

We want to inform you of important changes within the Children's Services Planning Team that will affect how we deliver support going forward.

Due to recent staffing changes, two full-time posts are currently vacant and the team is now operating with significantly reduced capacity.

Despite our best efforts to maintain the level of support we've provided over the years, we must now refocus on our core responsibilities as outlined in our work plan. This decision has not been taken lightly. The additional support we've offered, ranging from attending events, providing training, assisting with Task Groups, and contributing to local planning has been a valued part of our Partnership. However, to safeguard the wellbeing of our remaining staff and ensure continuity in our core functions, we must reduce the extra support we've been providing.

To help manage this transition, we ask that all future requests for support including updates to the CYPSP website, attendance at meetings or events, and general queries be directed to our central email address: cypsp@hscni.net. This will allow us to prioritise and allocate work more effectively, and avoid placing undue pressure on individual team members.

We remain committed to supporting the work of the CYPSP and will continue to collaborate closely with you. However, we ask for your understanding as we may not be able to meet all requests, and some responses may take longer than usual.

We also recognise that this change may require partners to take on more responsibility in progressing actions within Outcomes Groups, Locality Planning and associated Task Groups.

While this is a challenging time, we are confident that by working together and adapting how we collaborate, we can continue to make meaningful progress. Thank you for your partnership, your resilience, and your unwavering dedication to our shared goals.

As always, we remain happy to discuss any requests or concerns as required.

Working in Partnership since 2011



If you have any information you would like to share across our Locality Planning Group members in Belfast please email:
LocalityPlanning@belfasttrust.hscni.net



Department of
Health

An Roinn Sláinte

Máinnystríe O Pousté

The First Minister and Deputy First Minister, through the OFMDFM Strategy, ‘Our Children and Young People - Our Pledge’, (2006), aim to improve the life chances for children and young people to ensure that every child, irrespective of race, gender, religious belief, age, sexual orientation, disability, background or circumstances gets the best start in life and the support they need to fulfil their potential.

[Healthy Child Healthy Future | Department of Health](#)



[North Belfast Lantern Festival at Alexandra Park event tickets from TicketSource](#)

PARENTING PUZZLE

HOW TO GET THE BEST OUT OF FAMILY LIFE

10 WEEKLY SESSIONS
STARTING

THURSDAY 16TH OCTOBER
MORNINGTON COMMUNITY PROJECT
117 ORMEAU RD, BT7 1SH

Covering Topics Such As

- Giving Praise
- Positive Discipline
- Family Rules
- Self-esteem
- Communication
- Problem solving

AND MORE...

TO FIND OUT MORE CONTACT ANNE:
07599803871
ANNEMCKAY@MORNINGTONCOMMUNITYPROJECT.COM

mornington community project

FAMILY LINKS

HSC Public Health Agency
Project supported by the PHA

UNITY IN DIVERSITY CELEBRATION



Highlights

- Cultural food presentation
- Music
- Drumming Cycle with Donna
- Tabla by Mr Santosh
- Irish dancing
- Face painting
- Henna arts

For more info contact:

☎ 07495727719

✉ belfastcityofsanctuary@gmail.com

Venue



Shaftesbury Community Centre (LORAG)
97, Balfour Avenue Belfast
BT7 2EW

Time:

12noon-6pm

Date:

Saturday 18th October 2025



Belfast
City Council



COMMUNITY
FUND



HALIFAX FOUNDATION
for Northern Ireland



Assist-NI

Bryson PATHWAYS



PLAY WITH OUR PLANET



As part of

Good Relations Week

We are welcoming local playgroups and families with children aged 0-4 to come and explore our loose parts play session. Come along and connect with the community!

Using recycled scrap-store materials, little ones can discover textures, build, and create in their own playful way. A fun introduction to caring for our planet through play.

Good to know

- ✓ Drop in between 10.30AM - 12.30PM
Friday 17th October

- ✓ Snack packs will be provided

Contact Melanie for more info



melanie.hirthe@brysonpathways.org
+44 (0) 7887 341 873



Bryson Play Resource
2 Duncairn Gardens

Bryson Pathways is managed and operated by Bryson Energy



safeTALK

suicide alertness for everyone



Join our FREE safeTALK training



Hollywood Arches Library, Belfast



Thurs 20th November
10am-1.30pm

[Click here to register](#)



PEACEPLUS
Northern Ireland - Ireland

Co-funded by the



European Union



UK Government



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland



Northern Ireland
Executive
www.northernireland.gov.uk



safeTALK

suicide alertness for everyone



Join our FREE safeTALK training



Central Library, Derry/L'derry



Thurs 20th November
10am-1.30pm

[Click here to register](#)



PEACEPLUS
Northern Ireland - Ireland

Co-funded by the



European Union



UK Government



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland



Northern Ireland
Executive
www.northernireland.gov.uk

<https://register.enthuse.com/ps/event/safeTALKEastBelfast>

<https://register.enthuse.com/ps/event/safeTALK20252>



A Practical Dietetic Guide

WEBINAR

Understanding ARFID and the risk for
vitamin and mineral deficiencies.

WEDNESDAY, 3 DECEMBER

6:00pm-7:15pm (GMT)

with Dr Rosan Meyer

Fee: £10 pp

"By the end of the webinar,
participants will have a
thorough understanding of
ARFID, its association with
hidden hunger, and actionable
strategies to support."



REGISTER NOW

ARFID Awareness UK is delighted to welcome Dr Rosan Meyer, one of the UK's leading experts in children's nutrition and feeding difficulties. Dr Meyer has many years of experience helping families whose children struggle with eating, including those living with Avoidant/Restrictive Food Intake Disorder (ARFID).

Date: Wednesday 3rd December

Time: 6:00pm-7:15pm (GMT)

Fee: £10 per person

Registration [Webinar Registration – Zoom](#)



Parenting is **tough**. Some days are cuddles and laughter. Other days? Tantrums and meltdowns. Feeling overwhelmed is normal. But how we respond matters.

Take 5 Seconds is a positive parenting campaign by NSPCC, in partnership with Children in Northern Ireland (CiNI).

We are delighted to welcome you to the campaign launch on:

Wednesday 22nd October 2025
9:30am – 12pm
Shankill Shared Women's Centre

[To register for the event, please click here to fill-out our form.](#)



Community Health
and Wellbeing

Starting Monday 3rd November
2- 4pm

until Monday 24th November

Autumn Art Workshops with Jane Turnbull

Venue:
The Duncairn
Duncairn Avenue, BT146BP

Please complete registration form link:
<https://forms.office.com/e/P8iwHY84YE>

For more information please contact: Claire on
02890745588/claire@reachoutni.org



Project supported by the PHA



MATHS EXPLORERS

Join us for a free lovely play event in
Templemore Baths on
the 30th October between 10am to 12 noon!

Explore the wonderful world of maths through play
with your little ones (ideal for 3-6 year-olds) with
great activities from Rabbit and Lark!

Scan this QR code or email
b.hunt@ulster.ac.uk
to register your interest!



We look forward to seeing you!



NXTGEN

OASIS
CARING IN ACTION



HALLOWS EVE GAMING INITIATIVE



16+

HEGI 16-25



**FREE 6 WEEK
PROGRAMME
FOR 16-25S!**

BUILD SOCIAL SKILLS!

BOOST YOUR CONFIDENCE!

**BECOME THE BEST IN OUR RETRO
GAMING COMPETITION!**

**SPECIAL
FEATURES**

INTERACTIVE SESSIONS WITH SPECIAL GUESTS
TRAVEL COSTS COVERED
OFF SITE TRIP
FREE FOOD

Hallows Eve Gaming Initiative (HEGI) is a 6 week, face-to-face, community, team and skill building programme based in East Belfast.

Find out more: Call/Text/Whatsapp: 07904374926;
Email: nxtgen@oasis-ni.org; Facebook: NxtGen
Youth Project at Oasis; Instagram: [nxtgenatoasis](https://www.instagram.com/nxtgenatoasis)

16+



**HEGI
16-25**



The Maternal Advocacy & Support Project are Coming to North Belfast

The Mas peer support group is coming to Grace Family Centre.

The group provides maternal mental health support for women who are pregnant or have children up to the age of 3.

To express your interest contact Sabrina on 028 90 74 35 36

Led by



Cost of living
support guide

Belfast



Support and advice services
to help with the cost of living

belfastcity.gov.uk/costofliving

 **Belfast**
City Council

[Cost of living support | Belfast City Council](https://belfastcity.gov.uk/costofliving)



Support Group Schedule October 2025

Hello,

Please find attached the updated support schedule for October. **Please note all groups are subject to change and facilitation so registration is recommended.**

Together with our volunteers we continue to provide our Support Group meetings in person and online.

To find out when your next Support Group meeting is scheduled please go to; **<https://www.autismni.org/support-groups>** or alternatively view the below images for schedule below.

Sign up is available via the link above and is necessary to receive all the details to join your meeting. **Please note all groups are subject to postponement, therefore Registrations is advised to receive up to date notices!!**

If you have any queries regarding our Support Group Network, upcoming meetings or would like to learn more about the work we do, please contact us via email; supportgroup@autismni.org or calling; 028 90 401729 (Opt 1).

[Support Group Meetings](#)



Parenting Week Guide 2025

Monday 20 - Friday 24 October



#ParentingWeek25
#ParentWell



[Parenting Week 2025 - CiNI](#)



#parentingweek25
#parentwell



ASK THE EXPERT

DROP IN PARENTING EVENT

DATE: THURS 23RD OCT
TIME: 10AM-12PM
VENUE: ALLSTATE NI, BELFAST BUILDING

SCAN FOR VENUE LOCATION  
PAY AND DISPLAY CAR PARKING NEARBY

FREE event with
Tea/coffee and tasty treats

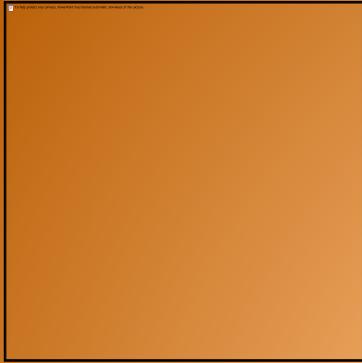
Parenting experts will be on hand to share their nuggets of wisdom and answer your questions.



Ask the Experts (4 stations)
Susan from Settled Petals – Sleep
Rebecca from Eden Consultancy – Neurodiversity
Elaine from Strive NI – Anxiety and mental health
The team from Parentline NI – The Parenting GP's



Eden Consultancy



Building Resilient Cities: Putting People First



Thursday 30 October 2025 – 12:00pm-1:30pm, online via Zoom

Join the WHO UK Healthy Cities and Towns Network to celebrate World Cities Day 2025 by exploring elements of city design and structure that create people-centred spaces.

- Creating space for children: Play Sufficiency in Scotland; *Etive Currie, Glasgow City Council*
- Commercial Determinants, Planning and Place: Experiences from Wakefield; *John Wilcox and Ben Mitchell, Wakefield City Council*
- Health Impact Assessment: A tool for success for urban health policy and practice; *Michael Chang, NHS Property Services Ltd*

A panel discussion with UK Healthy Cities Network members to explore themes.



PlayBoard NI's
40th Anniversary Conference

Spaces for Play, Spaces for Childhood

Crowne Plaza Hotel, Belfast
20th November 2025
9:30am - 4:30 pm

*Children have a
fundamental right
TO PLAY*



PLAY IS
EVERYONES BUSINESS



[“Spaces for Play, Spaces for Childhood”](#)
[Tickets, Thu, Nov 20, 2025 at 9:30 AM |](#)
[Eventbrite](#)

The Childline logo is displayed in white lowercase letters on a blue rectangular background.

ONLINE, ON THE PHONE, ANYTIME

[Black History Month | Childline](#)

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

October is Black History Month. Learn what it's about and how you can get involved.

On this page

- [What is Black History Month?](#)
- [How to get involved](#)
- [Questions about Black History Month](#)

WHAT IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH?

October is Black History Month, an opportunity to highlight and learn about the achievements and contributions of Black people across British society and the world. Each year, Black History month has a theme to help people celebrate.

Black History Month is an opportunity for everyone to celebrate and learn. The theme for 2025 is "Standing Firm in Power and Pride", it's a chance to honour the strength and progress Black communities have made. The theme hopes to highlight and recognise the achievements of Black pioneers and leaders across the world.



DEFINITIONS

Migrant worker

A migrant worker is someone who comes to the UK from abroad to work. They might have come to take up skilled, seasonal or other work and will generally intend on returning to their home country after a set period of time.

<https://www.gov.uk/hmrc-internal-manuals/claimant-compliance-manual/ccm20020>

Asylum seeker

An asylum seeker is a person who has left their country, often suddenly, because they are faced with persecution, war or violence and cannot get protection there.

<https://www.redcross.org.uk/stories/migration-and-displacement/refugees-and-asylum-seekers/six-things-you-need-to-know-about-refugees-and-asylum-seekers>

Refugee

When an asylum seeker has been officially granted asylum, they are then legally recognised as a refugee.

<https://www.redcross.org.uk/stories/migration-and-displacement/refugees-and-asylum-seekers/six-things-you-need-to-know-about-refugees-and-asylum-seekers>

Immigrant

An immigrant is a person who comes to live permanently in a foreign country.

<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/immigrant?q=immigrant>

Ethnic communities

A social group or category of the population that, in a larger society, is set apart and bound together by common ties of race, language, nationality or culture.

(Ethnic group | Definition, Characteristics & Examples | Britannica)



MIGRANT HOUSING MYTHS

Information to dispel myths and assumptions around social housing support and allocation for migrants, asylum seekers, refugees and diverse ethnic communities

Housing
Executive

KEY CONTACTS

There are key organisations who can provide information and advice on Housing related matters. This includes the following organisations:

Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE)

Telephone: 03448 920 900

Email: information@nihe.gov.uk

Address: The Housing Centre,
2 Adelaide Street, Belfast, BT2 8PB

Website: www.nihe.gov.uk/home

Advice NI

Freephone: 0800 915 4604

Email: advice@adviceni.net

Address: Advice NI,
Forest View, Purdys Lane, Newtownbreda,
Belfast, BT8 7AR

Website: www.adviceni.net

Housing Rights

Telephone: 028 9024 5640

Email: www.housingrights.org.uk/contact-us

Website: www.housingrights.org.uk/contact-us/get-advice

MYTHS & TRUTHS

Housing Executive

MYTH:
Asylum seekers get a free house and move to the front of the queue.

TRUTH:
Housing for asylum seekers is the responsibility of the Home Office.

Asylum seekers are not eligible for social housing. Housing Executive and Housing Association properties are not used to house asylum seekers.

If an asylum seeker is granted 'leave to remain' they may then become eligible for social housing and related support. They will be assessed, as all applicants are, through the Housing Selection Scheme.

Asylum seekers do not have access to the mainstream benefit system. They have a parallel system of welfare support providing a weekly allowance.

In March 2023, there were 3,030 people receiving asylum support in Northern Ireland. Asylum support (sometimes referred to as 'NASS support') is available to asylum seekers who are destitute on arrival. (LCNI-briefing-refugee-statistics-July-2023-1.pdf)

This support may include the provision of accommodation pending assessment of their application for asylum.

MYTH:
Illegal migrants, migrant workers, asylum seekers and refugees are entitled to social housing.

TRUTH:
Not all people from abroad are entitled to social housing.

People who arrive here from other countries are not automatically eligible for social housing and many migrants do not seek to be housed in social housing.

There are legislative rules which specify criteria that people from abroad must meet to be considered for social housing which defines who is and is not eligible to go on the Social Housing Waiting list. It is clear in terms of immigration status and habitual residence.

The law is different for people from within the European Economic Area (EEA), the UK and other countries around the world.

MYTH:
New migrant workers, asylum seekers and refugees are jumping the queue for Housing Executive homes.

TRUTH:
The Common Selection Scheme for social housing does not award points based on nationality, ethnicity or religion.

All applicants for social housing complete the same application form. Individual needs are assessed using the published points-based Housing Selection Scheme. The Housing Executive will award points based on individual needs and housing situation. Those eligible are then placed on the Common Waiting List to be allocated a property for their selected areas of choice according to the rules of the scheme.

MYTH:
Asylum Seekers and Refugees are the same.

TRUTH:
An 'asylum seeker' is someone who is seeking asylum. This means they are applying to be given the status of a refugee in another country on the basis that they face persecution in their country of origin.

If an asylum seeker's application for asylum is granted by immigration officials, they become a 'refugee' in that country and are given either temporary or permanent leave to remain.

Only then would they be eligible for social housing, subject to the usual process of application and assessment.

MYTH:
The Housing Executive decides where migrant workers can live.

TRUTH:
Where migrant workers are eligible to apply for social housing, they are assessed under the Housing Selection Scheme.

The Housing Selection Scheme has been created to be fair and open and to give applicants a choice in where they wish to live.

When the Housing Executive has awarded an applicant points it will place them on the waiting list for their selected areas of choice. All applicants can choose as many areas as they want.



GET STARTED WITH CONTENT CREATION

Everyone starts somewhere. Learn from industry experts, get invaluable experience and a taste of what it is like to work in Content Creation

ON THIS COURSE YOU'LL:

- Learn the art of scriptwriting for podcast and video production
- Find your audience and get an introduction to graphic design and visual marketing
- Get tips on creating compelling content
- Learn audio and video creation and editing
- Travel and childcare costs covered for every day on programme (subject to application)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Taster day: 04 Nov
 Course dates: 10 - 14 Nov
 Contact: outreachni@kingstrust.org.uk
 Location: WheelWorks Arts, Belfast
 Eligibility criteria: Ages 16-30, not in full time education or employment

Find out more via webchat at: kingstrust.org.uk
 or email us at: outreachni@kingstrust.org.uk



OCTOBER 2025

KING'S TRUST COURSES

All our courses are free to attend and don't impact benefits
 We also reimburse transport costs and cover childcare (subject to application)

DROP IN

Drop in to chat to our friendly staff and find out about our programmes. Get money back for your travel in by bus or train

King's Trust Belfast Centre

8 Weavers Court, Belfast, BT12 5GH
 23 Oct, 1pm - 3pm
 Free parking is available at our centre, or we are easily walkable from Grand Central Station

Portglenone Library

7 Oct, 2pm - 3:30pm

Ballymena Library

7 Oct, 10am - 12pm

and 6 Nov, 2pm - 4pm

Carnlough Library

9 Oct, 11:30am - 1pm

Kells and Conor Library

11 Nov, 11am - 12:30pm

ENTERPRISE

Age: 18-30

Dates: Available year round

Location: Online

Take part in expert-led workshops on finance, marketing, business planning, sales, and more. Get support to build a business plan and grants to launch your business

GET STARTED

Get Started with Photography

Age: 16-30 Taster: 7 October

Dates: 13 - 17 October

Location: Belfast

Learn about framing, light, focus, exposure, and editing from a professional photographer. Develop your skills with a professional camera, and learn about pathways into a career.

Get Started with Nails

Age: 16-30 Taster: 14 October

Dates: 20 - 24 October

Location: Belfast

Gain practical experience from a professional nail technician and learn what it's like to work in the industry. There is also an opportunity to gain a Guilds qualification in Gel Nails.

Get Started with Music Production

Age: 16-30 Taster: 14 October

Dates: 20 - 24 October

Location: Drake Music, Belfast

Gain practical experience and learn about songwriting, recording and arrangement from a professional music producer. Learn what it's like to work in the music industry and get tips for getting started.

GET HIRED

Get Hired in Hospitality with Nightcap Events

Age: 16-30

Dates: 28 - 29 October

Location: Belfast

Meet Employers, gain employment advice and access on the spot interviews.

Meet staff from Nightcap Events and learn more about the roles they have available. Receive CV, application and interview support. Take part in live vacancies with Nightcap Events.

GET INTO

Get Into Leisure

Age: 16-30 Taster: 13 October

Dates: 20 October - 6 November

Location: Belfast, Lisburn, Newtownabbey, Antrim

Get training in the Leisure Industry, Complete work experience at Better Gym. Gain your NPLQ Lifeguard Qualification AND interview for a range of job opportunities!

USEFUL INFO

All our courses:

- are free to attend
- don't impact benefits

We also:

- reimburse transport costs
- cover childcare costs (subject to application)

CONTACT US

outreachni@kingstrust.org.uk
 0800 842 842
kingstrust.org.uk



GET READY

Get Ready for Careers in Customer Services

Age: 16-30 Taster: 23 September

Dates: 2 - 10 October

Location: Belfast

Get a taste of the exciting careers available in this growing and evolving field and start building in-demand skills. You'll get relevant experience through practical activities and fun group challenges.

Get Ready for Careers in Horticulture

Age: 16-30 Taster: 7 October

Dates: 13 - 24 October

Location: Hillsborough Castle Gardens

Receive practical training from the professional castle gardeners at Hillsborough. Learn about pathways into green careers. Gain a NOCN Entry Level Qualification in Vocational Studies and Horticulture.

Get Ready for Careers in Health & Social Care

Age: 16-30 Taster: 28 October

Dates: 3 - 14 November

Location: Belfast

Gain relevant experience through practical activities designed to give you insight into a wide variety of careers in Health & Social Care. Work towards an OCN Level 2 Award in Employability and Health & Social Care and an RQF qualification in First Aid at Work.

Get Ready for a Career in Digital with W5

Age: 16-30 Taster: 28 October

Dates: 3 - 14 November

Location: W5 Life, Belfast

Develop Digital skills and learn about opportunities in STEM. Build communication, problem solving and critical-thinking skills. Work towards an OCD Level 2 Digital Skills for Life & Work qualification.

FAQs



Transforming the Lives of
Children in East Belfast



What should ideas focus on?

The two intended outcomes of the fund are part of the EastSide Early Learning Community Framework (see Background below). Projects can focus on one or both outcomes, paying attention to the one or more of the areas of focus beneath each:

Improve parental mental health and wellbeing

- › Families are connected with and support each other through improved social support, awareness of resources and access to services
- › Improved parental knowledge and ability to promote, protect positive mental health and well-being
- › Parents are supported to become more resilient and better equipped to adapt to life challenges
- › Families have access to appropriate support and services which allow them to be emotionally available parents; who are present, attuned and responsive to their children

Promote attuned and responsive parent/child interactions

- › Improved attuned parental responses to child's initiations
- › Increased parental understanding of the importance of parent/child interaction in relation to brain development and emotional security
- › Parents have access to environments that model/coach/shine a light on attuned parent and child interactions



Your idea does not have to include all parts of the framework. You can choose to focus on one or more.

FAQs



Transforming the Lives of
Children in East Belfast



GUIDANCE NOTES

What is the opportunity?

This opportunity is designed to support projects working to address or remove health inequities within communities and build on the previous work of the EastSide Early Learning Community.

Projects should look to:

- › Improve parental mental health and wellbeing
- AND / OR
- › Promote attuned and responsive parent/child interactions

Project ideas will focus on strengthening the foundations and the early years system for children 0-5 years old and/or their parents/caregivers living in East Belfast.

Each successful project will receive £5,000 to develop and deliver their idea. Projects are to be delivered between January and December 2026.

Important Dates



- › **ONLINE INFORMATION**- space to ask questions and hear more about this funding opportunity.
Date: October 17th
Time(s): 10am AND 3pm
You only need to attend one of them
- › **APPLICATIONS OPEN**- online Expression of Interest form (link to be shared)
Date: October 17th
- › **APPLICATION CLOSE**
Date: November 11th
Time: 4.00pm
- › **PROJECT VOTING EVENT**- projects to showcase their idea and children & members of the community to vote on their favourite ideas!
Date: November 27th (afternoon)
- › **PROJECTS TO START!**
Date: January 2026



Save the Children

FAQs



Transforming the Lives of Children in East Belfast

Background

Save the Children has been collaborating with partners in East Belfast to explore ways of finding sustainable solutions to improve early years outcomes for children. In 2020 we collaborated to create the [EastSide Early Learning Community \(ELC\)](#) through looking at the evidence of what we know works best for children's outcomes, understanding of the local context for families living in East Belfast and a mapping of the local early years system.

In the last five years, the EastSide ELC have worked together to develop a [framework](#) that includes the ingredients we believe will give us the best chance to create a system that will improve outcomes for children. We have developed a way of working to find long-term solutions, share resources, integrates a culture of learning and work with a shared vision.

This fund builds on the opportunities we have tested and learnt from over the years. It is designed to continue furthering the implementation of the framework as the guiding principle of all work in East Belfast that is focused on supporting children in their earliest years.

Who can apply?

The fund is open to:

- Groups, organisations and individuals that:
 - Are registered as a constituted group or sponsored by a constituted group
 - Have an up to date safeguarding policy approved by their board
- Projects that will benefit children 0-5 year olds and/or the parents/caregivers living in East Belfast
- Projects that can be delivered between January-December 2026

FAQs



Transforming the Lives of Children in East Belfast

What is the application process?

STEP 1- Projects will be invited to register for an ONLINE information sessions.

STEP 2- There will then be a simple Expression of Interest form for interested parties to complete.

STEP 3- Projects that meet the eligibility criteria will be invited to showcase their idea at an event with the community. This is part of our consensus grant making approach to this fund.

STEP 4- After the event, we will let successful projects know of the outcome. Funds will be released in January for projects to begin their planning and delivery.

Projects will then be invited to join quarterly reflective learning events and a final celebration event in 2027.

What will happen at the online information sessions?

At the online information sessions we will explain the criteria for the funding and the application process. We will also describe the consensus grant-making approach to project selection. And finally, we will talk about who can apply and what will be expected from successful projects.

We will also have a space for questions. There are two options to accommodate people's busy diaries. Both sessions will be the same. We strongly encourage those considering to apply to attend these

sessions. If you are unable to attend one of the sessions please reach out to us.

What is consensus grant-making?

Consensus grant-making gives members of the community a say on how funding is allocated. As a child-rights based organisation, we are keen on exploring ways of ensuring children and their families have the power to make decisions about their lives, services they access and their communities. This approach is to facilitate child and family participation in the selection process.

Everyone at the showcase event will have an opportunity to vote for their favourite ideas!

What will I need to organise for the showcasing event?

The showcasing event is an opportunity to show children, families and practitioners in East Belfast what you are hoping to do. You will have a stand and can include as many details and props as you want. Your audience includes children and young people, you will need to think how you design your info for them. Make it fun!

You are invited to prepare a short 2-3 minute video which we will showcase on the day. You can also play it at your stand.

When will I find out if I am successful?

After the event we will tally the votes and inform successful candidates. We will let you know on or just after 01/12/25.

FAQs



Transforming the Lives of
Children in East Belfast

When am I meant to start and complete my project by?

Funds will be released for use at the beginning of **January 2026**, subject to our due diligence process. Projects can start once funds are received and are expected to finish by **December 2026**.

What are the reflective learning events? Are they mandatory?

Our quarterly reflective learning events are opportunities to come together in a facilitated space to share our experience of planning and delivering our projects. We hope these will be opportunities to encourage projects to think about what is working, what might not be working and what are the changes we can implement to get the best out of our projects.

We also hope these events encourage collaboration and relationship building amongst our various projects. Attending these events are part of the funding opportunity.

If you are not going to be able to join, you should let us know early and we can arrange an alternative option, like a one-to-one catch-up call. Dates and venues to be confirmed in January 2026.

How will I receive funds and when?

Funds will be released in two stages:

- At the start of the project January 2026
- Halfway through the life of the project- date to be agreed according to project timeline

What do Save the Children expect of my organisation if we are successful?

We want you to develop and deliver a creative idea that intentionally looks at making an impact on the lives of children and their families, particularly around parental mental health and attuned child/parent interactions. We believe these are vital to help our children thrive.

If you are successful, we would expect you to join us in several exciting events throughout the year:

- Launch event
- Three quarterly reflective learning events
- Celebration event

Dates for these will be confirmed at the end of 2025.

What can I spend the money on?

You can spend the money on things like:

- running costs for your project
- project activity costs
- one off events
- staff costs
- training and facilitator costs
- transport
- volunteer expenses
- impact and evaluation



FAQs



Transforming the Lives of
Children in East Belfast

What will not be funded?

You cannot spend the money on the following items:

- costs you've already paid for
- alcohol
- contingency costs, loans, endowments or interest
- profit-making or fundraising activities
- VAT you can reclaim
- political or religious activities (we can fund religious organisations if the project benefits the wider community and does not include religious content)
- statutory services or activities
- overseas travel
- pre-school provision funded by government
- projects that take place outside of East Belfast
- activities that make a private profit
- giving cash directly to individuals

 The online information sessions will be the opportunity to ask any questions regarding what we will fund or not.

ONLINE INFORMATION SESSIONS

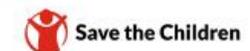
ONLINE INFORMATION
SESSION 1
Date: Friday, October 17th
Time: 10.00-11.00am

ONLINE INFORMATION
SESSION 2
Date: Friday, October 17th
Time: 3.00-4.00pm

[REGISTRATION HERE](#)



Fund delivered in partnership with:



For more information please email:
innovationfundni@savethechildren.org.uk

Training Opportunities



[Build your neuro-inclusive approach:](#)

[Upcoming Autism Training Courses](#)

Are you ready to understand more about autism, neurodiversity and how to build a neuro-inclusive approach?

Autism NI's CPD-certified and accredited training courses are designed to equip you with the knowledge, confidence, and practical tools to create truly inclusive environments - whether you work in education, healthcare, business, public services, or third sector.

In today's world, every professional will interact with autistic people. That's why inclusive practice isn't optional - it's essential. Our **expert-led, live training sessions include interactive Q&As**, giving you the chance to ask questions, share experiences, and get tailored guidance.

Secure your place now and build your inclusive practice.

[Upcoming autism training for professionals](#)

Training Opportunities



IMH Lunchtime Learning

Embedding Solihull Training Through a Systemic Approach

hosted by: Averil Bassett, Tracey Ripley-McElvogue, and Grainne McHugh.

Wednesday 29th October
12:00PM - 1:00PM, online



To book please
scan the QR code



Project supported by the PHA



Training Opportunities



NEW on-demand Autism Training Webinars:

Build your professional development at a time that suits you

Understanding autism is essential for creating inclusive, empowering environments - whether you're working with children, young people, or adults. Our new **on-demand training webinars** are designed to help professionals like you improve your knowledge and enhance your practice, all at your own pace.

What's included:

- Expert-led webinars tailored to **children and young people** or **adults**.
- Practical strategies for communication, sensory needs, and inclusive support.
- How to build a neurodiversity-affirming approach in your role and service.

Plus: **Special introductory discounted packages** available to celebrate our launch!

[NEW on-demand webinars for professionals](#)

Professional Training



Supporting autistic adults

NEW
On-Demand
Webinar



15%
OFF

Introductory
Discount



BOOK NOW

Professional Training



Supporting autistic children and young people

NEW
On-Demand
Webinar



15%
OFF

Introductory
Discount



BOOK NOW

Why on-demand?

We know your time is valuable. These pre-recorded sessions allow you to learn in your own time and space - whether that's during a quiet moment at work, at home, or on the go. No deadlines. No pressure. Just high-quality content when it suits you.

You can now choose between our range of live courses and now our on-demand options, so you can choose the learning style that works for you.

Launch offer: Save nearly 15%

To celebrate the launch of our new on-demand autism training webinars, we're offering a special discounted price - **just £25 per course** for a limited time (standard price: £29). Take advantage of this offer to invest in your professional development and support autistic people with confidence.

Job Opportunities



♥ ♥ We're Hiring! Join our Team ♥ ♥

Are you passionate about making a difference in the autism community? We're looking for a dedicated Autism Support Officer to join our team and help us support children and families across Northern Ireland.

If you're ready to make a positive impact — **apply today!** ✨

<https://autismni.org/about-us/vacancies>