

CELCA Grant Application Form

Application Reference: GM 01/06/2026.2

Applicant/Organisation:

Tweed Foundation - TweedStart

The Tweed Foundation, established in 1983, is dedicated to protecting and improving the natural environment of the River Tweed. It engages in a comprehensive program of biological monitoring and habitat enhancement to protect the Tweeds valuable fish stocks and maximize the rivers natural productivity.

Our educational outreach includes programs such as TweedStart and Go Wild For Fish, along with citizen science initiatives like Guardians of Tweed.

The Tweed Foundation is dedicated to protecting and improving the natural environment of the River Tweed for all of our communities and all; age groups willing to participate.

Reason for Application:

Funding will support a progressive programme, not one-off sessions. Working with young people and volunteers to achieve recognised Dynamic Youth Award certification, contribution to Duke of Edinburgh's Award sessions, and progress into volunteering, Tweed ambassador roles supporting the future of our communities within the Tweed catchment. We will provide:

- Supervised outdoor learning sessions on the River Tweed and its tributaries.
- Introduction to river ecology, fish life cycles, habitats and conservation.
- Practical angling instruction, including safety and responsible practice.
- Hands-on activities such as river observation and basic monitoring.
- Progression opportunities through the TweedStart Dynamic Youth Award.
- Volunteering, leadership and mentoring through the TweedStart Ambassador programme.

Benefit to the Community:

TweedStart delivers clear community benefit. It invests in young people, strengthens wellbeing, and builds long-term care for the River Tweed. Participation is free, with equipment provided, and sessions are delivered locally to reduce travel barriers. Activities are adaptable to different abilities and supported by experienced staff and strong safeguarding.

The programme also strengthens community connections by bringing together young people, families, and volunteers around a shared local asset. It supports the development of local volunteer assistants, builds pathways into conservation activity through Guardians of the Tweed, and helps ensure that knowledge, skills, and stewardship remain within the community. This creates long-term benefits for both people and the river, contributing to.

Accessibility:

The programme benefits the community by improving young people's confidence, wellbeing and understanding of the River Tweed, helping build long-term environmental stewardship. TweedStart also provides opportunities for local people to train as volunteer assistants and supports progression into the Guardians of the Tweed conservation programme, strengthening community involvement and local capacity to care for the river environment. Volunteers can go on to achieve recognised coaching certification and develop skills relating to aquatic invertebrate and freshwater fish ecology.

Details of Funding Requested:

ITEM	QTY	COST
Project Oversight, Management, Coordination, Safeguarding, Reporting	1	£10,000.00
Multiple Session Delivery	10	£6,000.00
Equipment & Resources	10	£2,000.00
Insurance, Governance & Overheads	1	£2,000.00
	Total Project Cost	£20,000.00
	Amount from Others	£0.00
	Amount from CELCA	£10,000.00

Details of Other Sources of Funding:

None.

Contributions from Applicant/Organisation:

- Project management and coordination.
- Staff time for programme planning, safeguarding, reporting and partnership liaison.
- Session delivery.
- Equipment and resources-angling equipment, safety equipment, educational materials, and monitoring
- Insurance, governance, and overheads
- Public liability insurance, safeguarding systems, health & safety, and organisational support

£10,000.00 Total

Dates of Project:

March 2026 – December 2029.