

The Integrated Education Fund
Promoting A Culture of Trust - Working Together Effectively
INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS - PACT 13

The Integrated Education Fund -

The Integrated Education Fund (IEF) is a financial foundation for the development and growth of integrated and meaningful, shared education in Northern Ireland. It was established in 1992 as an independent fundraising and grant making organisation with money from EU Structural Funds, the Department of Education Northern Ireland, the Nuffield Foundation and the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust.

Promoting A Culture of Trust -

The IEF's Promoting A Culture of Trust (PACT) Grant Making Programme is open to all schools in Northern Ireland for projects that promote a culture of trust and the development of paths of reconciliation through education.

The aim of the programme is to fund projects in schools to promote the development of skills, structures and relationships that enable schools, pupils and their parents, staff and governors and the wider community to increase their understanding, acceptance and respect for political, cultural and religious differences. In the context of Northern Ireland, and the divisions in our society experienced for generations, the 'differences' referred to are those between the Catholic and Protestant denominations.

The PACT programme was first launched in the year 2000 and the IEF is delighted to have been able to support projects in schools of differing levels and management types across Northern Ireland which have delivered and surpassed the stated aim of the programme. Over the past twelve years, through PACT 1 – 12, £930,320 has been awarded in grants for 211 projects in 485 schools, directly involving and benefiting over 13,000 children and young people.

Projects that grants are awarded for -

PACT projects must explore the differences between the Catholic and Protestant denominations but may also explore other divisions experienced in Northern Ireland. For example some previous projects have tackled issues of division by looking at the diversity of religions, languages, and ethnicities represented in Northern Ireland today.

PACT projects can be linked to the curriculum areas of 'Personal Development and Mutual Understanding' at Foundation Level and Key Stages 1 and 2, and 'Local and Global Citizenship' at Key Stages 3 and 4. Projects which use mediums such as sport, music, art, history and drama etc. can provide opportunities to involve greater ranges and/or numbers of participants as well as adding more depth and meaning to the project for participants.

Some examples of different types of PACT projects from previous years can be found on the IEF website in the Grants section, under PACT.

Levels of grants available -

PACT grants are available on three different levels. The three level grant structure allows schools to apply for grants at a level of funding and for a duration which meets their individual needs and the depth of the work in which they wish to engage. Through Levels 1, 2 and 3, grants of up to £5,000, £10,000 and £25,000 are available for 1, 2 and 3 year projects respectively.

Funding Available -

The total amount of funding available for the programme is limited and therefore the number of grants that the IEF can award is also restricted.

Evaluation -

The IEF has found it to be good practice, and essential to the ongoing development of its grant programmes, to commission independent external evaluations. Applicants should note that Grantees may be consulted by an External Evaluator during the course of their project in order for an Evaluation Report to be produced on the grant programme.

Who may apply -

PACT is open to all schools in Northern Ireland for projects based in Northern Ireland and involving a partnership of two or more schools as follows -

- PACT is open to schools of all levels; i.e. Primary and Post Primary Schools/Colleges; Early Years Education Providers including Voluntary Playgroups with Charitable Status and Nursery Schools /Nursery Units which are Government funded. The lead school and its only or first partner must be of the same educational level; e.g. both must be Primary Schools or both must be Colleges, etc. For projects involving more than two schools the educational level of additional partner schools is not restricted.
- PACT is open to schools of all management types; i.e. Controlled, Maintained, Controlled Integrated and Grant Maintained Integrated, Irish Medium, etc. The lead school and its only or first partner together must represent at least two of the main traditions in Northern Ireland. For example, applications would be welcome for partnerships such as a controlled school and a maintained school working together or an integrated school working with another integrated school, a controlled school or a maintained school, etc.
- The IEF actively encourages applications from schools that are closely located and may prioritise these should the Fund be oversubscribed.

PACT 13 Project Criteria -

Level 1 Criteria

Projects must run during the academic year 2012/13 and complete no later than May 2013. Grants up to a total of £5,000 are available. In the application for funding for a project there must be evidence that the project will:

1. Be one in which all the participants are engaged in real and active reconciliation work which reflects the ethos of PACT;
2. Involve two or more schools which reflect and acknowledge political, cultural and religious differences. Projects between partners that are closely located may be prioritised should the Fund be oversubscribed;
3. Be a new or pilot project, or be a project that will expand, develop or progress on previous experiences into new areas or with new groups;

4. Involve pupils and staff and explore ways of also involving parents and governors;
5. Have planned face to face meetings and activities where participants will discuss, in a meaningful and constructive way, the key issues involved in promoting a culture of trust and reconciliation work;
6. Link with the appropriate curriculum areas to allow for embedding and progression, involving staff members in order to work towards a whole-school policy on diversity;
7. Involve monitoring and evaluation against your project aims and objectives.

Level 2 Criteria

Projects must begin during the academic year 2012/13 and complete no later than May 2014. Grants up to a total of £10,000 are available. In the application for funding for a project there must be evidence that the project will:

1. Be one in which all the participants are engaged in real and active reconciliation work which reflects the ethos of PACT;
2. Involve two or more schools which reflect and acknowledge political, cultural and religious differences. Projects between partners that are closely located may be prioritised should the Fund be oversubscribed;
3. Expand, develop and progress diversity issues in quantifiable ways, with new groups and in more depth. Applicants must have previously completed a PACT level 1 project or equivalent ;
4. Achieve depth through the active involvement of stakeholders – pupils, staff, parents and governors. The project should explore ways of involving the wider community;
5. Actively involve the stakeholders in the project planning and implementation, incorporating planned face to face meetings and activities where participants will discuss, in a meaningful and constructive way, the key issues involved in promoting a culture of trust and reconciliation work;
6. Link with the appropriate curriculum areas to allow for embedding and progression and work towards a whole-school policy on diversity with the identification of staff development opportunities;
7. Involve pupils, staff and parents in monitoring and evaluating project outcomes;
8. Identify ways in which the project can be assimilated into whole school ongoing practice.

Level 3 Criteria

Projects must begin during the academic year 2012/13 and complete no later than May 2015. Grants up to a total of £25,000 are available. In the application for funding for a project there must be evidence that the project will:

1. Be one in which all the participants are engaged in real and active reconciliation work which reflects the ethos of PACT;
2. Involve two or more schools which reflect and acknowledge political, cultural and religious differences. Projects between partners that are closely located may be prioritised should the Fund be oversubscribed;
3. Expand, develop and progress diversity issues in breadth and depth and in quantifiable ways, Applicants must have previously completed a PACT level 2 project or equivalent ;
4. Achieve depth through the active and meaningful involvement of all stakeholders – pupils, staff, parents and governors and the wider community;
5. Involve all stakeholders in the project planning, delivery and implementation of planned face to face meetings and activities where participants will discuss, in a meaningful and constructive way, the key issues involved in promoting a culture of trust and reconciliation work;
6. Establish benchmarks in key areas to enable qualitative/quantitative assessment of hard outcomes upon completion of the project;
7. Enable capacity building, exploring issues of reconciliation, culture, ethos, different working practices through the development and expansion of curriculum links in a whole school context and support by whole-school staff development with accreditation options being considered, if possible;
8. Have, by the end of the project, assimilated the outcomes into the school development plan to ensure embedding of that developed practice;
9. Disseminate skills, expertise and experience to ensure that good practice is shared;
10. Consider a self-evaluating inspection involving the ETI.

Funding Restrictions -

1. The following will **not normally** be funded:
 - a. the provision of equipment;
 - b. projects which potentially subsidise financial support which could be considered the responsibility of such bodies as Health and Social Services or the Department of Education Special Needs;
2. The following will **not** be funded:
 - a. support for an existing project, or revisiting pilot projects where progression at Level 2/3 would be more appropriate. However, applications to expand or develop existing work into new areas or with new groups may be considered;

- b. projects for which full statutory funding may be available - but statutory funding may be used as additional/partnership funding;
- c. retrospective expenditure;
- d. residential;
- e. individuals;
- f. groups;
- g. single identity or single school projects;
- h. projects which appear to be driven and/or led by an external group or facilitator as opposed to those capable of demonstrating ownership by the school or applications which have clearly been drawn from an external template.

How to apply -

1. The programme opens for applications on Monday 30 January 2012 and closes on Thursday 23 February 2012 at 3.30pm.
2. Applicants must use the IEF PACT 13 Application Form which is available from the IEF website, or upon request, by email. There are different Application Forms for each level of grant so please ensure you complete the form appropriate to the level of grant for which you wish to apply.
3. Applications must be submitted both electronically and by post. The posted form must be typed, bear the original signatures of the appropriate signatories and be enclosed with a copy of the lead school's most recent Annual Report, or equivalent document. Please note that the appropriate signatories include the Principal and Chair of the Board of Governors of the lead school and the Principal(s) of the partner school(s).
4. Completed **Application Forms must be submitted by 3.30pm on Thursday 23 February 2012 both electronically and by post.** Applications to PACT 13 received after 3.30pm on the closing date will not be considered and **no exceptions will be made.**
5. For Level 3 applicants, the IEF will reserve the right to offer a Level 2 grant if it is deemed that the application merits support but not at Level 3.
6. All eligible applications for Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3 projects will be considered for funding on Wednesday 16 May 2012 and applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application as soon as possible after this date.

Contact details -

For further information please do not hesitate to contact Sara Shields, IEF Grants Officer, as follows -

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