



Practice Development Grants 2022-23 - Guidance for Applicants

IMPORTANT DATES

Applications portal opens on our website	Monday 4 April 2022
Zoom Webinar for applicants	Wednesday 6 April 2022 6.30pm and Thursday 5 May 2022 8.30am
Deadline for applications:	4pm on Wednesday 11 May 2022
Applicants notified of the final outcome:	Monday 13 June 2022
Projects must begin:	between August 2022 and March 2023

THE FROEBEL TRUST

1. Friedrich Froebel (1782-1852) was a pioneering German educator whose enduring influence has spread far and wide. He devised a set of principles and practices which formed part of an interactive education process, which he named 'Kindergarten.'
2. The Froebel Trust is a UK-based charity, which aims to promote and advance knowledge and understanding of a Froebelian approach to education, for the benefit of children (birth to eight years) and their families and educators, communities and environments.
3. The Froebel Trust's vision is of a world in which childhood is valued in its own right and each child's capability is recognised and respected. It is one in which all young children (birth to eight years) have access to high quality educational experiences based on Froebelian principles.

OUR CHARITABLE PURPOSES & FUNDING

4. The Froebel Trust provides funding for research and practice development as well as specialist training, and information and support for continuing professional learning.
5. Our work is focused on Early Childhood Education and Care for children from birth to eight years of age – a broad and often multi-disciplinary field of study to inform, support, critique and advance Froebelian approaches to education pedagogy and practice as well as further research.
6. Our grants include Practice Development Grants (PDGs) (formerly called Practitioner Support Grants) aimed at enabling UK-based settings / schools to develop an aspect of practice underpinned by Froebelian principles. You can read reports from previously funded projects on our website - www.froebel.org.uk/practitioner-support-grants/
7. We can only support projects that are clearly linked to our charitable objects, which are:

To promote for the public benefit the advancement and understanding of Froebelian principles of education in learning within the UK and internationally.

8. Applicants will hear on Monday 13 June if they have been selected for the awards. The successful applicants must be in a position to commence their projects between August 2022 and March 2023.

WHO CAN APPLY?

9. The PDGs are available to early years settings including schools in the UK interested in further developing an aspect of Froebelian practice. The grants cover work with children and their families and communities. Priority will be given to applicants who have not received a grant in previous years.

To be eligible to apply, settings must have a member of the management team, plus at least one other practitioner / teacher, who has completed a Froebel course at University of Edinburgh or the University of Roehampton; or at least five elements of the Froebel short course delivered by Travelling Froebel Tutors.

10. Settings / schools can apply for a grant of between £3,000 - £5,000. The grant is intended to cover staff / training costs, supply cover implications and should allocate no more than 20% of the total budget for resources, furniture, materials and so forth.

Projects must start before 31st of March 2023.

Please note that payments cannot be made to individuals; a Practice Development Grant must be ring-fenced; and (for our due diligence process) applicants will be required to submit an original bank statement and financial records before an award can be confirmed.

11. Settings / schools must be registered and inspected by the relevant, official body in Scotland, England, Wales or Northern Ireland.

12. In deciding whether to support travel to events, the Trust will give serious consideration to the benefits to the project versus the environmental impact.

HOW TO APPLY

13. Please complete the online application form on our website detailing:

- Your proposed project's Froebelian focus
- Evidence of your team's Froebelian qualifications
- Your project outline
- Your plans for evaluating the project¹
- Your plans for dissemination
- A budget break down
- A one page biography telling us about your team

We offer application workshops via zoom to answer any questions about the application process, these will be held on 6 April 2022 at 6.30pm and 5 May 2022 at 8.30am, please note this will be a zoom meeting and all potential applicants will be visible to one another. Please register for the webinars by emailing office@froebeltrust.org.uk no later than 4pm on 5 April 2022 / 10 May to sign up.

Completed online applications must be submitted via the online portal, which allows applicants to save and return to partially completed forms. The deadline for submitting an application is 4pm on Wednesday 11 May 2022. Late applications will not be considered.

If you experience any problems with the online application portal or have any questions about eligibility, please email office@froebeltrust.org.uk

The online application also includes information and asks for consent about:

- Data protection
- Permission to process data
- Optional equalities monitoring

All eligible applications will be considered via our grant scrutiny and selection process. Applications that do not meet our basic eligibility criteria will be rejected. Unfortunately, we are unable to provide feedback to unsuccessful applicants.

Applicants will hear the outcome of their application by mid-June.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

14. The Froebel Trust began an organisation-wide evaluation in 2020, looking at the benefits of its grant-making and support activities. If you receive a Practice Development Grant, in addition to the Trust's standard grant reporting requirements, you may be asked to complete a questionnaire or take part in an interview as part of our evaluation activities to assess how effective we are as a grant-making trust.

15. Any project that is awarded a Practice Development Grant for 2022-23 should be completed within 12 months, and a copy of the final report must be sent to the Trust within three months of the project's completion. A fully reconciled final financial account showing the expenditure for the project will also be required.

16. Make sure you have the support of the head of your setting before preparing and submitting an application. Please consider the setting's sustainability policy and the environmental impact of your proposed project.

17. The Froebel Trust must be acknowledged on any material or publicity that is produced for external presentation or publication in association with / resulting from a Practice Development Grant.

18. The decision of the Froebel Trust will be final. Every effort has been made to develop a thorough and fair assessment process. The Trust reserves the right not to enter into any correspondence about the assessment process and/or any subsequent monitoring procedures.