible are still able to access support, but the AAFH grant can only be applied to those individuals within the group who are eligible.

AAFH funding should only be used where no other funding has been applied to cover the cost of the outdoor learning experience.



Note - We are especially keen to target young people who have little or no previous experience of outdoor learning.



26. How will funding decisions be made?

Applications that meet the eligibility criteria and have submitted all requested information, will be assessed against the following:

- Accessibility, Capacity & Credibility of the organisation
- The content of the programme and its ability to deliver young people development of their socio-emotional skills
- Value for money

The fund overall will look to demonstrate the breadth of activity taking place in the sector so collectively the successful applications will demonstrate diversity amongst:

- Activities undertaken
- Young people reached facing significant barriers to outdoor learning participation
- A good level of geographical split across England.

27. Can I appeal the decision?

No, decisions cannot be appealed.

28. I applied for AAfH before and was unsuccessful, is it worth me trying again?

Previous rounds of AAfH funding have been heavily oversubscribed and in order to enable young people across England to access this funding the shortlisting panel have had to make some difficult choices. For this round of funding all received applications will be looked at on a case by case basis, regardless of previous applications.



Key Information

Timelines

The deadline for all applications is **11am Tuesday 3rd December 2024**.

We aim to advise applicants on the outcome of their application by no later than **5pm Monday 9th December 2024**.

All delivery must be complete by **31 March 2025**.

All impact and evaluation data must be returned by **22 April 2025**.

Finances

50% delivery payments will be made to successful applicants as quickly as possible upon notification and return of a signed contract agreement and verification of your bank information, this will include any approved discretionary funding.

Final payments will be made on completion of your delivery and our receipt of your impact and evaluation data or by 31 March, whichever is the sooner.

Support

All support asks are requested to go through outdoorlearning@ukyouth.org. Within working hours, we aim to respond to all emails within 24hr so please ensure you label your enquiry as clearly as possible to enable us to triage your ask quickly.

We recommend attending one of our planned webinars, which will take place on

Friday 15 November at 9.30am
Monday 18 November at 2pm

Friday 22 November at 1.30pm
Tuesday 26 November at 1pm

During these webinars we will run through the practicalities of completing the application form, answer general application questions and provide general guidance.

UK YOUTH

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