ABERTILLERY & LLANHILLETH COMMUNITY COUNCIL | CYNGOR CYMUNED ABERTYLERI A LLANHILEDD

Grants – Application Form

Please specify which grant you are applying for:

Council Grant	X
Loneliness Project Grant	
Christmas Lighting Grant	
School Transport Grant	

Organisation Name	Llanhilleth Miners Institute (Clwb Llan Children's Centre)
Organisation Type *Provide your registered charity number, if applicable*	1128924
Organisation Address *If your organisation is not based in one premises, please state which areas you cover*	Llanhilleth Miners Institute, Llanhilleth, NP13 2JT
Grant Amount Request	£3000

What would this funding be used for? *Please be as precise as possible*
This funding will ensure the continuation of the term time services offered by the Clwb Llan Children's Centre which is situated at Llanhilleth Institute. Clwb Llan was launched in 2019 and the work we deliver here aligns closely with the first two Marmot Principles:- to give every child the best start in life and to enable all children, young people and adults to maximise their capabilities and have control over their lives. Each week, we offer four after-school clubs for local children aged 4-16 years and they are currently attended by a minimum of 72 children each week. The after-school clubs are a valued, popular and long-established provision for local children, with sessions offering a range of informal social and educational opportunities designed to support their development. By offering activities/ provisions such as craft, cookery, sport, board games, homework support, a mini-library, healthy snacks and youth volunteering opportunities (11-16 years) we are directly supporting the mental and physical health of our young people, while also offering them opportunities to develop and acquire skills which will ensure resilience, social connectivity and healthy habits in the longer term.

The funding we are requesting is in response to exceptional circumstances, which we have detailed later in this application.
We would like to apply for a total of £3000 to support the delivery of Clwb Llan's after school clubs over a period of Jan- March 2027;-

Of this total we would like approx. £1920 to be used to pay for the sessional staff costs for the after school clubs. We pay for approx. 10 hours support per week to ensure safe working ratios, support for ALN children and ensure inclusivity wherever possible. From Jan-March, this will be a total of 120 hours at a cost of £16.00 per hour (including oncosts, NI etc)

We would also like to request £1080 funding to contribute to the purchase of resources for use in the after-school sessions at Clwb Llan. Including the purchase of resources, art and craft materials and healthy snacks such as fruit, yogurts and toast, Clwb Llan tends to spend approximately £100 per week on funding consumables. The additional contribution of £1080 towards the cost of resources and food would also be very impactful and is essential to the continuation of impactful delivery.

How does your project benefit the Abertillery and Llanhilleth area and its residents?

-The Clwb Llan children's centre delivers incalculable benefits to the children who participate each week and we provide supplementary testimonials which attest to the need and impact of the children's centre- especially in Llanhilleth and Abertillery. We create a special, safe place for children- where behavioural, social, educational and health outcomes are developed and supported.

- The Clwb Llan Children's centre offers a valuable volunteering and training opportunity for local adults to gain skills and experience in a childcare/ youth setting. We are able to fund safeguarding training, DBS checks and support with references and applications when our volunteers have gone on to paid employment.
- Anecdotally we know that the after-school provision helps with the childcare and work commitments of many of our parents and carers.
- Through children attending the Clwb Llan after-school activities, countless adults and families have gone on to access additional support to enhance their lives and gain resilience when dealing with crises. We routinely refer families to additional support services, support them to access grants and benefits, provide emergency food aid to families in financial crisis and to additional community services offered in the Institute (eg cookery sessions, volunteering opportunities etc)
- The Clwb Llan Children's centre employs one full-time member of staff and three sessional, part-time workers on a regular basis, all of whom live in the area.
- The term time delivery of Clwb Llan after-school sessions ensures the success of our

holiday activities progamme which is delivered for 10 weeks during school holidays. 180 children attended one or more activities, workshops and trips in the 6 week summer break of 2026 and we also distributed over 700 free meals to children aged 0-16 as part of our 'Holiday Hunger' initiative.

- The success of Clwb Llan- and specifically its social impact and opportunities has led to further funding and significant impact in the area of citizenship and community cohesion in recent years. Our Clwb Llan youth volunteers have taken part in litter picks, present wrapping and creating gifts for older people who attend our lunch club. Similarly, we have helped to promote inclusivity and diversity in a number of funded workshops for young people- a project which was designed and led by young members of the local African community.

How many residents of our wards do you believe will benefit from this project?
72 direct beneficiaries each week (children) 200 indirect beneficiaries over 3 months (parents, carers, volunteers, sessional staff, local providers)

What is the total cost of your project?	**£ 3000**

Please detail any project costs which will be met by your group
Please include details of other grant funding bids you have applied for or received for this project

If we are successful, the grant of £3000 will cover the below for a period of 3 months (Jan-March 2027)
1:- session materials/ resources for after-school clubs for 3 months (£1080)
2:-staff hours (session delivery only) for 3 months (£1920)

The costs that will be covered by Llanhilleth Miners Institute include:-
1.-all overheads for the delivery of the project, including utilities and project management costs. (project management includes evaluation, reporting, referrals, inter-agency work, marketing, funding applications)
2:-the additional salary hours for the Children's Development Co-ordinator
3:- DBS checks, volunteer costs, ongoing training needs
4:- additional materials

Funding bids we have submitted or are developing include:- The Moondance Foundation, Gwent High Sheriffs Fund, Heritage Lottery, WCVA.

Exceptional Circumstances
If the amount requested is greater than £3,000, or if the grant request is for running costs, please explain what the exceptional circumstances are:

The grant request is for funds to contribute to the running costs of our Children's Centre, covering a period of 3 months. Clwb Llan and Llanhilleth Miners Institute are facing a number of funding challenges at the moment- while the range and level of need continues to grow substantially in the local community. We are in the process of submitting larger funding applications to Children In Need and The Heritage Lottery and we are confident of securing longer-term funding for our work with children. However, this is a protracted process and we are left with a funding shortfall for the early months of 2027. Significant cuts to previous funding streams from BGCBC for the delivery of food hub, literacy and volunteering projects will hopefully be rectified in the new financial year, but this has left us with reduced reserves.

The changed position with some previous funders is something which we could not have anticipated. One larger funder has now frozen applications for submissions until early 2027 while another has recently changed its criteria to focus on projects being delivered in inner-city areas.

Along with other voluntary organisations in Blaenau Gwent, we are finding that the application process for larger funders has become increasingly pain-staking and prolonged than in previous years, with the timescale for decision making or 'turnaround period' becoming much more lengthy.

We are able to use a limited amount of our reserves to extend the contract of our highly-skilled, experienced and popular Children's Co-ordinator, but we are keen to secure support for additional costs.

This funding request is on the back of an exceptional circumstance regarding our financial situation and we would politely urge you to consider our application sympathetically.

ABERTILLERY & LLANHILLETH COMMUNITY COUNCIL | CYNGOR CYMUNED ABERTYLERI A LLANHILEDD

Grants – Application Form

Please specify which grant you are applying for:

Council Grant	Yes
Loneliness Project Grant	
Christmas Lighting Grant	
School Transport Grant	

Organisation Name	**Abertillery Learning Commuity**
Organisation Type *Provide your registered charity number, if applicable*	
Organisation Address *If your organisation is not based in one premises, please state which areas you cover*	**Alma St, Abertillery NP13 1YL**
Grant Amount Request	**£ 1000**

What would this funding be used for? *Please be as precise as possible*
Abertillery Learning Community is committed to increasing the profile of the Welsh language across the school whilst fostering a stronger sense of belonging among our pupils. To support this vision, we are seeking funding to work with local artist Rhiannon on a collaborative art project that will allow learners to create a large-scale piece of artwork celebrating everything that Abertillery stands for. Pupils will be actively involved in designing and producing the artwork, ensuring that it reflects the town's heritage, community spirit, values, and Welsh identity. Through this project, learners will have the opportunity to explore and celebrate their connection to their local area and culture while engaging meaningfully with the Welsh language. The completed artwork will be displayed prominently within the school as a lasting legacy, promoting pride in both our community and the Welsh language. We believe this project will enhance pupils' sense of belonging, strengthen their cultural identity, improve wellbeing through creative expression, and encourage a greater appreciation and love of the Welsh language for years to come.

How does your project benefit the Abertillery and Llanhilleth area and its residents?
This project will benefit the Abertillery and Llanhilleth area by strengthening the connection between young people, their community, and the Welsh language. Through working with a local artist, pupils will create a piece of artwork that celebrates the heritage, culture, values, and identity of the area, helping them to develop a greater sense of pride and belonging in their community. The project will provide opportunities for learners to explore what makes Abertillery and Llanhilleth unique, while promoting the use and visibility of the Welsh language in a meaningful and engaging way. To ensure the wider community can share in the project's success, we will also host a parents' evening and community exhibition where families and local residents will be invited to view the finished artwork and celebrate the pupils' achievements. This event will strengthen relationships between the school, families, and the wider community, creating a lasting legacy that reflects local pride, encourages community cohesion, and promotes a positive appreciation of Welsh language and culture.
How many residents of our wards do you believe will benefit from this project?
We anticipate that this project will directly benefit approximately 700 pupils and their families across the Abertillery and Llanhilleth area. By involving pupils in the creation of a community-focused artwork that celebrates local heritage, Welsh culture, and the Welsh language, the project will have a positive impact on learners' sense of belonging, wellbeing, and pride in their local area. The benefits will extend beyond the pupils themselves through engagement with parents, carers, and family members, who will be invited to attend a community exhibition and parents' evening showcasing the completed artwork. As a result, we estimate that well over 1,500 local residents could benefit from the project through increased community engagement, stronger connections between school and home, and greater awareness and appreciation of the Welsh language and the rich cultural identity of Abertillery and Llanhilleth.

What is the total cost of your project?	**£1000**
Please detail any project costs which will be met by your group *Please include details of other grant funding bids you have applied for or received for this project*	
We have not applied for any other grants.	

ALCC ClerkMailbox

From: Jessica Stephens [redacted]
@bgcbcschools.wales>
Sent: 05 October 2026 19:32
To: ALCC ClerkMailbox
Subject: Re: Council Grant Application

Morning,

Thank you for letting me know the decision from the Council. The response to your questions is below;

The exhibition would be held at the school, but the whole 3–16 community would be invited to attend. This includes three primary schools, with approximately 1,655 pupils in total, as well as their families and members of the wider school community.

Alongside this, we would also invite local council members, local MPs, local newspapers and other relevant community figures, which would provide further opportunities for the artwork and the project to gain wider exposure.

Depending on the number of attendees, we could arrange staggered entry or potentially hold more than one exhibition event to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to view the artwork.

The wider public would also be able to see the artwork through our social media platforms and, should any local newspapers cover the story, through local press coverage.

The artwork would be displayed prominently in the reception area of the secondary campus. This is a central and highly visible area of the school, meaning that it would be seen regularly by pupils, staff, parents, visitors and members of the community. It would also be viewed by families and visitors attending events such as parents' evenings and open evenings.

The artwork would be produced on canvas. We could also arrange for the canvas to be transported to each of the three primary school campuses so that all pupils have the opportunity to see it.

If required, we could also explore displaying the artwork at a local community centre for a short period of time, which would provide an additional opportunity for the wider community to view it.

I hope this helps to clarify the scale of the exhibition and the potential reach and visibility of the artwork within both the school and the wider local community.

Diolch,

Jessica Stephens

From: ALCC ClerkMailbox <clerk@abertilleryandllanhilleth-wcc.gov.uk>
Sent: Thursday, 01 October 2026 12:18:50
To: Jessica Stephens (Abertillery Learning Community [redacted]
Subject: Council Grant Application

Good morning Jessica

Council met last night to discuss your application made on behalf of Abertillery learning Community for £1000 to fund an art project. Council were unable to reach a decision last night but have requested that more

information is obtained and they will discuss the application at their next meeting on 28 October. Their main concern is around the visibility of the project and how it will have a positive impact on the majority of the people living in the Community Council area. This is particularly important to Council as the funding will be awarded under a s137 power which means the spending must be commensurate to benefit the number of inhabitants.

Are you able to answer the following questions, please?

- Where will the exhibition take place? Will it be limited to the school?
- Who will be invited? Will it just be parents of the pupils taking part in the exhibition?
- Will the wider public have an opportunity to view the exhibition?
- Could the exhibition be moved to other areas in the community to give everyone a chance to see the work?

Please get this information and anything else you may be useful to us before Wednesday 21 October.

Kind Regards | Cofion cynnes

Erika Davies
Deputy Clerk | Dirprwy Glerc

Abertillery & Llanhilleth Community Council | Cyngor Cymuned Abertyleri a Llanhiledd
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Website | Gwefan: http://www.abertilleryandllanhilleth-wcc.gov.uk
Council Offices, Mitre Street, Abertillery, Blaenau Gwent, NP13 1AE
Swyddfeydd y Cyngor, Heol Mitre, Abertyleri, Blaenau Gwent, NP13 1AE

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Os ydych wedi derbyn y neges e-bost hon drwy gamsyniad, rhowch wybod i'r anfonwr a'i dileu'n barhaol o'ch system. Os oes cynnwys yn y neges e-bost hon sy'n bersonol neu os oes ynddi gynnwys nad yw'n gysylltiedig â gwaith Llywodraeth Cymru, ysgolion, y consortia addysg rhanbarthol neu unrhyw awdurdod lleol yng Nghymru, nid ydym yn derbyn cyfrifoldeb am gynnwys o'r fath nac atebolrwydd drosto. Gallai data mewn negeseuon e-bost sy'n cael eu hanfon dros y rhyngrwyd gael eu llygru, neu gallai negeseuon gael eu darllen cyn iddynt gyrraedd pen eu taith neu gael eu diwygio heb awdurdod; nid oes gennym unrhyw reolaeth dros hyn.
Nid ydym yn atebol am unrhyw feirysau cyfrifiadurol a allai fod yn y neges hon nac am unrhyw golledion yn sgil feirysau. I gael gwybodaeth am y sail a ddefnyddir ar gyfer casglu gwybodaeth bersonol drwy **http://hwb.llyw.cymru**, ewch i **http://hwb.gov.wales/Privacy**, ac i weld telerau defnydd y wefan, ewch i **http://hwb.gov.wales/TermsAndConditions**

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