

***ESD to 2030* – Funding Call for Schools – September 2023**

**Background:**

The second National Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development – ***ESD to 2030*** aims to ensure that “by 2030, all learners acquire knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including among others through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship, and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture’s contribution to sustainable development” in accordance with UNESCO’s Sustainable Development Goals target 4.7.

|  |
| --- |
| **National Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development to 2030** **GOAL****That all learners acquire knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development** |
| **Five Priority Action Areas of *ESD to 2030***Increased reach, accessibility, quality and effectiveness of ESD in Ireland |
| ***Priority Action Area 1*** ***Policy Alignment*** | ***Priority Action Area 2******Transforming Learning Environments*** | ***Priority Action Area 3******Capacity Building of Educators*** | ***Priority Action Area*** ***4******Empowering and Mobilising Youth*** | ***Priority Action Area 5******Community Engagement*** |
|  Strengthened policy coherence across government and integration of ESD into key education policies and strategies | Fostering whole institution approaches to ESD | Increased capacity among educators to deliver quality ESD. | Creating opportunities for young people to Engage in action for sustainable development | Strengthened community engagement and creation of links between educational institutions and local communities to take action for sustainable development |

ESD has three equal and interlinked pillars:

**Environmental Sustainability** involves protecting and preserving natural resources for future generations through practices such as conservation, renewable energy and responsible waste management – ensures we are living with the means of your natural resources and not breaching replenishment rates

**Social Sustainability** focuses on improving the quality of life for all members of a community, including issues related to poverty, education and access to healthcare – is the ability of society, or any societal system to consistently achieve a good standard of social wellbeing in the long-term.

**Economic Sustainability** refers to the ability of an economy to support growth and development over time, without depleting natural resources or causing long-term damage to the environment; it requires that projects, activities etc., utilise resources efficiently and responsibly so they can be used in a sustainable manner while ensuring operating profits

Under the 1st National Strategy Education for Sustainable Development in Ireland 2014 – 2020, ESD was integrated into the curricula at all levels, into the Inspection and Assessment processes, and into Initial Teacher Education. A range of resources and programmes of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) were also developed and made available through the scoilnet hub: <https://www.scoilnet.ie/esd/>

***ESD to 2030*** now aims to move towards a more action-orientated approach, enabling learners to use the knowledge they have acquired about ESD to take action for sustainable development, themselves, in their school and home environments, in their local communities, and globally.

**Funding call:**

The Department is inviting applications for ***ESD to 2030*** funding from recognised schools for projects that support the implementation of ESD to 2030 in primary or post primary schools.

Grants of between €1,000 and €5,000 are available to schools. . Total funding available under this ***ESD to 2030*** call for schools in 2023 is €500,000.

Projects will be assessed and selected based on the following criteria:

* Must support the implementation of ESD to 2030 in primary and/ or post primary schools under one or more of the 5 priority areas set out above, particularly on Capacity Building of primary and post primary leaders and teachers

##### Ensures that school management, staff and/ or students acquire the knowledge and skills required for sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture’s contribution to sustainable development

* Is linked to the school curriculum
* Supports a whole school approach to Sustainable Development
* Is action-orientated
* Includes peer to peer learning
* Includes links to the community and local action
* Includes a volunteering aspect
* Includes outdoor learning
* Is linked to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
* Includes clear plan for measuring and monitoring (note: a report on the project will be required at the end of the school year – see above)
* The project is not in receipt of any other public funding
* Inclusion of disadvantaged learners and/or learners with disabilities

**NOTE:**

Projects do not have to meet all of the above criteria but must support implementation of ESD to 2030. Projects will be assessed based on meeting the criteria above.

Budget 2023 sets out supports for the installation of solar PV, including specific funding to provide for the installation of PV panels with an output of 6kW in all schools. This scheme will be developed and commenced in 2023. The Minister for Education will open for applications for a Climate Multi-Annual Summer Works Scheme for schools in 2023. **This ESD to 2030 funding call** **does not therefore cover infrastructural costs.**

**School Commitments:**

Schools in receipt of ESD to 2030 funding must commit to using the funding only for the purpose set out in the application, unless with the explicit agreement, in advance, of the Department.

Funding applied for and granted must be used in the 2023/24 school year.

Schools in receipt of ESD to 2030 funding must commit to providing a short report at the end of the school year outlining how the funding was spent. An evaluation template will be provided for this purpose.

Schools in receipt of ***ESD to 2030*** funding must commit to developing a Sustainability Policy Statement by the end of the school year and submitting the website link to same in their report. See here for more details [gov.ie - National Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development in Ireland (www.gov.ie)](https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/02952d-national-strategy-on-education-for-sustainable-development-in-irelan/#sustainability-toolkit-for-schools)

**Applications:**

The closing date for receipt of completed application forms is **midnight on Friday 6th October 2023.** Applications should be e-mailed to ESD@education.gov.ie with the subject line: “ESD to 2030 funding Application – [Insert Name of School]

The level of funding granted will be subject to the number of applications received.

All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application before the end of October 2023 and funding will issue shortly thereafter.

**Application Form – ESD to 2030 – Schools Funding September 2023**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Official name of School  |  |
| Address of School: (Please provide in full including the eircode) |  |
| Primary or Post-Primary School:  |  |
| Roll Number |  |
| Contact Person: | Name: |  |
|  | Phone: |  |
|  | Email:  |  |
| Principal | Name: |  |
|  | E-mail: |  |
| **Commitment required** | **If you are granted ESD funding under this call, you are committing to:*** **Providing an update on the work accomplished to the Department by the end of May 2024 outlining how the project delivered on ESD to 2030 using this additional funding.**
* **Developing and publishing your schools Sustainability Policy Statement. [insert toolkit link]**

**I agree to the above commitments:** **Print Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** **Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |
| Description of the project including the main pillar of ESD on which it is focused (i.e. Environmental, Social, Economic): **(max 250 words)** |  |
| Brief description of how this project will deliver on an Action(s) in ESD to 2030:  |  |
| Brief description of the project’s link to the SDGs/ an SDG:  |  |
| Is the project currently up and running? If yes, since when, if no, please state the plans for same:  | Yes/No:  | Plans: |
| Is the project targeted at a specific age/ class group and if so which one? |   |
| If the funding sought is for Continuing Professional Development (CPD) of Staff: |
| Name and website of the CPD provider/programme:  |  |
| Please provide a short summary of the programme:  |  |
| Who will avail of the CPD? e.g. school leaders, school staff, subject teachers, ancillary staff, all staff, whole school etc. Provide details and numbers:  |  |
| Does participation in the CPD lead to an award? |  |
| How many staff have availed of any ESD-related CPD in the last 3 years?: | 2020-21: 2021-22: 2022-23:  |
| How many additional staff will attend CPD this year with the level of funding sought?:  | 2023-24: |
| Is the CPD eligible under the [Refund of Fees Scheme?](https://www.gov.ie/en/service/06a17f-fee-refund-scheme-for-teachers/#:~:text=What%20the%20teacher%20fee%20refund%20scheme%20is%20The,be%20approved%20by%20the%20department%20and%20school%20authorities) |  |
| Non-CPD related funding |
| Does the project include opportunities for (please tick): | Community engagement |  |
| Whole School Approach |  |
| Volunteering |  |
| Peer to Peer learning |  |
| Outdoor learning |  |
| Action- orientated learning |  |
| Does the project cater for disadvantaged learners and if so, how? |  |
| Does the project cater for learners with disabilities, and if so how? |  |
| How will the project be measured/monitored?**(Max 100 words)** |  |
| Funding |  |
| Amount of funding sought for the 2023/24 school year: | € |
| Please provide a detailed breakdown of how the funding will be used.  |  |
| NOTE: Any funding granted must **only** be used for the purpose set out above, unless with prior agreement of the Department. Funding must be used in the 2023/24 school year.  |
| How the project is currently funded (if this is the case)? |  |
| Is the school in receipt of any other \*public funding for this project/ programme? If so, please complete the fields across.  | Funding source: | Annual Amount:2020-212021-222022-23 |
| **\*Public funding includes any funding from government departments, local authorities, public sector bodies or from organisations principally funded by any of the above.** |

|  |
| --- |
| **Data Privacy Statement** |
| The Department of Education, as far as practicable and having regard to the resources available, provides for education and training for people resident in the State of Ireland at a level appropriate to meet the needs and abilities of those people. The Department requires certain personal data in order to provide for education and training. Your personal data may be exchanged with educational organisations, providers of support services and other Government Departments in certain circumstances where this is provided for by law. Full details of the Department's Data Protection Policy setting out how we will use your personal data as well as information regarding your rights as a data subject are available at [gov.ie - Data Protection (www.gov.ie)](https://www.gov.ie/en/organisation-information/data-protection/). Details of this policy are also available in hard copy from the link above upon request.  |