



Frequently Asked Questions

As part of my project I want to invest in new technologies to be used in the classroom, how much equipment can I buy?

We will not fund projects where equipment costs make up more than 50% of the total budget. While we are interested in seeing innovative uses of technology, we believe it is the teaching and pedagogy that should drive the project. Moreover, if equipment costs are too high then it will be difficult for the project to be replicated or expanded into other schools.

I work at a private school / in a school with very little disadvantage, can I still apply?

We welcome applications from teachers from all areas and all types of schools. Our only stipulation is that the children targeted have some indicator of economic disadvantage. For example, two previous winners were from private schools, but ran their projects for disadvantaged children from other schools in the local area.

I work in a Pupil Referral Unit, can I still apply?

As long as you are a qualified teacher and your project targets disadvantaged students you can apply.

I am Teaching Assistant / Learning Support Assistant. Can I apply?

A qualified teacher needs to lead the application, but often delivery of the project is supported by Teaching Assistants and Learning Support Assistants.

In my budget, can I charge for my own time?

Yes. We completely understand that you may have to take time out of school hours to organise, prepare, or run the project so we are happy to accept applications with this included in the budget. We will also pay for cover should you need to take time out of the classroom to design and deliver the project.

Can I make a joint application with another teacher?

We understand that these types of projects are often time consuming and best split up, so there is no problem in applying with another teacher. For simplicity of correspondence though, we ask to be provided with the details of just one person to be the main contact for the project. This will be the teacher accountable for the project.

I know I'm busy on the dates provided for interview, is it worth applying?

Certainly – all dates provided are flexible and if needs be we are happy to conduct interviews by telephone or Skype.

I'm not sure exactly how long my project will run for or how many hours it will be. Is it ok if I provide an estimate, as it may be subject to change?

We understand that scheduling and contact hours can be subject to change, but please plan as accurately as possible. This also applies to your budget.

What data should I use to report on the outcomes of the project? Does it have to be data from standardised tests? Can I use questionnaires?

For attainment data, where possible please use data your school already collects from standardised tests e.g. progress measures of word descriptors or levels, optional SATS or SATS, GCSEs, A-Levels etc. For any other outcomes, data from questionnaires or other evaluation tools are fine.

You ask for some information about my background. Is that my professional background, or academic, or personal?

Feel free to interpret this as you wish. You can tell us about any previous jobs, anything from your own personal background, or your teaching background that will be of interest and relevance to your application.

I have a lot of evidence to support my application. Can I include this with my application?

The additional information you provide should be limited to one page only. If you are shortlisted to get through to the next stage, you will be able to bring any further information with you then.

Reminder of our criteria

- The project must be *innovative*: we want to see projects that aim to inspire children in new and exciting ways, not just more of the same Monday to Friday schooling.
- The project must be *scalable*: we want to see projects which, if successful, can be scaled up and replicated easily, whether that be in other schools or areas, or working with a higher number of students.
- The project must target economically *disadvantaged children*: we use Pupil Premium eligibility as a general indicator of economic disadvantage.

What are the key dates for the competition?

Competition launches: Friday 24th February 2017.

Competition deadline: Midday on Monday 24th April 2017.

There is an opportunity to have your application reviewed by one of the panel prior to final submissions. You will need to submit your draft application by midnight on Sunday 26th March 2017. Draft applications should be submitted by email to: teachers@shinetrust.org.uk, using the subject: "Draft application for Let Teachers SHINE 2017".

We will provide written feedback to you via email by 7th April 2017. **You will then need to submit your final application form via the SHINE website by midday on Monday 24th April 2017.**

Interviews will take place the week of the 15th May 2017.

Winners announced: June 2017.

If you have any further questions or would like more information, please get in touch on teachers@shinetrust.org.uk or give us a ring on 0208 393 1880.