

South Australian Primary and Secondary Schools

Supplementary Funding Pathway

Credit Union SA – School Impact Program

Grant Information: <https://www.creditunionsa.com.au/community/school-impact-program>

The **School Impact Program** serves as the **Supplementary** pathway for this project. This corporate-led initiative is designed to help South Australian students thrive by funding innovative wellbeing, learning, and infrastructure projects. With grants available between **\$2,000 and \$20,000**, it is an ideal fit for high-quality sensory equipment. The 2026 program is currently open, with applications closing on **July 2, 2026**.

Project Positioning

For this supplementary pathway, the project should be positioned as an **innovative wellbeing retreat** that empowers students to manage their own emotional regulation. The selection panel specifically looks for **"student agency,"** so the application should highlight how students were involved in identifying the need for a quiet zone. Additionally, the project should be framed as a **future-focused investment** that directly supports the **SA Autism Strategy (2025–2029)**.

Avoid positioning the project as:

General curriculum material or standard classroom furniture; a luxury or "aesthetic" landscaping upgrade; or a project solely for the use of high-performing students. Instead, focus on **inclusivity, thriving, and mental health**.

Project Title

[Insert School Name] Harmony Hub: Empowering Student Wellbeing through Sensory Innovation

Service Overview

[Insert School Name] is a South Australian educational institution committed to the holistic development of our students. Our school serves a diverse community and recognizes that traditional outdoor environments can be overwhelming for some learners. This application is submitted by the [Insert School Governing Council/P&F Association], a not-for-profit body dedicated to enhancing the school's facilities and supporting the wellbeing of all students and local families.

Project Description

This project involves the development of a dedicated **"Harmony Hub"** within the school grounds. It features high-quality, acoustic-engineered instruments designed to provide a low-arousal, tactile, and auditory experience. The instruments allow for **"Active Resets,"** where students can engage in self-directed sensory play to regulate their emotions. Unlike traditional play equipment, these elements are permanently installed and designed to meet the specific needs of students requiring sensory support, providing a calm alternative to high-stimulus playground areas.

Community Need

With an increasing number of students requiring sensory and emotional regulation support (as reflected in our NCCD data), there is a clear need for "quiet zones" that facilitate inclusion. Transitions and break times are identified as high-stress periods for neurodiverse students. This project addresses the gap in existing outdoor areas, which are often loud and physically demanding, by providing a specialized space that lowers stress and prevents sensory overload, aligned with the **SA Inclusive Education Amendment Act 2025**.

Community Benefit

The Harmony Hub will provide long-term benefits to the broader [Insert Suburb/Region] community. Specifically, it offers direct support for students with autism, ADHD, and sensory processing disorders, and serves as a resource for families during school events. By fostering emotional regulation skills early, we are developing more resilient and socially engaged future citizens. This project creates a benchmark for inclusive design, demonstrating a commitment to the **"Design for All"** philosophy.

Outcomes

The project aims to achieve a reduction in sensory-related playground incidents and increased student engagement during post-break learning times. It will provide a measurable improvement in the **"sense of belonging"** for neurodiverse students and create a functional, all-abilities outdoor learning space for teachers to utilize for "Tier 2" regulation strategies.

Project Delivery

The project will involve the selection and procurement of 316L stainless steel acoustic instruments (2x Explorer, 1x Composer). Professional installation will occur on existing hard-stand or garden areas, requiring no soft-fall. We will also conduct staff professional development on using the space for regulation. All installations will comply with Australian Standards for playground safety while maintaining the specialized acoustic engineering required for a quiet zone.

Budget

Item	Quantity	Total (Ex. GST)
Explorer Outdoor Musical Instrument	2	\$7,900
Composer Outdoor Musical Instrument	1	\$4,150
In-ground Post Mounts	3	\$900
Freight (indicative to SA)	1	\$650
Installation & Site Prep	1	\$1,500
Total Project Cost		\$15,100
Funding Requested from CUSA		\$10,100
School/P&F Contribution		\$5,000

Export to Sheets

Pricing Note

Costs are indicative and subject to final site assessment and shipping quotes. The school is committed to covering any shortfall to ensure the project's successful completion. All costs are GST exclusive.

Budget Justification

This request focuses on the procurement of high-durability, professional-grade assets. By investing in "**Zero-Surfacing**" equipment, the school avoids the \$10,000+ cost of rubber soft-fall, ensuring 100% of the grant funding is spent on the therapeutic instruments themselves. The school's \$5,000 contribution reflects a strong commitment to the project and ensures its viability.

Sustainability

The instruments are crafted from marine-grade stainless steel with a **25-year structural warranty**. They are designed to withstand the South Australian climate with minimal maintenance. This project is a "one-off" capital expense that provides value for over two decades without requiring ongoing government funding for surfacing repairs.

Evaluation

Success will be evaluated through pre- and post-installation surveys of staff regarding playground "calmness" and wellbeing data tracking the use of the "Harmony Hub" as a regulation tool. We will also seek specific feedback from the school's Special Education Resource Teacher (SERT) and collect student impact stories for school community updates.

Application Considerations

CUSA applications are most successful when they emphasize **student agency** and innovation. Ensure you highlight how students were consulted about the need for a quiet space. If your school has a high Index of Educational Disadvantage (ICSEA) or significant NCCD data, include these statistics to strengthen the "Community Need" section.