

Western Australian Kindergartens (Early Childhood Services)

Supplementary Funding Pathway

Local Government Community Grants (Where Available)

Example: City of Wanneroo

Grant information:

https://www.wanneroo.wa.gov.au/info/20035/community_grants

Local governments across Western Australia 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 early childhood projects.

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

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

Project Positioning

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

- an inclusive early childhood environment
- a space supporting development, wellbeing, and participation
- a sensory-based environment that supports regulation and engagement
- a contribution to the local community

Avoid positioning the project as:

- general playground equipment
- a music-based activity or program
- a discretionary or non-essential addition

Project Title

Creation of an Inclusive Outdoor Sensory and Wellbeing Space for Early Learning

Service Overview

[Insert Kindergarten Name] is an early childhood education and care service supporting young children and families within the local community.

The service plays an important role in early development and contributes to community wellbeing through engagement with families and the provision of inclusive learning environments.

Applications for funding may be submitted by the service or an appropriate not-for-profit entity associated with the service.

Project Description

This project involves the creation of an inclusive outdoor sensory and wellbeing space within the early childhood environment, consisting of permanently installed, interactive elements designed to support engagement, exploration, and participation.

The space will provide opportunities for children to engage in sensory-rich, non-verbal experiences that support emotional regulation, creativity, and social interaction.

The design supports simultaneous use, encouraging shared experiences and promoting cooperative engagement among children.

The project will enhance the learning environment while also contributing to community connection through family engagement and shared experiences.

Community Need

Communities benefit from early childhood environments that support inclusion, wellbeing, and engagement from a young age.

Many children benefit from opportunities for sensory exploration, non-verbal expression, and emotional regulation. These environments are not always readily available within existing early childhood settings.

This project addresses that need by creating a space that supports diverse developmental needs, reduces barriers to participation, and enables meaningful engagement for all children.

Community Benefit

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

The space will:

- support children with diverse developmental and sensory needs
- provide opportunities for families to engage in shared experiences
- strengthen early childhood participation and engagement
- contribute to a more inclusive community environment

The installation will be used regularly within the service and support ongoing engagement.

Outcomes

The project is expected to deliver the following outcomes:

- increased engagement in early learning
- improved emotional regulation and wellbeing
- enhanced inclusion for children with diverse needs
- increased opportunities for social and cooperative play
- a more supportive and engaging learning environment

Project Delivery

The project will involve:

- procurement of outdoor sensory infrastructure
- delivery and installation within the service environment
- integration into daily learning and play

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

Budget

Total Project Cost: \$15,030

Funding Requested: \$5,000

Service 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 service will contribute the remaining funding, demonstrating commitment to delivering the project and ensuring its completion.

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

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

Sustainability

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

It is constructed from durable materials suitable for outdoor conditions and requires minimal maintenance. Its longevity ensures ongoing value for children and families over many years.

Evaluation

The success of the project will be evaluated through:

- observation of children's engagement and participation
- feedback from educators and families
- increased use of outdoor learning spaces
- improved inclusion and interaction

Evaluation will be ongoing and inform future planning.

Application Considerations

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

Positioning the project as an inclusive early childhood environment that supports both children and families will strengthen the application.

Emphasising participation, inclusion, and early development outcomes will align strongly with local government priorities.