

# Funding Information Pack



# Introduction

**Congratulations!** You've made the decision to create an inclusive sensory environment where your students can **learn**, **socialise** and **relax**.

The next step is to secure the **funds** for your brand-new space.

We're aware that most schools don't have an endless pot of money to support their students, and that a Sensory Room might not be a top priority for your **schools budget**. But this pack should hopefully help you realise how realistic your Sensory Room dreams might be!

The following pages in our pack will give you an insight into the **different funding options available to you**; Finance Leasing, Charity Funds & Fundraising. And we'll also give you a helping hand in how you can apply for them.

As always, if you need any extra help or guidance surrounding Sensory Room funding, don't hesitate to **get in touch** with a member of our sensory team - they'll be more than happy to help.

At Rhino we're proud to make sense of senses!

## **Benefits of Sensory in Schools:**

#### **Inclusive Learning**

Create classroom environments that are inclusive of all learning styles.

#### Support Mental Wellbeing

A healthy mind is as important as a healthy body. Sensory Rooms are therapeutic spaces for students to relax and balance out their emotions.

#### **Developmental Learning**

Sensory spaces help students discover their senses and learn how their bodies move and work, developing key skills like;

- · Hand-eye Coordination
- · Fine and Gross Motor skills
- · Communication skills

#### A Safe Space

Sensory Rooms act as safe, controlled environments where students with special educational needs & disabilities can feel supported.

#### **Encourage Curriculum Studies**

Create an autonomous learning environment where students can learn at the pace, and in the style, that works best for them.

#### **A Community Hub**

A sensory room's impact reaches farther than the pupils of your school. Renting out your sensory space for community use outside of school hours can be a great source of extra income.

#### Please Note:

All the information in this document was collected in February 2021. It's likely that the information will become outdated. Therefore it's up to you to make sure the leases and grants included in this document are still available before applying for them. If you'd like any help, get in touch with a member of our Sensory Team.



# Leasing

Finance leasing is an excellent way for schools to access the resources they need when they need them. Leasing also offers schools a flexible payment option that alleviates the burden of a large upfront payment, offering them access to resources that may have previously been considered outside of their budget.

# **Benefits of Leasing**

- Pay for your sensory equipment while you use it.
- Tailor-make your payment program to suit your needs & budget.
- · Spread costs over a fixed period.
- Choose to pay in monthly, quarterly, termly or annual payments.
- Don't wait for your next budget review. Get the equipment you need now.

# How to Apply for a Lease

If you're interested in applying for or are looking for more information on our lease agreements, please get in touch with a member of our Sales Team. They'll be able to help you out and talk you through the application processes.

#### Our lease partners:



#### **Funding 4 Education**

With 17 years experience supporting the education sector, Funding 4 Education helps schools get the resources they need.



#### **Plus Finance**

Plus Finance specialise flexible finance packages for full room renovations.

# Example Payment Plans











# **Grants**

Whether you're starting from scratch or looking for a boost to reach your fundraising target - Grants are a fantastic resource to help you make your sensory project a reality.

We've picked out some of the biggest schemes below, but if you'd like to see our complete grant list, **get in touch** with our sensory team.

## **Grants4Schools**

There are many ways to find grants online, but we'd recommend Grants4Schools - they provide an easy-to-use, one-stop funding information service for schools. Their grant information is constantly updated, so you'll never miss out on an important funding opportunity.

Find more information at grants4schools.info

# Government Grants

Currently, there are no specific grants to support the creation of sensory spaces. But the government does offer a selection of grants that might benefit your school community.

Find more information at:

<u>www.gov.uk/topic/schools-colleges-childrens-services/school-college-funding-finance</u>

# **Charity Grants**

#### **Supermarket Community Funds**

**Tesco** - Bags of Help grants up to £4000. Find more information at: tescobagsofhelp.org.uk

**Waitrose** - Community Matters grants up to £1000. Find more information at: <u>waitrose.com</u>

**Asda** - Green Token Giving grants up to £500. Find more information at: asdafoundation.org

**Co-op** - Local Community Fund grants up to £6000. Find more information at: <a href="mailto:causes.coop.co.uk">causes.coop.co.uk</a>

Morrisons - Morrisons Foundation grants up to £25,000 to organisations with a registered charity status. Find more information at:

morrisonsfoundation.com

#### Aviva Community Fund

Grants up to £50k for community projects. Find more information at: avivacommunityfund.co.uk

#### **BlueSpark Foundation**

Grants up to £10,000 to support the education and development of children through special educational projects. Find more information at: bluesparkfoundation.org.uk

#### Cash For Kids

Grants from £1,000 to £3,000 for special projects or equipment for children with special needs and disabilities. Find more information at: <a href="mailto:cashforkids.org.uk">cashforkids.org.uk</a>

#### Children In Need

Grants up to £10,000 to help young people with their mental health or disability. Find more information at: <a href="mailto:bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/grants">bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/grants</a>

#### **Moto In The Community**

Grants up to £1,000 to schools within a 15-mile radius of Moto site. Find more information at: moto-way.com/moto-in-the-community

#### The True Colours Trust

Grants up to £10,000, for schools with a registered charity status.

Find more information at: truecolourstrust.org.uk

#### **Wooden Spoon Grant**

No minimum or maximum grant, but usually supports projects over £5,000 that support children with disabilities.

Find more information at: woodenspoon.org.uk

#### **Variety Charity**

Grants from £100 to £5000 for schools and individual children.

Find more information at: variety.org.uk



# **Fundraising**

If you're close to completing your funding goal, reaching out to your local community can be a great way to top up your total.

Create a **Just Giving** or **GoFundMe** page and let people know what you're fundraising for & how they can help.

# Ideas for the whole school

Working together as a school community can help you reach your goal in no time at all. Lots of little donations can go a long way.

#### Non-Uniform Day

Charge a small fee for all pupils (and teachers) to come into school in their own clothes.

**Fundraising Target: £300** 

Fun Fact: Wearing their own clothes could help students feel more relaxed at school.

#### **Tombola**

Simple to run and great for bringing the local community together with prize donations.

Fundraising Target: £500

**Top Tip:** Host two separate tombola's, one for kids and one for adults to boost donations.

#### **School Disco**

Everyone loves a disco! Suggest a minimum ticket price so people can give more if they want to.

Fundraising Target: £750

Fun Fact: A disco is a fantastic sensory environment filled with stimulating lights & sounds.

# Fundraising Checklist:



- Set a fundraising goal
- Create a fundraising page
- Let people know you're fundraising Social media, friends, family, community.
- Get involved

Donate, take on a challenge, support others.

# Individual Challenges

A big challenge can be a great way to bring friends, family and even strangers together to aid your fundraising drive.

#### **Sponsored Run**

Whether it's a 5k or a marathon - challenge yourself and raise money for a good cause.

Fundraising Target: £150 for 5k, £1000 for a Marathon.

**Fun Fact:** Running releases serotonin, which is great for mindfulness and positive mental health.

#### **Sponsored Walk**

Whether you walk laps of your garden or take on a long-distance challenge cumulatively walking the distance from Land's End to John O' Groats - have fun!

Fundraising Target: Keep it reasonable, or shoot for the stars.

**Top Tip:** Walking doesn't have to be a solo activity. Enlist your friends and family to help out - and make your fundraising drive a collective effort.

#### Coffee Pot

Challenge the teachers in the staff room to donate the money they'd typically spend on coffee to your fundraising pot. You might raise more than you'd expect!

#### Fundraising Target: £300

Fun Fact: A cup of coffee is filled with sensory goodness. Its smell, taste and touch warm & calming

## **More Inspiration**

If you'd like to discover more fundraising ideas, we'd recommend checking out these imaginative websites:

- easyfundraising.org.uk
- · thegivingmachine.co.uk
- fundraising.co.uk