

Grant opportunity

Building Digital Resilience, Critical Online Literacy and Healthy Relationships Programme

Service Specification

This document sets out the requirements that the grant holder will be expected to deliver. Organisations are encouraged to set out how they would meet the requirements in response to the areas below and to demonstrate innovative and creative practices they would employ to exceed the minimum requirements outlined.

To apply for this grant, service providers will need to complete the accompanying Expression of Interest form.

Priorities, Criteria and Assessment

Within the application we would expect the following areas to be addressed.

Delivery Aim

The West Yorkshire Violence Reduction Partnership (VRP) are seeking to commission provider(s) to deliver a programme building Digital Resilience¹, Critical Online Literacy² and Healthy Relationships³, which is targeted at those in Years 5 and 6 to bolster these skills prior to harm occurring.

¹ Ability to recognise, manage, and recover from online risks, harms, and challenges. It includes the skills, confidence, and support-seeking behaviours needed to respond effectively to negative online experiences, regulate emotions, make safe decisions, and take appropriate action when harm occurs.

² Ability to access, interpret, evaluate, and question digital content, interactions, and systems. It involves understanding how online information is created, shared, and amplified, and applying critical thinking to identify misinformation, manipulation, exploitation, and other influences that may affect beliefs, attitudes, and behaviour.

³ Ability to develop positive, respectful, and supportive relationships while maintaining a healthy sense of self in digital and offline environments. It includes understanding consent, boundaries, identity formation, peer influence, and the ways online interactions, communities, and influencers can shape attitudes, behaviours, and wellbeing.

The delivery must cover the following topics and should provide a focus on online harm and experiences:

- Digital literacy and critical capacity;
 - Misinformation and disinformation
 - AI generated content, including deepfakes
 - Recognising coercion, manipulation and exploitation online
 - Understanding algorithms and recommendation systems
- Healthy relationships and identity:
 - Respect, consent and boundaries
 - Online Relationships
 - Intimate image sharing
 - Identity, belonging and peer influence
 - Influencers and harmful online narratives
- Digital Resilience and support;
 - Recognising online conflict escalation and de-escalation skills
 - Bystander skills and action
 - Emotional regulation
 - Consequence mapping
 - How and where to seek support to online harm

In addition to these topics, it's also important that the programme is interactive and engaging for children and utilising real platform examples where possible ([Babic et al, 2026](#); [Rocket Science, 2024](#)).

Delivery Objectives

The programme should aim to meet the following outcomes (there may be other relevant outcomes that provider may identify and achieve):

- Increase children's critical understanding of online influence, algorithms and misinformation.
- Increase understanding of healthy relationships, boundaries and consent.
- Increase resilience to harmful online narratives, coercion and manipulation
- Improve children's confidence to identify and respond to online conflict.
- Strengthen protective factors including belonging and positive identity development.
- Improved understanding of 'what works' when delivering content around these topics

Through accomplishing these outcomes, we intend for the impact of the programme to lead towards a reduction in harm experienced by children that originates online, as well as reducing the likelihood of children becoming involved in violence.

Multi Agency Working and Partnership Requirements

Due to the short delivery timeframe, applicants must have agreement in place with one or more primary schools to deliver the programme. Applicants will be required to provide details of the school(s) and confirmation of their agreement within the Expression of Interest return. Applications which do not provide this information will not be considered.

Where possible, the schools should be within any of the Key MSOAs identified through the [VRPs 2026 Needs Assessment](#) (pages 11-14).

The provider can work within as many primary schools as they believe feasible and within the budget being applied for. This will need to be specified within the Expression of Interest form.

Resourcing, Staffing and Safeguarding

The Provider shall ensure that the staff are recruited, inducted, trained, and supported appropriately to work with children and young people, including those who may be vulnerable.

- Supervise Staff on a regular basis.
- Ensuring staff remain up-to-date and compliant with all organisational procedures, policies, a professional code of conduct and uphold standards of best practice.
- Responsibility for the Health and Safety of staff and compliance with all appropriate safety risk assessments and Health and Safety legislation.
- Ensuring staff comply with data protection legislation, confidentiality and information sharing procedures and all legislation connected to their work.
- Ensuring staff maintain accurate and confidential case management records and databases contribute to monitoring information for the service.

The Provider shall have in place suitable arrangements that reflect the importance of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of victims including:

- Suitably experienced and trained staff to deliver the intervention.
- Clear lines of accountability for safeguarding arrangements.
- Safe recruitment, selection, training, and performance management practices for staff involved in the provision of the Services, including process for obtaining appropriate checks, including Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) clearance.
 - Robust safeguarding policies and procedures.

Location and operating hours

The intervention must be delivered within primary schools in West Yorkshire, but there is not a requirement for your delivery to be West Yorkshire wide.

Delivery should take place during the school day, but the structure can be flexibly agreed between the partner and primary schools.

Monitoring and reporting requirements

This programme will be evaluated internally by the Violence Reduction Partnership. The VRP will work with the successful provider(s) to review the Theory of Change, establish an evaluation framework and relevant measures, and create the relevant materials. The delivery partner will be required to work with the VRP and the schools to evaluate the intervention, both for process and impact. In addition, we require quarterly updates (until March 2027) on intervention delivery and financial reporting

Quarterly:

- Financial monitoring
- Qualitative narrative report

Staff from the West Yorkshire Violence Reduction Partnership team will meet formally with the Service Provider on a quarterly basis to review reports and data, monitor delivery, and compliance against the grant agreement. The meetings will afford both parties the opportunity to raise issues for discussion, clarification and provide feedback. There shall be ongoing open discussions between the Commissioners and Service Provider to ensure effective delivery of the service.

Budget and Agreement

The delivery partner is required to deliver this programme to primary school children from 16th November 2026 up to or until March 2027.

Providers are permitted to submit a maximum bid of £30,000 (inclusive of VAT) for this Expression of Interest. A breakdown of proposed budget is required as part of your submission, with delivery to cover the period 16th November 2026 - 31st March 2027 only.

The successful bidders shall be awarded with a grant agreement for the period 16th November 2026 to 31st March 2027.

Payment is received quarterly in arrears subject to financial submissions to the Violence Reduction Partnership.

Expression of Interest Submission

Bidders are invited to submit an Expression of Interest to deliver the requirements outlined in this Service Specification. The delivery period will commence on 16th November 2026 and the awarded provider(s) will need to work swiftly to have the service in place within this agreed timescale. The following timetable will be followed for Expression of Interest and Evaluation. Bidders are invited in their response to outline their proposed timescales for delivery. Please note that there will be an expectation that the successful provider will arrange sessions to commence from 16th November 2026 to maximise delivery from the beginning through to the end of the grant period.

Expression of Interest Opens – 5th October 2026

Expression of Interest Closes – 12 noon on 26th October 2026

Evaluation Period – w/c 2nd November 2026

Notification of Awards – w/c 9th November 2026

Grant Period Starts – 16th November 2026

Evaluation

Each response will be scored using the scoring matrix detailed below.

All applications received by the stated application deadline will be assessed against the stated criteria before any decision is taken whether to grant fund.

The assessment panel's decision will be final, and no discussions will be entered into regarding to decision making of the panel.

Numerical Score	Description
10	Exceeds the requirement: As for "Good" but Tenderer additionally provides exceptional demonstration of its ability, understanding, experience, skills, resource & quality measures required to provide the Services. Response also identifies factors that will offer potential added value over and above the CA's requirements as set out in the Specification, with evidence to support the response.
8	Satisfies the requirement and provides confidence of ability to deliver Services: Above average demonstration by the Tenderer of the relevant ability, understanding, experience, skills, resource & quality measures required to provide the Services. Response provides sufficient level of detail and evidence of a proven track

	record in delivering similar services so as to give the Combined Authority confidence that the Tenderer will be able to deliver the Services in a way which fully complies in all material respects with the Combined Authorities requirements.
6	Appears to satisfy the requirement: Demonstration by the Tenderer of the relevant ability, understanding, experience, skills, resources & quality measures required to provide the Services, with evidence to support the response.
4	Appears to satisfy the requirement with reservations: Some reservations of the Tenderer's relevant ability, understanding, experience, skills, resources & quality measures required to provide the Services, with limited evidence to support the response.
2	Appears to satisfy the requirement with major reservations: Considerable reservations of the Tenderer's relevant ability, understanding, experience, skills, resources & quality measures required to provide the Services, with little or no evidence to support the response.
0	Does not meet the requirement: Does not comply and/or insufficient information provided to demonstrate that the Tenderer has the ability, understanding, experience, skills, resource & quality measures required to provide the Services, with little or no evidence to support the response