

Momentum Grants

Guidelines for Applicants

Momentum Grants are aimed at small groups, organisations and clubs to help them provide the best support they can to the young people and children in their community. The grants are funded by Norfolk County Council and administered by Momentum, part of Voluntary Norfolk. Grants are available up to £500 and open to voluntary clubs, groups & organisations with an income of under £250k* working with young people aged 11-19 years in Norfolk.

Grants are divided into four categories:

- Equipment
- Start-up / capacity (helping your group thrive not just survive!)
- Activities / projects
- Training & development

What makes Momentum grants different?

These grants are for the benefit of young people and so we think the best people to decide who gets the grants are young people themselves. We ask Young Commissioners from the Youth Advisory Boards to assess all grant applications.

Who can apply?

- You must have joined the Voluntary Norfolk Network: <https://www.voluntarynorfolk.org.uk/voluntary-sector-support/the-voluntary-norfolk-network/>
- You can apply for a grant at any time of the year as this is a rolling programme with no deadlines.
- Please allow at least 12 weeks for a decision to be made and funds to be released (we cannot fund activities that have already taken place).
- As part of the application process a member of the Momentum team will be visiting your group to speak to the young people and group leaders.
- You will be asked to provide supporting documents with your application.
- There are four categories of grants available – activity, capacity, equipment and training.
- Organisations can apply for two grants per year as long as the applications are for grants in different categories (e.g. one training and one equipment grant).
- After you have received the grant a member of the Momentum team will contact you for a phone evaluation. As well as collecting important feedback for Norfolk County Council, this is also an opportunity for you to reflect on your work and work with our team to make your group more resilient and sustainable.

What are different categories of grant?

Start-Up / Capacity

This grant is for setting up a new youth group for 11-19 year olds.

In the past groups have used this grant to pay for insurance or the cost of processing DBS checks for volunteers.

This grant can also be used to help existing groups to build capacity, including meeting the standards for the Quality Mark.

We can provide you with a copy of our “Youth Kit”, which will give you guidance on setting up a new group.

Activity / Project: This grant is for specific activities or a project that benefits young people. Examples: outreach project, camping trip, planned series of events. Please note that this grant can also cover the cost of staff time.

Case Study: The Sprowston Youth Engagement Project used the grant to fund an outdoor activity trip to the Brecon Beacons. The opportunity to try new activities such as camping and caving boosted the young peoples’ confidence and esteem.

Equipment

This grant is for equipment or resources for your group.

-Examples: pool table, chairs, games consoles and games, computer equipment, seating, kitchen equipment, drinks machine

Case Study: EP Youth Fakenham were given an equipment grant of £500 by Momentum to help pay for and equip a kitchen after young people said they were keen to learn cookery skills. EP Youth raised a further £300 through selling books at their local supermarket, making a total budget of £800. With support from EP youth workers, the young people designed a small functional kitchen and sourced kitchen units from IKEA so they could learn how to put together flat-pack furniture. [Read more about this on the Momentum website.](#)

Training and Development

You can use this grant to meet the costs of your staff / volunteer’s professional development. If you are applying for funding for Momentum training please enclose or attach the completed booking forms with your application. We will need to see confirmation of booking for other training.

Some groups have used this training to part-fund for a place for volunteers and staff on the Level 2 NOCN Youth Work Award.

Rachel from Bridge into Community has completed the Level 2 and is working towards Level 3. Rachel says:

“The qualification has helped me with the running of the group and meeting other youth workers is supportive. The tutors are inspiring and helpful. I feel listened to, respected and valued on the course and feel more confident to go back to the group with new ideas. Studying the theory and practice of youth work has helped me appreciate that our young person’s group has a real value for the community. One of the main principles of youth work is autonomy for the young person, for them to chose to attend a session and have a say in running a group for themselves. I love this emphasis and hope that I implement this in our group.”

What we don't fund:

Applications for grants will not be considered for the following

- Maintenance, repair or upgrading of vehicles.
- Building / construction work of any kind.
- Promotion of religious activities or political causes.
- Loans of any kind or to fund repayment of existing loans.
- Retrospective funding of any kind.
- Purchase of sports team strips or uniforms
- Any form of fundraising or collections, although support for activities that result in raising group funds may be considered

Standard Conditions for all applications

- Groups / organisations are expected to show that they are operating safely and have achieved or are working towards Strong Foundations.
- The grant must be of benefit to 11-19 year olds.
- Groups must have a bank account in the group's name with two unrelated signatories. **Payments will not be made to individuals.** If you don't have a bank account in your organisation's name then please contact us.
- Applications and evaluations are assessed by Young Commissioners from the Youth Advisory Boards – this may involve them visiting your group / organisation.
- Successful applications must spend the approved grant within 12 months of being notified of their successful application.
- In the event of a group closing, assets purchased with small grants may be given to a similar group (also in the Voluntary Norfolk network) at the discretion of Momentum.
- Momentum (Norfolk) has the right to recover capital goods or revenue funding if the recipient is seen not to comply with the terms of the grant.

Outcomes and feedback from young people

- We want to know how the funding will have an impact on the young people you support. This allows us to show Norfolk County Council the difference the small grants programme makes.
- If you have photos, links to films or testimonials demonstrating how young people have benefitted from the grants (and you can confirm you have permission to use them) please share them with us so we can use them to promote the grants and use to evidence their worth.

Please ensure that you have included all the documentation requested with your application – if we do not receive this, it may mean that your application will be delayed.

If you need any help in completing the application form or have any questions please call:
01603 883869 or email: amelia@momentumnorfolk.org.uk or aimee@momentumnorfolk.org.uk