

School Grants Update Spring 2025

The Foyle Foundation completes its grant-giving programme in January 2025, but other funders continue to support school libraries and aim to encourage a love of reading.

Funder	Grant value	Next deadline	Further information
Siobhan Dowd Trust	Up to £650	Ongoing. Grants are awarded monthly	The Siobhan Dowd Trust aims to bring the joy of reading to the young people who need it most. Schools can apply for a 'bookshop spree', giving pupils the opportunity to browse and spend grant money on new books for their school at a local bookshop. Visit siobhandowdtrust.com/teachers-and-librarians
Scottish Library and Information Council	The average grant is £10,000	Annual. The application window is due to reopen in summer 2025	The School Library Improvement Fund is open to state schools in Scotland which are seeking funding for creative and innovative library projects. Schools can apply individually or in collaboration with other schools or external partners. Visit scottishlibraries.org/funding/the-school-library-improvement-fund/the-school-library-improvement-fund
Southover Manor Trust	Generally no more than £20,000	31 March and 30 September	The Trust supports the learning of young people under the age of 25 by funding schools, colleges and other educational institutions in East Sussex, West Sussex and Brighton & Hove. Grants are available for the development of buildings or learning resources. Projects for the refurbishment and restocking of school libraries have been favoured in the past. To apply, complete a quick online eligibility questionnaire then download the application form at southovermanortrust.org.uk/apply
LoveReading 4Kids	£1,000 to £5,000	Ongoing. Allow three months for a decision	The LoveReading4Kids Funding for Schools Scheme offers funding to enable pupils to read for pleasure. The scheme does this by providing grants for books (not textbooks or curriculum books) to schools in areas of deprivation or where efforts are being made to improve literacy standards. Visit lovereading4kids.co.uk/the-lovereading4kids-funding-for-schools-scheme
The Norman Family Charitable Trust	£1,000 to £5,000	Visit the NFCT website for deadline updates	The trust supports charities, community groups and schools in Cornwall, Devon and Somerset (TA postcodes only). It favours projects that have a direct benefit to pupils and where progress or success are quantifiable, including funding for libraries and textbooks. Find more information at nfct.org

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United Way UK	No financial value given	Ongoing	United Way UK’s Reading Oasis programme addresses early childhood literacy challenges and aims to give every child the opportunity to develop a love of reading. Primary schools where 30% or more of pupils are eligible for free school meals can apply to receive an entire library, including furniture, resources and books. Find further information at unitedway.org.uk/reading-oasis
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