

The Building Brighter Futures Programme aims to ignite dreams and open doors, showing young people that they do have the power to design their own future.

The programme supports UK charities, CICs and small charitable groups that work tirelessly to empower young people by funding employment, education or health and social care projects that help local young people to see and reach their full potential.

Projects will deliver projects which create positive outcomes in the lives of young people, delivered within a 5 or 10 mile radius of a [EMR](#) Yards in the following geographies:-

Up to 5 miles from the following EMR Yards:

South Coast & Kent

Ashford	TN23 1EL
Newhaven	BN9 0AB
Rochester	ME2 4DZ
Shoreham	BN43 6RN

North East

Blaydon	NE21 5RZ
Darlington	DL1 2PB
Hartlepool	TS25 1NS
Marske	TS11 6HB
Middlesborough	TS2 1LE
Sunderland	SR4 6TY
Tyne Dock	NE34 9PL

East Anglia

Boreham	CM3 3AW
East Tilbury	RM18 8QR
Tilbury Dock	RM18 7EH
Great Yarmouth	NR30 3LD

Greater Manchester

Blackburn	BB1 3EU
Eccles	M30 0SA
Hyde	SK14 2DX
Manchester	M40 2BP
Rochdale	OL16 3DD
Salford	M5 4DY

Or, Up to 10 miles from:

East Anglia

Lenwade	NR9 5SN
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Cheshire & Warrington

Warrington EMR Head Office*	WA5 7NS
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For a full list of EMR sites visit: uk.emrlocal.com/yards

*Please note that applications within the radius of the EMR Head Office are only eligible if they deliver work in Cheshire and/or Warrington.

What will it fund?

This programme will fund projects for young people between 11-19, or up to 25 for young people with additional needs. Funded work will focus on work which:

- Improves young people's aspirations, self-confidence, and ambitions for the future.
- Projects that improve relationships, helping young people to develop the right network around them
- Projects that support Health and Wellbeing, both physically and mentally.
- Projects that support Careers and Education – that open doors for young people and help them to build important new skills; achieve their full potential in education or move into a job or start work-related training.

The strongest projects will be able to show how their work:

- Supports young people experiencing a clear disadvantage in their lives
- Delivers activities with measurable impact based on one or more of the key objectives
- Uses best practice methods to contribute to long-term impact in young people's lives
- Is shaped by young people, addressing their feedback and their needs
- Provides sustainability of support beyond the length of the grant

What can organisations apply for?

The typical grant size will be between £8,000 and £10,000, and applicants can **apply for up to £20,000**; however, the panel may consider funding up to £40,000 for especially strong projects which evidence a clear need and intervention. If the panel decide to award a higher amount, they may contact successful grantees to ask how they would spend any additional uplift to their grant. We expect to award at least £50,000 in each region.

All projects must finish delivery by the end of **December 2025**.

Who can apply?

All applicants will be required to meet our general [eligibility criteria](#), as well as our [Grantmaking principles and minimum standards](#).

To apply you must:-

- Be a small to medium-sized charitable organisation – with an income of no more than £500,000. The programme will prioritise local organisations with a clear understanding of the local area.
- Demonstrate that the project is designed to support young people between the ages of 11 and 19, or up to 25 years of age for people with additional needs

- Have a strong understanding of the issues affecting young people and a proven history of delivering services and activities, making a positive difference to their lives.
- Have the expertise to collaborate effectively with partners, referral agencies and other stakeholders.
- Have robust outcome monitoring and reporting methods and be able to contribute to the Fund's Social Value questionnaires required for this grants programme.

How to Apply

You can apply using the link below. Please note that for this programme, CCF's normal geographical criteria do not apply to this programme; all grants must be within the specified radius of an EMR Site, which are listed below.

All applicants will need to submit the following, specifically relevant to the project for which you are applying:

- An application form completed using the 'Apply Now' button at the foot of this page.
- A photograph which sums up your project. This could be a picture of your project being delivered, or one of the young people you have worked with previously.
- A brief quote from a young person, parent/carer, or project worker, which brings your work to life. This should be no more than a sentence or two.
- A 60 second video, where you briefly summarise the work your organisation does, the project you want funding for, and the difference it will make in the lives of the children and young people you work with. This video can be filmed on a phone, webcam, or any portable device. The video should consist of a single shot of somebody talking to camera and does not need to contain any additional effects or production.

All applications must be made via [our website](https://cheshirecommunityfoundation.org.uk/grants/buildingbrighterfutures/) at <https://cheshirecommunityfoundation.org.uk/grants/buildingbrighterfutures/>

Timeline

This programme will open for applications on 18th November, with a deadline of **Sunday 12th January 2025**. We expect all applicants to be informed of our decision in early March 2025.

Projects will be expected to conclude delivery by the end of 2025, allowing for a maximum duration of 9 months.

Funded projects will be required to submit monitoring and evaluation reports, as well as an EMR survey, in **January 2026**.

Depending on demand, we may choose not to take every application through a full assessment. This decision will be made on how closely your application fits the programme aims. If we decide not to take your application through the full process, you may hear back from us sooner than the above date.

All applications must be made online via [Cheshire Community Foundation's website](https://cheshirecommunityfoundation.org.uk/grants/buildingbrighterfutures/).

If you have any questions, you can email us to arrange a chat via grants@cheshirecommunityfoundation.org.uk or call the grants team on 01606330607.

Accessibility

At Cheshire Community Foundation, we believe that everyone should be able to access our funding opportunities fairly. We recognise that some people may experience barriers when applying to us. If you need any additional support applying for any of our grant programmes due to a disability or poor health, please contact us at grants@cheshirecommunityfoundation.org.uk, or by calling 01606 330607. A member of our team will be happy to support you on your application journey, or to find alternative ways for you to get us the information we need to assess your application.