

GUIDELINES FOR APPLYING FOR SMALL GRANTS FROM THE FROEBEL RESEARCH COMMITTEE

1. Small Grants are defined as grants up to a total of approximately £5,000 each. Anyone (not necessarily employed by or directly associated with Roehampton University) may apply at any time, and applications will be considered as funds become available.
2. The grants are intended to be used for pilot studies or small research projects in accordance with the Research Strategy of the Froebel Educational Institute. The relevant section of the *FEI Research Strategy, 2006-2011* reads:

That the FEI Research Committee should consider research proposals under two broad heads:

(i) *applied research*, which will have implications for developing and validating or changing, where appropriate, pedagogic understanding and practice and/or government policy in relation to children 0-7 (but may include investigation of the applicability of Froebelian principles and practice to older age-groups);

(ii) *pure research*, which may, for example, include aspects of the history of the Froebel movement here or abroad.

BUT that priority, and the majority of funding, in any year should be given to applied research or to pure research which is directly concerned with children 0-7, and so could indirectly influence pedagogic practice.

3. Applications should include a full CV of the applicant/principal researcher, clearly identifying any track record in prior research. Applications may include sums for researcher time, travel, stationery and consumables, data transcription, equipment, etc. However, where books and equipment are purchased, these will remain the property of FEI, which, by agreement, may be lodged with Roehampton University for use by subsequent researchers when appropriate. In the case of travel, reimbursement will be at the currently valid travel rates of Roehampton University. In the case of the time of the principal researcher(s), this will be reimbursed at the currently valid Visiting Lecturer rates of Roehampton University.
4. All pilot studies and research supported by Small Grants are expected to result in publication in refereed journals or books, and/or to entail conference presentation when complete. These anticipated outcomes, together with any other media for dissemination (e.g. talks for professional groups, teachers' day conferences, websites, etc.) should be specified in the application. All publications and conference presentations must mention the support received from the Froebel Research Committee, and a copy of any publication must be deposited with the Froebel Research Committee. Funding for expenses related to conference presentations will be made retrospectively on presentation of invoice(s).

5. Evaluation of applications will be undertaken by a sub-group of the Froebel Research Committee. This will be done according to the following criteria:

<i>Criteria</i>	Outstanding	Good	Fair - some weaknesses	Poor
Conformity with FEI <i>Research Strategy</i>				
Originality; potential contribution to knowledge				
Research design & methods				
Value for money				
Communication strategy & planned outputs				

6. All Small Grant projects will have a member of the Froebel Research Committee assigned as monitor of progress. Any queries or requests for advice should be directed to that person in the first instance.
7. All potential applicants are strongly encouraged to seek the advice of one of the following members of the Froebel Research Committee at an early stage:
 Professor Kevin Brehony (k.brehony@roehampton.ac.uk)
 Professor Tina Bruce (tinabruce@btinternet.com)
 Professor Neil Taylor (n.taylor@roehampton.ac.uk)

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