

2020/2021 Community Fund: Interim Assessment Form

Locality: Teviot & Liddesdale

Ref. No.: CF2021-T&L-1

Organisation Name: Saturday Polish School CIC Hawick

Funding Requested: £7,425

ABOUT THE GROUP			
Organisation Structure	Community Interest Company		
Annual Accounts Balance	£14,710		
Are any funds ring-fenced, if so why & how much?			
A grant from the National Lottery of £5,450 is ring-fenced for managerial costs (£750) and speech therapy and events (£4,700).			
Has the applicant successfully applied for SBC funding within the last three years?			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
SBC Funds received	Financial Year	Amount (£)	What used for?
Fairer Scotland	2016	5,000	School running costs
Fairer Scotland	2017	5,000	School running costs
Fairer Scotland	2018	5,000	School running costs
Have they recently applied to the Common Good Fund?			
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			

ABOUT THE PROJECT	
Project brief	<p>A grant from the Teviot & Liddesdale Community Fund will enable the Saturday Polish School Hawick (SPSH) to continue to operate for the 2020/21 school year despite the loss in revenue due to reduced pupil numbers. The grant will cover the cost of teaching staff, additional teaching support for GCSE students and admin/management costs.</p> <p>The SPSH was established in April 2013, after the Polish community in the Scottish Borders expressed a desire to have a school offering their heritage language to the younger generation.</p>

	<p>The school offers pre-early education, literacy, literature, history classes in Polish and GCSE qualifications in Polish as a Modern Foreign language. In the last few years the school has been able to deliver speech and language therapy to identified children. Organised community events are put on and participation from the whole local community is encouraged.</p> <p>Since the start of lockdown classes have been provided virtually, this is expected to continue for the foreseeable future. During this time the number of students has reduced by over 40% (80 students reduced to 45) which has a knock on effect to income raised from parental fees. The SPSH is covering the fees for children that would otherwise be unable to attend due to financial hardship.</p>	
Project Start Date: DD/MM/YY	01/12/2020	
Total Expenditure (£)	£15,480	
Community Fund Request (£)	£7,425	
10% organisation contribution	£825	
Any Other Contribution?	Parental fees estimated to be £7,230	
Other Funding Sources	Amount (£)	At what stage?
Polish Consulate	1,200	Pending (ring-fenced for another aspect of the SPSH)
Community Fund Outcomes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Communities have more access to better quality local services or activities <input type="checkbox"/> Communities have more access to a better quality environment <input type="checkbox"/> Communities have more pride in their community <input type="checkbox"/> Communities have more access to better quality advice and information <input type="checkbox"/> More local groups or services are better supported to recover from financial difficulty	
Teviot & Liddesdale Action Plan priorities	<p>The project meets the following priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning & training which is accessible and affordable and which meets the needs of all individuals and employers. • Increase the range of learning courses and qualifications available in the locality to reduce the need for people to travel/leave area. • Provide activities and learning opportunities which respond to the needs of children and young people with an emphasis on early intervention and education. 	

ASSESSMENT

<p>What need/demand has been evidenced for this project/activity?</p>	<p>60-70% of students attending the SPAH are usually from the Hawick area. There are currently 45 children/young people attending the SPSH which represents a significant reduction in number based on a 'normal' year. The 2018/19 school roll showed that there were 348 students enrolled in schools across the Borders that spoke Polish at home. Of those 88 were in the Hawick school cluster.</p> <p>The school's reduction in income is not offset by a reduction in running costs (with the classes being delivered online the school running costs have reduced as the current teaching requirement is for teachers only). Without funding to meet the shortfall the SPSH would not be able to operate for the full school year and the school would close. Polish lessons, including support for students studying for Polish GCSE, would cease affecting those currently enrolled in the school.</p>
<p>What benefits will be gained from the project/activity and how well does the project/activity meet the outcomes of the scheme?</p>	<p>Attending Polish classes by children aged 3-17 helps them to stay in touch with their first language, supports their identity, confidence and future career. Even though, the main aim of the school is education in Polish, it brings migrant families together, opens the Polish ethnic minority and their culture to local community and provides opportunities for volunteering and placements for college students.</p>
<p>What support and involvement of the wider community is there for this project/activity?</p>	<p>The SPSH has been providing language, history and culture to the younger Polish community for over seven years. Community events designed to increase awareness of Polish heritage take place regularly. In the 12 months prior to lockdown SPSH held:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May 2019: Open day – attended by 100+ from the wider community • May 2019: poster competition open to all Polish schools in Scotland • June 2019: End of term academy – with 60-80 participants from the wider community • December 2019: Polish Santa event <p>SPSH has been an active partner in Diversity Week for the last three years. Working in partnership with NHS Health Improvement Team they have participated in multi-agency events as well as hosting events to celebrate international culture.</p> <p>SPSH has participated in Burnfoot Summer Programme providing a Polish day which included Polish cooking and language lessons.</p>
<p>What efforts have been made by the applicant to secure other sources of funding for the project/activity?</p>	<p>The SPSH has successfully applied for funding from the National Lottery which will fund specialist speech therapy and community events.</p>

<p>How will the impact and success of the project be measured? What happens at the end of the project/activity or when the funding is spent?</p>	<p>Success will be measured by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the number of young people studying for, and passing, their Polish GCSE, • the number of children and young people taking part in virtual classes. <p>Funding will enable the school; to continue to operate for the remainder of the 2020/21 academic year. It is anticipated that pupil number will increase to previous levels once the severity of the Covid-19 pandemic lessens and face to face lessons are able to resume. At this time it is expected that parental income will provide a significant contribution to the school operating costs.</p>
<p>Quotes received for items of expenditure</p>	<p>n/a</p>
<p>Have appropriate permissions been sought/granted?</p>	<p>n/a</p>

SBC OFFICER ASSESSMENT

The application meets the criteria of the community fund.

Additional Terms and Conditions:

Scottish Government coronavirus (COVID-19) guidance must be adhered to with a protocol for safe participation in the programme and use of resources developed, and all participants agreeing to adhere to this protocol.

We would seek the group to particularly report on:

- The group should seek to understand why there has been a significant drop in student numbers – to ensure longer term sustainability and viability of the Polish School
- Number of students engaged during the remainder of the school year by age.
- Number of students obtaining a formal qualification due to the support provided by the SPSH.
- Number of children benefiting from subsidised/free places.