

Summer of Sport Fund Application Form

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Summer of Sport Fund

South Ayrshire Councils Health and Wellbeing Team are launching a **'Summer of Sport'** fund to provide opportunities for children, young people and families age 3 to 26 years, to help them get active, stay active and improve their lives. Opportunities should be **free, targeted or at a reduced cost** to maximise engagement and is intended to address barriers to participation. Funding will be available for activities planned through to March 2027.

This funding provides an opportunity for clubs and organisations to focus on **one or more of** the following:

- **Opportunities:** Deliver a range of safe, welcoming and inclusive opportunities that reduce barriers to participation
- **Pathways:** Provide accessible pathways from short term activity into sustained participation in school, club and community sport
- **Enhancement:** Build on existing provision, particularly during the summer period and beyond, avoiding duplication and strengthening what already exists
- **Targeted:** Introduce targeted initiatives where gaps exist, with a focus on long term engagement beyond the funding period
- **Workforce:** Recruit, train and retain coaches, officials, volunteers and leaders to grow local workforce capacity
- **Profile:** Contribute to raising the profile of and celebrate sport
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Approach

Provision should be designed to create positive, inclusive and inspiring experiences for children, young people and families. The aim is to develop an inclusive system that supports sustained participation and engagement over the longer term. When planning opportunities for children, young people, and adults during the summer months and beyond, the following approaches should be adopted:

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- **Effective Partnerships** – Work closely with Community Sports Hub Officers, Active Schools coordinators or relevant partners to maximise funding, minimise duplication and to ensure provision is coordinated and resources shared

- **Co-creation** - The summer of sport funding will have children’s rights and wellbeing at its heart. Any provision should be shaped around the needs of children and young people. A person-centred approach should be adopted to ensure those in target groups help shape delivery plans and support reaches those who would most benefit. An intersectional approach is encouraged to ensure that the needs of individuals with intersecting identities are considered and met through co-design.

- **Build on existing services, assets and knowledge of what works** - This funding can be used to enhance existing provision, building on and learning from existing practise. The funding will support improved coordination of existing provision, fill gaps, and create new opportunities, led by local knowledge and experience. The focus will be on providing opportunities for children and young people into regular sport and physical activity and designing an approach which would best facilitate this.

- **Rurality** - Consideration should be given to how activities are delivered in remote/rural areas. Accessible transport requirements should be considered.

- **Target Groups** - This fund should provide a universal offer to all children, young people and families, aged 3-26 years primarily, while specifically targeting those that are at a higher risk of poverty, including from the following family types:
 - Lone parent families
 - Minority ethnic families
 - Families with a disabled adult or child
 - Families with a mother aged 25 and under
 - Families with a child under one
 - Families with three or more children
 - Young Carers
 - Looked after and accommodated young people

What can be funded

Below outlines examples of what is in scope for funding:

- Free holiday time activities which are active, fun and creates social connections
- Current holiday programmes at a subsidised rate
- Expansion of current holiday provision into communities
- Post summer sessions leading to club and community opportunities
- Multi-sport camps, festivals and taster events with explicit transition into clubs
- Connecting schools and community provision such as buddy sessions, join-in weeks
- An inclusion uplift for activity targeting families at a higher risk of poverty
- Travel costs for those on low incomes and / or in rural communities

- Family activation grants for partners to remove immediate barriers (e.g. transport, childcare, family taster sessions, kit)
- Purchase of equipment and facility hire (any specific equipment to support inclusion of people with disabilities)
- Training and development for young leaders and volunteers
- Approaches to recruit / retain volunteers and young leaders
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- Provision of additional training around inclusion, trauma-informed practise, disability inclusion for example
- Workforce costs including coaches, sessional staff and volunteer expenses
- Supporting local clubs to ensure children and young people can access local sport (e.g. open days, club fees)
- Targeted outreach and engagement activity
- Reducing barriers to longer term participation for target groups

Clubs and groups able to evidence lasting impact beyond Summer 2026—extending to March 2027 and remaining sustainable thereafter—will receive priority for funding.

Who can apply?

- Local Sports Clubs & Community Organisations who are currently part of the South Ayrshire Club Ready Accreditation Scheme.
- Projects **should not start earlier than June 2026 and must not finish earlier than March 2027 with a plan beyond.**
- Groups may submit one application.
- More information or questions please contact ClubReady@South-Ayrshire.gov.uk

Please note, a constitution/bank account is required to apply

How much can be applied for?

Please note that the maximum amount of potential funding per application is £3000

Next Step

A decision will be made regarding your application thereafter.

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Project proposal

If you require more space please use an additional page

CONTACT DETAILS

Club / Organisation Name: Vics in the Community Experiences Programme

Project Name: Active

Please give an overview of the project or initiative you are proposing to deliver?

Vics in the Community will deliver a Summer Active Experiences Programme as an enhancement to our existing summer football provision for children and young people aged 5–16 across North Ayr. The project will provide a weekly Thursday “Active Experiences Day” linked to participation in our existing football programme. The initiative will provide free access to sport, wellbeing and community-based experiences for children and families who may otherwise face financial barriers to participating in holiday activities and trips. Activities may include stadium visits, outdoor adventure activities, multisport sessions, team-building activities and wider community experiences designed to increase participation. The programme aims to reward engagement with our football provision while encouraging sustained participation in sport and positive community activity. The project will support children and families affected by poverty and the rising cost of living by removing barriers associated with transport, activity costs and access to activities. The funding will support transport, staffing, activity costs, food/drink and resources required to deliver the programme and ensure activities remain free and accessible for participants.

How will this project demonstrate alignment with the objectives of the Summer of Sport Funding? (Targeting those at higher risk of poverty)

Please include which groups your project will benefit and expected number of participants.

How much are you applying for?

£ 3000

The project aligns with the Summer of Sport Fund objectives by enhancing existing summer sport provision and providing free, inclusive opportunities for children and young people who may face financial barriers to participation or limited access to extracurricular activities.

Through weekly Active Experiences Days linked to our existing football programme, participants will access sport and community-based activities. The programme will enhance existing summer football provision through additional activity opportunities while reducing barriers to participation through free activities and transport. It will encourage sustained engagement in sport and physical activity and create pathways into ongoing football and community activity beyond the summer period.

We anticipate around 60–80 children and young people benefiting from the programme across the summer period, with continued engagement opportunities available through existing Vics in the Community activities and future community sessions through to March 2027.

How can the club or organisation maintain the project's sustainability once the summer period ends?

Eg – Community Club / Active Communities session / Free club membership etc

Vics in the Community will maintain the sustainability of the project by continuing to provide pathways into existing football sessions, community activities and wider engagement opportunities beyond the summer period. The programme will strengthen relationships with local children, young people and families, encouraging continued participation in ongoing Vics in the Community activities throughout the year. Participants will be supported to transition into regular football session and holiday activities such as football camps in the future.

Total cost of idea

£ 3450

Are you a constituted group/organisation?

Please detail what approaches your Summer of Sport project meets?

Summer of Sport approaches listed above.

The project meets the Summer of Sport approaches by enhancing existing summer football provision through additional sport, wellbeing and community-based experiences for children and young people across North Ayr. The programme will offer opportunities that reduce barriers to participation by offering free activities, trips and transport for participants. It will create pathways from short-term summer engagement into ongoing football sessions and community activities delivered by Vics in the Community beyond the summer period. The project enhances existing provision, adding wider activity to our current football programme. It also targets children and families who may have limited access to opportunities due to financial barriers. Vics in the Community will continue working with local organisations, activity providers and community partners to maximise opportunities for participants and strengthen long-term community engagement through to March 2027.