

Grant Information Leaflet

Covid-19 Recovery Plan Fund Get Active – Re Activate

Introduction

Herefordshire Council is offering funding to support the Covid-19 recovery plan. The global Covid-19 pandemic and the resulting measures taken to reduce the spread of the virus have had an unprecedented impact on the national and local economy and on people's well-being and mental (as well as physical) health. The Herefordshire Community Wellbeing Survey 2021 found 28% of people reported high levels of anxiety, 32% experienced a drop in household income 33% doing less exercise and 30% sleeping less well. Local data also shows that 17.8% of the population in Herefordshire is classed as inactive. Wellbeing is the lowest in those living in the most deprived areas. We have also experienced significant increases in those claiming unemployment benefits (123% compared to March 2020).

Following the third national lockdown, schools across the county related a number of concerning issues: 85% reported young people's physical fitness was worse, 60% considered young people returned with excess weight and the same percentage reported that physical activity levels had declined.

The COVID 19 Recovery plan fund, Get Active – Re Activate Grant has been established to support secondary and special schools to address these statistics.

Details of Herefordshire's Covid-19 Recovery Plan can be found [here](#)
The grant scheme will be administered by Stride Active CIC on behalf of Herefordshire Council.

Aims

The aims of the grant scheme are to:

- Increase the number of young people in your school taking part in 60 active minutes each day
- Engage young people who have become disengaged with PE/physical activity since COVID-19, or whose inactivity has been exacerbated by COVID-19
- Provide sustainable change, either for individuals or your school

Outcomes

Outcomes to be achieved through the grants scheme are:

- Improved physical health for young people
- Sustained behaviour changes for young people
- Increased engagement in school (attendance, readiness to learn, confidence to participate, social connectivity)

What can the grant be used for?

You can apply for a grant to fund activities, interventions or training which will support long-term sustained engagement in physical activity for students within your school and ensure direct delivery of support/services.

These may include, but are not limited to:

- Interventions focusing on behaviour change for targeted cohorts / individuals to increase physical activity levels
- Staff training / CPD to extend / broaden provision in order to engage more young people in physical activity
- Increased capacity to support more young people to be active
- Whole school activities to raise the profile and importance of physical activity (eg. achieving a sustained culture change across staff and students)
- The activity must be additional activity, be free of charge to participants and inclusive.

What projects/activities are NOT eligible?

The grant will not fund projects that will only incur a short-term impact or that should otherwise come out of your school's core budget. The following are not eligible for funding:

- Capital expenditure
- Contributions to fixed costs / teacher salaries
- Equipment (unless it's related specifically to an intervention, for which a small allocated will be considered)
- Opportunities for young people already engaged in PE/physical activity (i.e. those who represent your school or who regularly attend extra-curricular clubs)
- Projects / activities that have not been informed by insight from young people
- Projects that have already started
- The fund cannot be used for statutory provision.
- Projects not based within Herefordshire schools

How much can I apply for?

The maximum amount of grant that can be applied for, by each school, is £6,000 during the life-time of the scheme. The scheme is open for applications from Monday 14th September 2021.

Match funding will not be required for this grant, but this would support a stronger application.

Who can apply?

Applications will be accepted from formally constituted special and secondary schools within Herefordshire. Academies and Local Authority schools will be eligible to apply. Independent schools are not eligible to receive this funding. Applications must have headteacher approval and support.

All projects should be discussed with Stride Active before a grant application is submitted. Applications must be informed by insight from young people.

How to apply

Applicants should register their interest first at <https://strideactive.org/reactivate-school-grant/>

Thereafter, an application form will be shared with you; this must be completed and submitted to Stride Active before the closing date.

For a discussion, please email hello@strideactive.org

Deadline for applications

You can submit your completed application form at any time and it will be assessed at the next available panel meeting.

We recommend that you **apply as early as possible** and do not wait until the deadline as funding will be allocated throughout the grant window.

The scheme closes on Tuesday 30th November.

What happens next?

Once received, Stride Active will acknowledge receipt of your grant application. The grant application will be assessed by a grant panel who will make recommendations

either for the application to be approved or rejected, or the panel may ask for further information before a decision can be made.

Grant applications are assessed on their individual merit by an independent panel against the grant funding eligibility criteria, the impact of the project and that it demonstrates value for money. All applications are subject to funding availability.

Based on your application and any further information you may have been asked to provide, we will advise you of the decision to either:

- Offer a grant; or
- Offer a grant with some specific conditions; or
- Reject the application detailing the reasons why the application was not accepted.

When Can I Start My Project?

If your application meets the eligibility criteria and you are offered a grant, you will receive an offer letter setting out how much grant has been approved and detailing any specific terms and conditions. If you are happy to accept the grant offer and associated conditions, you will need to return a signed copy within 14 days. The project must not start before a signed copy of the grant conditions is returned.

What are Grant Offer Terms & Conditions?

If you are offered a grant, you will be sent terms and conditions specific to your project.

Key points to consider are:

- You should not start your project until you have signed the acceptance of grant and returned to Stride Active.
- You should keep all paperwork relating to your project. I.e. all invoices, receipts and bank statements.
- Information relating to participant feedback and progress towards the outputs of your project should also be kept.
- The grant will only be paid on invoices or receipts that have been incurred and paid after the offer letter has been agreed by all parties.
- Other specific conditions of grant will be included within your offer letter.

How do I submit my claim for payment?

All funded work must be completed and claims submitted by the deadline date specified in your offer letter.

50% of the grant will be paid upfront and the remaining 50% can be claimed once you have completed the project and paid for it.

To do this, you will need to complete a final report and claim form and send it to Stride Active with proof of payment. The claim form and reporting template will be sent to you with your offer letter.

When do I need to submit my report?

You will need to complete a final report within six weeks of claiming your grant, summarising what your project has achieved. Your offer letter will set out the information that you need to collect; a reporting template will be sent to you alongside this.

Please help us to help future applicants, by telling us if you have any queries which aren't answered in this document.



If you would like help to understand this document, or would like it in another format or language, please contact Stride Active either by email hello@strideactive.org or telephone number 01432 376086.