

# Grant-making policy

## Purpose of this policy

This policy has been created by the Trustees of **SicKids**, for the purpose of clarifying the support that **SicKids** intends to offer in pursuit of its objects.

The Trustees expect this document to be read by:

1. companies that wish to adopt, sponsor and support **SicKids**;
2. volunteers and prospective volunteers;
3. the appropriate UK Authorities, including HMRC and the Charity Commission of England and Wales;
4. individuals who wish to make donations to **SicKids**;
5. individuals who wish to apply for a grant from **SicKids**;
6. organisations that wish to apply for a grant from **SicKids**;
7. Trustees and prospective Trustees.

## What does SicKids do?

**SicKids** is a grant-making organisation which seeks to relieve sickness and preserve the health of children and young people residing permanently or temporarily in the North West of England or South East Asia; to provide and assist in the provision of facilities, support services, and equipment not normally provided by the statutory authorities for children and young people living in our areas of work; and to promote research for the public benefit in all aspects of safeguarding vulnerable children and children's emergency medicine.

## What can SicKids fund?

**SicKids** can provide grants to:

- other charitable organisations with a common interest in accordance with our objects;
- projects which fit within our areas of interest set out in our objects;
- individuals to enable them to carry out work in pursuit of our objects.

## Who is eligible to apply?

The following are able to apply for funding:

- common interest charitable organisations;
- common interest organisations in South East Asia;
- individuals who intend to carry out projects in pursuit of **SicKids**' objects.

The following are excluded from funding applications:

- work where institutional health care is a preferred way of working, e.g. orphanages.
- organisations whose mission or charitable objectives state an intention to convert people to any kind of religious beliefs. This may be through evangelism (the practice of preaching or spreading religious beliefs) or proselytising (the practice of trying to convert people to one's own belief or opinion).

Finally, **SicKids** is very unlikely to fund one-off conferences or workshops, as it is difficult to demonstrate what impact one-off events are likely to achieve and how these align with our objects, values, vision and purpose. However, we are willing to fund conferences, workshops and other gatherings as part of a longer-term programme of work where it can be shown such events will help to bring about improvements in the implementation and outcomes of programmes, in accordance with our objects.

## Identifying causes and fundraising methods

**SicKids** maintains a significant social media and internet presence, and people are encouraged to raise awareness of **SicKids**' work and encourage suitable causes to request our help. **SicKids** has to raise all the funds that we disperse through the hosting of events, various campaigns, and fundraising endeavours. **SicKids** is totally self-financing through fundraising and donations.

## Levels of funding and support available

The ability of **SicKids** to help applicants is determined by the amount of money that an applicant is seeking and the amount available. The Trustees welcome contact from prospective applicants regarding the amount of potential funding available in each financial

year, in order to avoid applications which far exceed the amount of available funds.

## **The scope of our work**

In the area of children and young people, **SicKids** will focus all work on purposes where traditional funding and support, for example from the NHS, Local Authorities, and other sources is either not available, or is very difficult or challenging to access.

**SicKids** was launched in June 2015 and, as such, the value of any funds available to provide grants will vary over time. The Trustees expect that the value of **SicKids'** funds will grow over time, allowing us to support many more applicants without the need always to run additional events and campaigns.

## **Types of grant available**

### *Grants (restricted and unrestricted) to common interest organisations*

**SicKids** will consider grant applications from other common interest charitable organisations to assist in the furtherance of their aims and objectives where those aims and objectives align with those of **SicKids**. **SicKids** may approach other organisations directly to offer grant funding where it is felt that such funding would be a furtherance of **SicKids'** objects.

### *Restricted grants to individuals*

Applications for grant funding will be considered from individuals to enable them to carry out work in pursuit of our objects.

## **How to apply**

All applications must set out clearly how they align with the objects, values, purpose and vision of **SicKids**.

### *Individuals*

Individuals who would like to be considered for a grant from **SicKids** should apply in writing to **SicKids**, setting out fully the purpose of the grant, the amount needed, the

timeframe and evidence of how the grant will further the objects of SicKids.

### *Other organisations*

Organisations that would like to be considered for a grant from **SicKids** should apply in writing to **SicKids**, setting out fully the purpose of the grant, the amount needed, the timeframe, and evidence of how the grant will further the objects of **SicKids**. Any application for research funding support must include full details of the research project, why **SicKids** is being asked to provide support funding, the amount of funding required, the steps taken by the organisation to satisfy itself that the research is 'charitable', and proof that conducting such research is in the public interest.

**SicKids** will also require confirmation that all research findings, reports, and publications will be communicated to the Board of Trustees for dissemination. If **SicKids** awards a grant for research purposes, it is a condition of receiving this grant that **SicKids** is acknowledged as a funder in any and all reports of the research findings.

### **Timing of applications**

Grant applications are considered on a yearly basis in July. However, as set out above, **SicKids** may approach other organisations directly at any time to offer grant funding, where it is felt that such funding would be a furtherance of **SicKids'** objects.

### **Response to applications**

The Board of Trustees has a duty to ensure that **SicKids'** funds are used in furtherance of the objects of the organisation. All reasonable grant applications will be considered by the Trustees. However, consistent with the need to protect **SicKids'** funds, even when grant applications fully align with the objects of **SicKids**, our purpose, our vision, and our values, it may not be possible to allocate grants due to resources available. **SicKids** may ask to meet Applicants to further assess their application. In order to protect **SicKids'** funds the Trustees will, unfortunately, be unable to provide feedback to applicants who are unsuccessful.

**SicKids** works hard to ensure that all applications are thoroughly considered and that

everyone is treated equally and fairly. However, we will not consider appeals against the rejection of an application by a short-listing team or a final decision by Trustees to reject an application or withdraw a grant. If applicants are unhappy with their experience of **SicKids** and have genuine concerns about the way an assessment has been undertaken, the general service provided, or a recommendation reached, then this should be dealt with through the complaints procedure. However, this procedure will review the decision-making process, rather than about the decision itself.

### **Responsibilities of the organisation receiving a grant**

Organisations will be required to demonstrate the benefit of the grant by providing an impact report to the Board of Trustees within an agreed period of time. Where the organisation is being given restricted funds for research funding purposes, that organisation must ensure that **SicKids** is fully recognised in all public communications relating to the project. In addition, regular updates and an end of project report must be provided to the Board of Trustees, along with a statement that can be publicly disseminated.

### **Responsibilities of the individual receiving a grant**

The individual will be required to provide a report to the Board of Trustees of **SicKids** within an agreed period of time, showing how the grant has been used and how this fits with the objects of **SicKids**.

### **Reserves policy**

**SicKids** will not normally fund organisations with free or unrestricted reserves that exceed their last year's running costs, unless there are convincing reasons for them needing the funds.

### **Equality and Diversity**

**SicKids** will not fund any organisation that does not have an equality and diversity policy in place so that people from all areas of life, including those having any of the protected characteristics set out in the Equality Act 2010, are able to benefit from the organisation's

work. It is a condition of receiving a grant that organisations confirm that they have an equality and diversity policy in place, and attach this to their application.

### **Continuation or follow-on funding**

**SicKids** does not guarantee to provide funds beyond the life of an existing grant. Organisations can apply for follow-on, or 'continuation' funding. We would expect organisations applying for a continuation or follow-on grant from **SicKids** to be able to show they are also seeking funding from other sources, rather than just depending on **SicKids**.

International grant holders applying for a grant from **SicKids** for work that has already been funded by us or by another funder are expected to have undertaken an evaluation or major review to assess progress, impact, and lessons learnt before coming to **SicKids** for continuation funding. This review or evaluation will need to have been completed at least three months before a summary application is made, so that the new application is informed by lessons learnt through the review process. Applicants will also be expected to have analysed the findings of the review or evaluation.

### **Approval of grants**

All grants will be approved by the **SicKids** Board of Trustees.

### **Health & Safety**

**SicKids** expects organisations supporting staff and volunteers to have conducted a risk-assessment and have adequate risk mitigation strategies in place.

For further information please contact the **SicKids** Board of Trustees:

[hello@sickids.co.uk](mailto:hello@sickids.co.uk).