Cyber Resilience Badges and Resources Fund

Funding of £500 to £5000 is available to youth work organisations in Scotland.

The aim of this project is to support the youth work sector to embed cyber resilience as a key element in informal learning.

Youth work organisations can apply for funding to develop a cyber resilience badge/award/resource (at more than one level if appropriate) that will enable children and young people to:

- grow their cyber resilience as effective contributors, enhancing their abilities to be safe and secure in the digital world.

- use technology to become successful learners, developing employability and life skills to succeed.

- assess risk in relation to digital and make informed decisions as confident individuals and responsible citizens.

Putting cyber resilience at the heart of youth work

For many children and young people digital technology is an integral part of life, so resilience in the digital world matters every bit as much as in the physical world.

Your project should support children and young people to recognise what matters for staying safe and secure online, developing the skills to react appropriately and recover when threatening situations occur. The activities should help children and young people to:

- Apply their knowledge of staying safe when using digital to enhance their lives

- Choose strong passwords when setting up online accounts

- Keep mobile phones, computers and other devices safe, secure and private

- Use trusted software and not download apps/programmes they are not sure about

- Explore and use anti-virus software

- Know when to share decision making with an adult they trust

- Become aware of their private and personal information and know how to make decisions about what to share

- Recognise and react to scams, phishing, disinformation and fake news

- Use social media privacy settings

- Recognise cyberbullying, grooming and other online exploitation, developing skills to react and recover.

(See the [Cyber Resilience Badge Benchmark](#) for more details)

About the funding

YouthLink Scotland is managing this funding as part of a project in partnership with the Scottish Government, in relation to Outcome 1 of the Strategic Framework for a Cyber Resilient Scotland: "People recognize the cyber risks and are well-prepared to manage them".

The Cyber Resilience Learning and Skills Action plan supports the overall strategy.

We will support projects that are broadly in line with:

- National youth work outcomes
- Youth work skills framework
- Nature and Purpose of Youth work
- European Guidelines for Digital Youth work

A total of £25K is available. We anticipate that most awards will be in the range of £500 to £5,000. We will consider applications for larger sums but are unlikely to fund proposals above £7,000.

Examples

- **A uniformed youth work organisation could apply for funds to adapt generic cyber resilience material for use in Scotland.**
- **A youth award provider could apply to develop a cyber resilience element to an existing award.**
- **A local youth organisation could apply for funds to create a learning resource if this is then made available more widely.**

Who can apply?

Any youth work organisation in Scotland can apply. We are interested in supporting projects that have a wide national reach. However, we will also consider more local initiatives where these have real potential to support young people who face specific barriers.

We encourage partnership working and may consider larger bids where organisations are collaborating or bidding as a consortium. Please contact us to discuss.

What we will fund

We will fund:

- The creation of a new badge or award that young people can complete in an informal education setting. This would normally be within the context of youth work.
- The adaptation of an existing badge or award.
- The creation or adaptation of youth work resources.
- Training for staff and volunteers to deliver the new badge/award.
- Resource creation costs such as printing or creation of software.

- Other proposals from youth work organisations that can demonstrate how they will embed cyber resilience informal learning in their work.

We will not fund:

- The purchase of physical hardware or resources.
- Staff time to deliver educational activities to children and young people (except for pilots that form part of the development of resources).
- Work designed to take place entirely in formal school education.

Criteria for success

We are most likely to fund a proposal where:
- The project develops something that builds capacity for embedding cyber resilience into youth work, for example, resources that can be used again. You show how the project supports national youth work outcomes.
- You show clearly the reach your project will have (the number of young people expected to engage) **and/or** show how your project will help support young people who face specific barriers.
- Your proposal is based on the Cyber Resilience Badge Benchmark.
- You show how your resource builds on existing materials. See the Mapping Document for more detail of what's already available.

- We prefer projects that include ages in the 11+ age range.

How to apply

Please download and complete the application form and return it to Hilary Phillips hphillips@youthlinkscotland.org by noon on 16 August 2021. We will not consider late applications.

You are welcome to contact us to discuss your proposal in advance, if that's helpful.

Timescales

- Fund launch July 2021

- Application deadline 16 August 2021

- Awards mid September 2021

- Projects completed March 2022

- Reporting complete April 2022

Q and A

Q: Do I need to be a member of YouthLink Scotland to apply?

A: No. This fund is open to any organisation working with young people in Scotland.

Q: What evidence of learning are you looking for?

A: For children and young people, achieving a badge or award should be a means of evidencing learning. Where possible it should be identifiable at levels of the SCQF and valued with credit. (But see below)

Q: Our award is not SCQF accredited. Is that OK?

A: Yes, but we would like to hear how you plan to use the Cyber Resilience Badge Benchmark as a way of ensuring the quality and relevance of your project.

Q: We are not creating or participating in any award scheme. Is that a problem?

A: If you can demonstrate how your resource will support children and young people to develop their cyber resilience and how you will use the Cyber Resilience Badge Benchmark

Q: Will you support projects with a more focused age range?

A: At YouthLink Scotland our work focuses on young people aged 11 and older. For this project, we are open to projects that also include younger children.