

Career Ready Fund Launch Webinar



Agenda

01 Building Independence

02 Fund overview

03 Applying

04 Key dates

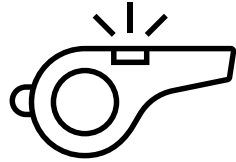


Building Independence

Career Ready: Giving young people with learning disabilities a real start in work



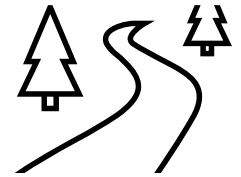
Early intervention from 14



Trained job coaches in schools



Person-centred support



Clear paths into paid work

What we fund

Five things we want this fund to achieve:

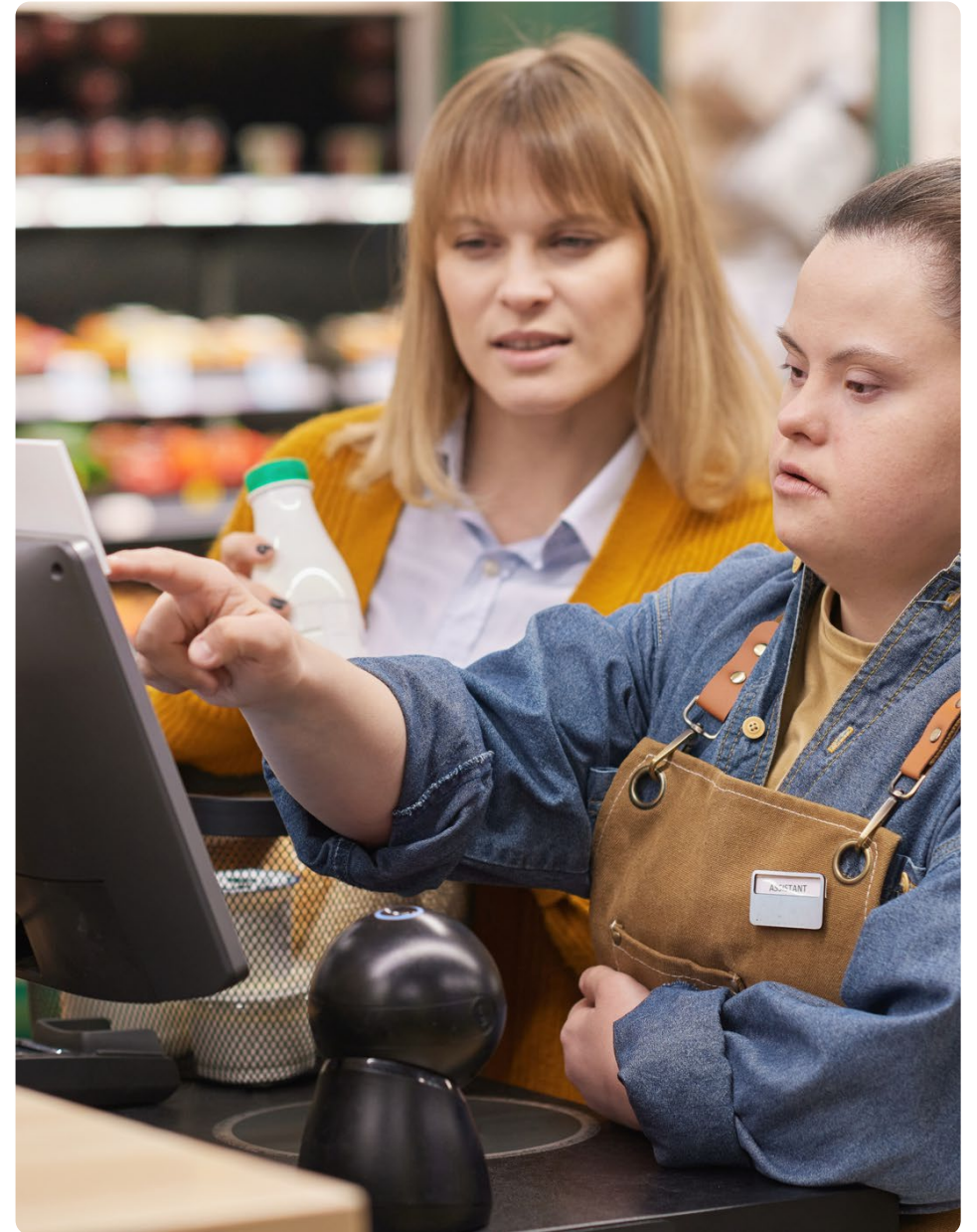
- Trained job coaches embedded in schools
- Meaningful, well-matched work experiences
- Early vocational profiling
- Strong partnerships
- Clear pathways into employment



Who we want to support

We're looking for organisations that:

- Deliver supported employment
- Have (or will train/recruit) job coaches
- Have existing partnerships with schools
- Are embedded in their local community
- Have a track record



Fund Details

£200,000 over 4 years | £50k per year

Funding can cover:

- Recruitment, training and salaries
- Ongoing professional development
- Management and supervision
- Travel, resources for work experience
- Core costs where they support sustainability



Are you eligible?

You need to be:

A charitable organisation registered and working in the UK (registered charities, CIOs, not-for-profit CICs with an asset lock)

Able to provide a year's accounts, audited or independently examined

Under £3m total annual income in your most recent published accounts

Working with young people with learning disabilities

Delivering supported employment led by trained (or trainable) job coaches

We won't fund:

Generic employability or information, advice and guidance (IAG) services

Work supporting neurodivergent young people or those with learning difficulties, without a learning disability

Schools directly

Local authorities or statutory responsibilities

Work that has already taken place

How to apply

1

Eligibility quiz

Short online check;
available from 22 July.

2

Expression of interest

Approximately 3 questions.

Submission Deadline: 2
September, 5pm.

We'll let you know by 25
September if you're invited
to submit a full application.

3

Full application

Detailed questions on your
approach, team and
delivery plan.

4

A call with our team

Questions around
safeguarding, and any
other points that need
clarification from your
application.

What we're looking for at EOI

**A clear
supported
employment
approach**

**A clear
understanding
of your local
area**

**Youth voice and
lived experience
at the centre**

Who we'll prioritise (where applications are comparable in quality):

Work in areas where young people with SEND are more likely to be NEET, or where local data shows higher risk of leaving education without a sustainable next step

Support young people with moderate to profound learning disabilities, including those who need more intensive or specialist support

Work with young people facing additional barriers — including those from Global Majority communities, Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities, care-experienced young people, and those without family advocates or wider circles of support

Support Available

We want this process to be accessible

Talk to us

call 020 7264 4970, email
buildingindependence@henrysmith.foundation, or
request a callback.

FAQs

available on our website

Webinar

recording will be available

AI guidance

you're welcome to use AI tools but we urge caution

Accessibility support grants

up to £250 at EOI stage, up to £500 at full
application stage



Key Dates

1

22nd July

Fund opens 9am.

2

2nd September

EOI deadline 5pm.

3

25th September

EOI decisions communicated
and invites for full
applications sent.

4

16th December

Decisions communicated.

HENRY SMITH FOUNDATION



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