

CELCA Grant Application Form

Application Reference: GM 01/06/2026.1

Applicant/Organisation:

Duns Community Nursery (DCN)

We are a not-for-profit nursery run by the community, for the community, providing home-from-home childcare for children aged 0-5 from 7.30am–6pm. Since opening in 2023, we have grown alongside our families, shaping our provision around what our community needs most.

Our vision is to create a caring, inclusive, and inspiring environment where every child's rights are recognised, respected, and celebrated. We work each day to ensure children feel safe, loved, and valued. Through nurturing relationships, play-based learning, and outdoor experiences, we support children's confidence, curiosity, and overall development.

We recently worked closely with our children, parents, and staff to refresh our Vision, Values and Aims so they truly reflect who we are. As a not-for-profit setting, all income is reinvested to continually improve outcomes for local children and families.

Reason for Application:

If successful, we would use the grant to continue funding Famly, the secure digital platform we use to manage the nursery. It enables paperless invoicing and payments, reduces administration time, and supports our data protection responsibilities. It also enables staff to document children's learning and development in real time and share this with parents, strengthening communication between home and nursery. This previous funding has made a significant difference to both staff workload and parent engagement. Continued funding would ensure we can maintain this streamlined, secure, and environmentally responsible way of working, allowing staff to focus more of their time on supporting children directly.

Benefit to the Community:

DCN provides accessible, year-round childcare for families across the Lammermuir Community. As more families move to villages such as Longformacus, the availability of reliable early years provision is essential to sustaining rural life. Without local childcare, many families would not be able to choose to live or remain in the area.

Our extended opening hours support parents working longer or irregular hours, including medical staff at the Knoll and those employed in agriculture. By enabling parents to work, we help families remain financially stable and contribute to the local economy. Most importantly, we ensure local children can grow, learn, and thrive within their own community from the very start.

Inclusivity & Accessibility Provisions:

We are regulated and inspected by the Care Inspectorate and meet all required standards for equality, diversity, and inclusion. However, inclusion at DCN goes beyond compliance.

We welcome all children and families, regardless of background, need or circumstance. We work closely with parents to understand each child's individual needs and make reasonable adjustments where required. Our nurturing approach, flexible sessions and supportive relationships ensure every child feels safe, valued, and able to participate fully. We promote respect, celebrate diversity, and create a setting where everyone has a genuine sense of belonging.

Details of Funding Requested:

ITEM	QTY	COST
Famly App subscription (01/04/2026 to 31/03/2027)	1	£2,433.60
	Total Project Cost	£2,433.60
	Amount from CELCA	£2,433.60

Details of Other Sources of Funding:

The staff have been trying to raise money with a raffle, but we haven't been able to raise nearly enough to cover £2433.60.

Contributions from Application/Organisation:

As above.

Dates of Project:

01/04/2026 to 31/03/2027.