

Executive Summary/Overview of WMRJ Microgrants Scheme (for Education)

The West Midlands Racial Justice Microgrants Scheme is a funding stream designed to support schools, parishes, local church communities, and faith groups working towards racial justice and equality in the region.

Key Features of the Scheme:

- Funding Amount: Up to £1,500 per project.
- Project Timeline: Must be completed within six months (or as agreed).
- Target Audience and Eligible Applicants:
 - Church of England organisations in the education sector, Diocesan Education Boards, within the six West Midlands Dioceses
 - C of E schools
- Application Criteria:
 - The application and its servicing location are based within the six dioceses.
 - Only one application is allowed at a time per organisation/group and application is for a single project only.
 - Funds must be deposited in an official organisation/school/church account (no personal accounts allowed).
- Application Process:
 - Applications must be submitted via the online portal.
 - Reporting is required with a final project report (including financial summary, learnings and outcomes) and interim updates may be required.
- Application Open date:
 - From now until the end of 2026, with Trial Phase from now until Palm Sunday, 2025.
 - Review process: Typically one month, suggesting education projects to implement in late summer term or school year of 2025-2026.
- Suggestions to DDEs on project types:
 - DDEs to identify exciting opportunities and recommend project bidding
 - Encourage projects looking for sustainable impact, or driving creativity, or simply event-based activities to involve students, teachers and staff to identify and break racial barriers, or promote racial justice.
 - Avoid projects for developing training materials, such as delivering unconscious-bias training, designing staff protocol or guides, etc.

Additional Notes:

- West Midlands Racial Justice Initiative may use or share your project as successful stories, case studies or precedent in our six dioceses or wider Church of England organisations through our publications, newsletters and podcasts.
- For inquiries, applicants can contact microgrants@wmracialjustice.org.uk.