

**HENRY SMITH
FOUNDATION**

Together We Begin Fund Launch

30th July 2025



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Getting Started

The early years matter. They shape a child's future health, education and wellbeing. And they lay the foundations for opportunity later in life.



Together We Begin: Introduction

We're looking to fund organisations that provide early years parenting support and promote children's development through sustained, face-to-face work in the home.

The key aims of the fund are to:

- Strengthen parenting skills to improve children's outcomes
- Build confidence and reduce stress in the home
- Connect families to their local community

Together We Begin: Who We Support

We want to fund organisations that

- Support families with children aged 0-5 (including during pregnancy) who face financial hardship or social isolation
- Work in areas with high levels of child poverty – at least 24.9% of children live in poverty in your local authority area

We're committed to funding work that is

- Rooted in communities
- Strengths-based
- Responsive to need, inclusive and accessible
- Focused on meaningful, lasting change

Together We Begin: What We Want to Achieve

We will fund work that helps achieve the following two objectives

Enhanced parenting skills

Families feel more confident and capable in supporting their children's development

Better community connections

Families feel less isolated and more connected to local services and other families.

They can access resources and build relationships that continue beyond your service, ultimately helping children develop and thrive

Eligibility criteria

To apply, organisations must:

- **Be a registered**, not-for-profit organisation with a charitable purpose (e.g. CIO, CIC, community benefit society)
- **Have a year's worth of accounts** that have been audited or independently examined
- **Have annual income below £1m** (from your most recent published accounts)
- **Be based in and deliver services in the United Kingdom** (England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales)
- If you already have a grant from the Henry Smith Foundation, please contact us and ask to speak to a member of the Getting Started Programme Team first.



Together We Begin: Application Advice 1

Expression of Interest

Fund Opens: Thursday 31 July 2025, 9am

Step 1: Complete a short Eligibility Quiz

Step 2: Submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) – c.10 questions

Helps us assess fit before a full application

Deadline: 5pm, Thursday 28 August 2025

You'll hear from us by 17 September 2025

Together We Begin: Application Advice 2

Full Application (invited organisations only)

In-depth questions on your work, team, impact & funding use

Includes background checks (finances, structure, etc.)

Deadline: Friday 17 October 2025, 5pm

Conversation with our team (via Teams/Zoom/Phone)

Learn more about your work & safeguarding

Ask us questions

When: 5–27 November 2025

Together We Begin: Application Advice 3

Grants of £40,000 - £50,000 per year for three years (maximum £150,000 in total)

Flexible funding - you can use the money for general running costs

We're developing support and relationship-building beyond funding

Around 40 grants awarded: Decisions in mid-December 2025

Start your grant within 6 months of award

We'll inform you by the mid-December 2025 and, if unsuccessful, provide feedback so that you can strengthen future applications

HENRY SMITH FOUNDATION



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