

Foyle School Library Scheme Guidelines

The Foyle School Library Scheme accepts applications from state funded schools in the United Kingdom. The scheme recognises that there is no statutory requirement for schools to have a library and that many school libraries are in a desperate situation through underfunding and underdevelopment. Encouraging children to read widely from an early age will provide a major boost to improving literacy levels, which is a key educational objective. **You can apply for between £1K and £10K.**

Priority is given to primary schools. Although we also accept applications from state secondary schools and sixth-form colleges, we would recommend speaking to the Grants Team before making an application. We do not consider applications to the Foyle School Library Scheme from nursery/early years only establishments. Please also refer to our Frequently Asked Questions on the website.

Priority will be given to funding library/reading books. Some funding towards e-readers can be considered if a justifiable need is presented. We will not fund textbooks or curriculum books. The Foundation will also consider contributions towards library software, necessary IT equipment and furniture etc. in order to create a suitable library space, although these should be a minority of the funds requested - the majority of funding should be requested for books/reading materials. We do not generally fund salaries or training costs. Structural building costs will not usually be considered.

Preference will be given to schools which can clearly demonstrate that their library can be maintained and renewed in the future. We will also take into account local deprivation levels, the Ofsted report and current literacy levels at the school when assessing applications. We are keen to support schools that are working in partnership with other local primary/secondary schools to improve reading standards.

Newly set up schools with little track record or detail of literacy needs are less of a priority and we advise waiting until you have this information before applying.

Applications will be strengthened if the PTA/Friends Group can support the project. Please explain if this is not possible. Please note that any grant awarded should be spent within six months of being awarded and copies of purchase receipts will be required. If a grant is awarded it can only be used for purchases after the award date - the Foundation does not award retrospective funding.

If an application is declined, the school is eligible to reapply 12 months after the previous request date.

If an application is approved, the school is ineligible to apply to the Foundation for three years after the approval date due to intense competition for limited funds. If the school has experienced significant change, on occasion we may consider a reapplication before three years, but this should be discussed with the Foundation Grants Team prior to submission.

Please note that we purposely do not have a word limit to allow applicants the space to give us the information necessary to explain the project and the need for funding, but please keep answers relevant, clear and somewhat succinct.

Further information regarding the scheme, attachments and the application form can be found on the [Frequently Asked Questions](#).

Other School Projects

For other school projects, please refer to the Guidelines for the Main Grants Scheme and contact the Grants Team if necessary to discuss further.

How to Apply

Applications need to be submitted online. Once an application is submitted, you will receive email confirmation of this. If this is not received please contact the Grants Team.

Information/Documents you will need:

- Email address
- Latest Ofsted report (or equivalent)
- Latest Ofsted interim monitoring letter (if applicable)
- Latest school budget (treated confidentially)
- Latest PTA/fundraising arm accounts (if they do not have official accounts, an income and expenditure table and current level of reserves will need to be provided. A bank statement alone will not be sufficient)
- Library Project budget
- Latest school population statistics (e.g. FSM, PP, EAL)
- Latest assessment results (especially in relation to reading and literacy)
- Permission of the Headteacher to submit the request on behalf of the school

Notes on Attachments

Please ensure all attachments are titled clearly, ideally in the following format:

'Your School Name – The Document Type – The Year/Time Period Document Relates to'.

The maximum size for all attachments combined is 25 Mb. Please note that files with certain extensions (such as "exe", "com", "vbs" or "bat") cannot be uploaded.

After browsing and selecting a file, make sure you click on **upload**.

Creating an Account and Starting a New Application

You will need to create an account using your email address as part of the application process. You will be able to save an application you are working on and return to it later via your account. A copy of the application questions can be emailed to yourself or others after you begin to complete the form.

1. Click on the following link to create or access your [account](#). From here you can access in progress applications and view previously submitted applications.
2. Click on the following link to create a new [Foyle School Library Scheme application form](#).

Further information regarding the scheme, attachments and the application form can be found on the [Frequently Asked Questions](#).

Personal Information

The Foyle Foundation is committed to protecting all personal information you provide to us. We will only use contact information you provide for administration, evaluation and research purposes to facilitate our grant making and to further our charitable activities. Personal contact information will not be made public in anyway. Please also see our [Privacy Notice](#).