

## **New South Wales Schools**

Supplementary Funding Pathway

### **Local Council Community Grants (Where Available)**

Example: City of Parramatta

Grant information:

<https://www.cityofparramatta.nsw.gov.au/community/community-grants>

Local councils across New South Wales commonly offer community grant programs to support projects that improve wellbeing, participation, and local engagement.

While typically smaller in value, these grants are one of the most accessible and commonly used funding sources for community-based school projects.

Availability, funding amounts, eligibility criteria, and opening dates vary between councils and funding rounds. While not guaranteed, these grants are widely available and can provide valuable partial funding.

Schools are encouraged to check their local council website or contact their local council directly to confirm current opportunities.

## **Project Positioning**

For this funding pathway, the project should be positioned as:

- a local community wellbeing initiative
- an inclusive space supporting students, families, and the wider community
- a project that enhances participation and engagement
- a contribution to the local community environment

Avoid positioning the project as:

- internal school equipment only
- a curriculum-based resource
- a project with limited community benefit

## **Project Title**

Creation of an Inclusive Outdoor Sensory and Wellbeing Space

## **Organisation Overview**

[Insert School Name] is a community-focused school supporting students and families within the local area.

The school contributes to the local community through engagement with families, events, and shared activities that support participation and connection.

Applications for funding may be submitted by the school or an appropriate not-for-profit entity associated with the school, such as a parents' association, governing body, or community partner.

## **Project Description**

This project involves the creation of an inclusive outdoor sensory and wellbeing space within the school grounds, consisting of permanently installed, interactive elements designed to support engagement, participation, and connection.

The space will provide an accessible environment where students can engage in sensory-rich, non-verbal experiences that support emotional regulation, creativity, and social interaction.

The design supports simultaneous use, encouraging shared experiences and strengthening connections between students, families, and the local community.

The project will enhance the school environment while also contributing to the broader community through events and shared experiences.

## **Community Need**

Local communities benefit from accessible and inclusive environments that support wellbeing, engagement, and positive social interaction.

Many students benefit from opportunities for sensory engagement, non-verbal expression, and emotional regulation, particularly those with additional needs or who require alternative pathways to participation.

These types of environments are not always readily available within existing community infrastructure.

This project addresses that need by creating a space that supports inclusion, reduces barriers to participation, and enables meaningful engagement for a wide range of users.

## **Community Benefit**

This project will deliver benefits to the local community by creating a space that supports inclusion, wellbeing, and connection.

The space will:

- support students with diverse developmental and sensory needs
- provide opportunities for families and community members to engage together
- strengthen local social connection
- contribute to a more inclusive and supportive community environment

The installation will be used within the school and during community activities, supporting ongoing engagement.

## **Outcomes**

The project is expected to deliver the following outcomes:

- increased engagement and participation
- improved wellbeing for students
- enhanced inclusion and accessibility
- strengthened connections between school and community
- increased use of shared outdoor space

## **Project Delivery**

The project will involve:

- procurement of outdoor sensory infrastructure
- delivery and installation within the school grounds
- integration into school use and community activities

Installation will be carried out by a qualified contractor in accordance with site requirements.

## **Budget**

Total Project Cost: \$15,030

Funding Requested: \$5,000

School Contribution: \$10,030

All costs are GST exclusive

## Budget Breakdown

Item	Quantity	Total
Explorer Outdoor Musical Instrument	2	\$7,900
Composer Outdoor Musical Instrument	1	\$4,150
In-ground Post Mounts	3	\$900
Freight (indicative)	1	\$580
Installation Allowance	1	\$1,500

## Pricing Note

*Costs provided are indicative to support funding applications. Final pricing, including freight and installation, may vary depending on location, instrument selection, and site requirements. Applicants are encouraged to obtain a formal quote to confirm project costs.*

## Budget Justification

The proposed funding request represents a partial contribution toward the development of an inclusive outdoor sensory and wellbeing space.

The project will be co-funded, demonstrating strong commitment to delivering the project and ensuring its completion.

The installation is designed as a long-term asset, providing ongoing benefit to students and the local community.

The project represents strong value for money by delivering a durable, inclusive, and engaging environment that supports wellbeing and participation.

## Sustainability

The installation is designed as a permanent addition to the school environment.

It is constructed from durable materials suitable for outdoor conditions and requires minimal maintenance. Its longevity ensures that it will continue to provide value over many years.

## Evaluation

The success of the project will be evaluated through:

- observation of student and community engagement
- feedback from staff, students, and families
- increased use of outdoor space
- improved inclusion and interaction

Evaluation will be ongoing and inform future planning.

## **Application Considerations**

Local council grants are most successful when projects clearly demonstrate community benefit and local impact.

Positioning the project as a shared space that supports both students and the broader community will strengthen the application.

Focusing on participation, inclusion, and local engagement will align closely with council priorities.