



# Taith

# International Learning Exchange Programme for Wales

Pathway 1 - 2023 (FE and VET)

Version 2: 10 March 2023





# Pathway 1 – FE and VET

This document relates specifically to the Taith Pathway 1 (2023) funding call for the FE/VET sector. General information on the Taith programme, including Taith’s aims and objectives, assessment process and project management can be found in the [Core Programme Guide](#). It is strongly advised that all applicants read through the Core Programme Guide in addition to the Pathway specific information that is included in this document prior to completing an application.

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# Glossary

**Accompanying person** An adult, including, but not limited to, members of staff of the applying organisation, who accompany participants in a mobility activity and support participants to ensure they receive the maximum benefit from the activities. Groups of participants should be accompanied by a qualified professional to support and facilitate learning.

**Application deadline** The final date and time by which all application forms and calculation tools must be submitted to the Taith team for assessment.

**Applying organisation** The organisation in Wales submitting an application for funding to Taith. An applying organisation may apply either individually or on behalf of a consortium, which includes other organisations involved in the project.

**Beneficiary** When approved for project funding, the applying organisation becomes a Beneficiary of the grant funding and is responsible for signing the Grant Agreement.

**Consortium** Two or more organisations working collaboratively to develop and deliver a project or an activity within a project.

**Disadvantaged participant** Learner, student or young person participant(s) who are classified as disadvantaged by meeting one or more of the Taith criteria and will be eligible for additional financial support. See Annex 1 for more details.

**Double funding** The costs for the same activity are funded twice via the use of public funds. For clarity, this is not permitted and is considered a breach of the Grant Agreement terms and conditions.

**Eligible activity** An activity that meets the criteria set out in the Taith Programme Guide.

**Eligible costs** The amount of grant related to the delivery of project activities.

**Eligible organisation** An organisation that is able to apply for Taith funding.

**Formal learning** Any learning that takes place during an organised or structured learning programme.

**Funding call** The period of time during which applications for funding can be submitted.

**Grant** The funding awarded by Taith to a successful applying organisation.

**Grant Agreement** The written agreement between Taith and the Beneficiary detailing the terms and conditions of the grant award in line with the application form which will have been independently assessed to be fundable and approved for funding by International Learning Exchange Partnership Limited.

**Grant rates** Fixed rates that are available for different eligible costs.

**Green Travel** Sustainable means of transport, i.e. travel that uses a low-emission means of transport for the main part of the journey. For example, bus, train or car-sharing.

**Informal learning** Learning that takes place outside of organised or structured learning programmes and no learning support is present. Sometimes referred to as experiential or incidental learning.

**Inward mobility** Participants from eligible sending organisations who come to Wales to participate in a Taith programme.

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**International** In the context of Taith, any country outside the United Kingdom.

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**Learning outcomes** Statements of what a learner knows, understands and is able to do on completion of a learning process (comprised of project activity, formal, non-formal or informal learning opportunity).

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**Legal representative** The person who has legal responsibility to represent an organisation and has the legal authority to enter into a legally binding contract, including, in the context of Taith, the authority to sign a Grant Agreement.

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**Month** In calculating the amount of Taith grants, a month is equal to 28 days.

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**Non-formal learning** Learning that takes place outside of any organised or structured learning programme, but some learning support is present.

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**Outward Mobility** Participants from eligible organisations in Wales participating in Taith supported activities at receiving organisations outside the UK (or in exceptional circumstances only, outside of Wales at receiving organisations in the rest of the UK).

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**Physical Mobility** Moving physically to a country other than the country of residence to participate in project activity and/or formal, non-formal or informal learning opportunity.

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**Participant** An individual undertaking physical/virtual or blended international mobility in a Taith funded project.

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**Partner organisation** A generic term for any organisation formally involved in a Taith funded project, where there is a project relationship or interaction. Can include those organisations identified as applying organisation, coordinator, receiving organisation or sending organisation, as well as others involved in the delivery of the project.

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**Partnership** A formal agreement between two or more organisations to participate in a Taith funded project and engage in joint activities and learning experiences.

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**Project** Agreed activities organised and designed to meet clear objectives and outcomes.

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**Project budget** The total sum of money allocated to agreed activities within a Taith funded project.

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**Receiving organisation** When individuals or groups participate in a physical mobility through Taith, they will be hosted by a receiving organisation. This organisation can also often be referred to as host or international partner organisation. Eligible receiving organisations are defined in the sector specific Pathway 1 Programme Guides.

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**Sending organisation** Organisations registered and operating outside the UK who send participants to be hosted in Wales during a physical mobility. Eligible sending organisations are defined in the sector specific Pathway 1 Programme Guides.

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**Staff** A person employed by, or working for an applying organisation, whether on a professional or voluntary basis.

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**Subsistence** Funding available for living expenses, which can include accommodation, food and local transportation, whilst on a physical mobility.

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**Virtual exchanges** Participation in wholly online project activity and/or formal, non-formal or informal learning opportunity, whereby participants engage in learning opportunities using online platforms or learning tools and in collaboration with at least one organisation in another country.

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# 1. Introduction to Pathway 1

**Pathway 1 supports the outward and inward mobility of individual participants or groups of participants.**

Studying, training, volunteering or working abroad broadens people's horizons, expands their skills, and brings benefits to communities and organisations here in Wales. International mobilities have been shown to have hugely positive impacts on participants' personal and professional outcomes, enabling them to develop skills and experience. They will also serve as Wales' ambassadors to the world, carrying the message that Wales is outward-looking, collaborative, and open to educational innovation.

Funding is available for learners, pupils, young people, students, researchers and staff to undertake international exchanges, both short and long term, which provide opportunities to share learning, experience different cultures and develop new skills.

## 2. Who can apply for/participate in Pathway 1

### 2.1 Eligible sectors

Taith Pathway 1 is open to all Taith sectors:

- Schools
- Youth
- Further Education and Vocational Education and Training
- Adult Education
- Higher Education (Education and Research strands)

Eligibility criteria for Applying Organisations in the Further Education (FE) and Vocational Education and Training (VET) sector, together with information on eligible activities, participants, costs and project durations for the sector can be found in [section 3](#).

Information detailing the eligibility criteria for Applying, Receiving and Sending Organisations for all sectors can be found in the eligibility section of the [Core Taith Programme Guide](#).

All potential applying organisations are advised to check they are eligible to apply prior to submitting an application and to contact the Taith team if they have any questions on this.

## 2.2 Reciprocity

The principles of reciprocity and shared learning are central to Taith. Organisations applying for funding for outward mobilities in Taith Pathway 1 can apply for additional funding for inward mobilities to Wales. This will be calculated as a maximum of 30% of a project's budget allocated for outward mobility activities and paid in addition to the sum dedicated for outward mobility activities. Further details on funding for inward mobilities and what funding can be spent on can be found in the eligibility section below. Funding for inward mobilities will be included in the grant award to those successful applying organisations in Wales and it will be their responsibility to administer these funds to, and on behalf of, the sending organisation.

# 3. Eligibility - Sector information

**This section details all the information on eligible activities, durations, participants and costs for the FE & VET. Information relating to other sectors can be found in the relevant sector's Pathway 1 Programme Guide.**

## 3.1 Overview

Taith offers learners and staff from organisations delivering FE and VET in Wales, opportunities to participate in transformative and life changing mobility experiences abroad, shown to have demonstrably positive impacts on people's personal progression in life, their learning, and their employability prospects, particularly those participants with fewer opportunities.

Further education is general education provided to students or learners over the age of 16 who are no longer of compulsory school age. Further education includes provision which is not compulsory secondary education nor forms part of higher education and can include vocational provision.

The Vocational Education and Training sector provides a wide range of courses/skills that help students or learners to develop knowledge, know-how, skills and/or competencies which are directly relevant to specific occupations or employment. It can encompass both vocational qualifications and work-based training.

International mobilities enable participants to develop key life skills and competencies and experience new cultures and languages whilst simultaneously promoting Wales and Welsh language and culture throughout the world. Taith will offer funding and support for organisations delivering FE and VET across Wales, to embed international experiences to curricula and staff development programmes.

## 3.2 General information

The total indicative amount allocated to the FE and VET sector in the 2023 Pathway 1 funding call is £1.2 million.

The project durations for the FE and VET sector for learner and staff mobilities are:

- 12 months
- 18 months
- 24 months

When considering the length of mobilities, please ensure you investigate the visa requirements of the country(ies) to which you plan to travel, and ensure you allow sufficient time for the visa application process (where relevant).

Unfortunately, Taith is unable to provide advice on visas, or provide support for organisations or individuals with visa applications.

## 3.3 Eligible organisations

### Eligible applying organisations:

#### FE

- Any public or private organisation regulated or registered in, and operating from, Wales active in the field of further education, and which offers a range of courses at different levels within the Credit and Qualifications Framework for Wales, leading to accredited qualifications;
- National, regional or local co-ordinating bodies operating within Wales and overseeing the provision of further education;
- Consortium of organisations/providers, which comprises a single lead organisation applying on behalf of a number of further education providers, in the field of further education. All members of the consortium must be regulated or registered in, and operating from, Wales. Consortium partners must be agreed and named at the point of application and it is not permitted for the lead organisation to charge a fee to consortium partners for inclusion in the bid.

Applying organisations must have demonstrable, recent, experience of delivering activity within the sector to which they are applying and be recognised as an education/learning provider within that sector.

#### VET

Any public or private organisation regulated or registered in, and operating from, Wales, active in the field of vocational education & training, which offer a range of courses, leading to accredited qualifications, including:

- National co-ordinating bodies operating within Wales and overseeing the provision of education or training in the field of vocational education and training;
- Companies and other public or private organisations hosting, training or otherwise working with learners and apprentices in vocational education and training;
- Consortium of organisations, which comprises a single lead organisation applying on behalf of a number of vocational education and training providers, in the field of vocational education & training. All members of the consortium must be regulated or registered in, and operating from, Wales. Consortium partners must be agreed and named at the point of application.

Organisations working in the field of Vocational Education and Training, which offer a range of courses, leading to accredited qualifications, which are not regulated or registered in Wales but operate on a UK wide basis, with demonstrable, recent, experience of delivering activity in Wales may also be eligible to apply provided they meet the following criteria:

Satisfactory evidence is submitted to demonstrate:

- how the proposed programme activity will benefit Wales; and
- that the intended participants are either (i) for outward mobility, participants who are undertaking learning activity in Wales, or (ii) for inward mobility, the participants will be undertaking learning activity in Wales.

Applying organisations must have demonstrable, recent, experience of delivering activity within the sector to which they are applying and be recognised as an education/learning provider within that sector.

### **Eligible receiving organisations:**

The applying organisations, as defined above, can generally send their participants to the following receiving organisations outside of the UK or (for introductory travel experiences only), outside of Wales to receiving organisations in the rest of the UK (to ensure inclusivity or participation):

- Any public or private organisation active in the field of vocational education and training recognised and regulated by competent authorities of the country within which the provider is operating and incorporated and/or domiciled;
- Any public or private organisation active in the labour market or in the fields of vocational education and training.

### **Eligible sending organisations (inward mobilities):**

FE and VET providers registered and operating outside the UK and the British Overseas Territories can send eligible participants to be hosted in Wales.

Sending organisations can be:

- Any public, or private organisation, registered with the relevant regulatory body/bodies, delivering vocational education and training; or
- National or regional co-ordinating bodies overseeing the provision of education or training in the field of vocational education and training.



Further information on eligible receiving and sending organisations can be found in the eligibility section of the [Taith Core Programme Guide](#).

### 3.4 Eligible participants, activities and costs

#### Learner Mobilities

Information on eligible applying and receiving organisations can be found in the eligibility section of the [Taith Core Programme Guide](#).

#### Eligible participants:

- FE learners engaged with learning activities and enrolled on an accredited programme at an eligible FE college.
- VET learners engaged with learning or training activities and enrolled at a VET provider.

#### Eligible learner activities:

##### 1. Group Mobilities

Mobility activities led by an FE or VET provider, facilitating group activities centred around formal, non-formal and informal learning and training opportunities, each with defined learning outcomes. Staff from the organisation must accompany the learners for the duration of the international activity and guide the learning process. If needed, other adults may also act as accompanying persons to support the staff member or particular learners. Activities could include:

- **Learning experiences:** Opportunities for groups of learners from at least two different countries to participate in formal, non-formal or informal learning and peer exchange. Activities should aim to enable learners to develop skills, competencies and intercultural awareness and understanding, working together to achieve common goals.
- **Introductory travel experiences:** These are short, UK based introductory mobilities which are possible as part of a progression to an international mobility, where applying organisations feel that an international mobility would otherwise not be achievable. Applying organisations must be explicit in their applications why a UK based introductory mobility is essential to enable their learners to engage with an international mobility opportunity.

#### Duration:

- Minimum 3 days – maximum 1 month.
- For UK based introductory mobilities: Minimum 3 days – maximum 5 days.

### Eligible costs:

#### Learners:

- A subsistence grant.
- A travel grant.
- 100% of actual costs for additional travel related spend e.g. visas, passports, travel insurance, luggage (where necessary) for young people from disadvantaged backgrounds.
- 100% of actual identified inclusion costs for learners with disabilities and additional needs.

#### Accompanying persons (staff or other):

- A subsistence grant.
- A travel grant.
- 100% of actual identified inclusion costs for accompanying adults with disabilities and additional needs.

The applying organisation(s) will receive an organisational support grant for each outward (and inward) participant.

Detailed information on eligible costs and grant rates can be found in [section 6](#).

## 2. Individual Mobilities

Individual mobilities are bespoke opportunities for individual learners to undertake an international mobility independently. An individual learning programme must be defined for each learner and obligatory pre-departure training must be provided and arrangements made with a relevant receiving organisation.

Activities could include individual academic, traineeship or volunteering mobilities for learners to study, volunteer or train at an institution or organisation abroad.

#### Duration:

- Minimum 2 weeks – maximum 12 months.

### Eligible costs:

#### Learners:

- A subsistence grant.
- A travel grant.
- 100% of actual costs for additional travel related spend e.g. visas, passports, travel insurance, luggage (where necessary) for pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds.
- 100% of actual identified inclusion costs for learners with disabilities and additional needs.

Applying organisation(s) will receive an organisational support grant for each outward (and inward) participant.

Detailed information on eligible costs and grant rates can be found in [section 6](#).

### **3. Virtual Group Exchanges:**

A wholly non-physical exchange which will allow the virtual engagement of a group of learners where physical mobility or travel for participants would otherwise not be possible/feasible. Staff from the organisation must accompany the learners for the entire duration of the activity and guide the learning process.

Virtual group exchanges should enable learners to experience an international exchange, communicate with and work alongside peers from an international partner organisation, and to develop skills, knowledge and understanding.

Virtual exchanges must not be used as a substitute for those participants that require extra support and funding to undergo a physical mobility. Applying organisations must be explicit in their applications as to why a wholly virtual mobility is the only format suitable for their learners.

Blended mobilities (those which involve both physical and virtual mobility elements) are encouraged, but will not attract additional funding for the virtual mobility element. Funding for virtual mobilities is only available where there is no element of physical mobility involved.

#### **Duration**

- A minimum of 35 hours of virtual engagement.

#### **Eligible costs:**

##### **Virtual exchanges development costs:**

A contribution towards the cost of developing and delivering high-quality virtual exchanges, including a contribution to course fees where virtual exchanges are facilitated by a third-party provider. Funding of up to £1,200 is available per project.

##### **Organisational support:**

The applying organisation(s) will receive an organisational support grant for up to 20 participants per project who complete the minimum 20 hours of virtual engagement. Additional participants are strongly encouraged but will not attract additional organisational support.

Detailed information on eligible costs and grant rates can be found in [section 6](#).

#### **Staff Mobilities:**

Staff participating in mobility opportunities are expected to share their learning/experience with their school/organisation (and more widely where appropriate) on their return to Wales. How this will be achieved should be detailed in the 'Project Objectives and Implementation' section of the application form.

### Eligible participants:

- Staff involved in the delivery of adult education learning and employed by the participating eligible education provider.
- Other members of staff employed by an eligible participating adult education provider.

### Eligible staff activities:

#### 1. Teaching placements and job shadowing

Funding for appropriately experienced staff to spend a period of time teaching participants at a partner organisation abroad.

Job shadowing will involve mobility opportunities for staff working in the field of FE and VET to undergo a job shadowing mobility, facilitating best practice, knowledge exchange, career development and continued professional development.

Teaching placements and job shadowing may be combined during a single period abroad.

### Duration

- Teaching placements: A minimum of 3 days – a maximum of 12 months.
- Job shadowing: A minimum of 3 days – a maximum of 2 months.

Teaching placements must comprise a minimum of 10 hours of training per week. If the mobility lasts less/longer than one week, the minimum number of training hours for an incomplete week should be proportional to the actual duration.

### Eligible costs:

- A subsistence grant.
- A travel grant.
- 100% of actual identified inclusion costs for staff with disabilities and additional needs.

The applying organisation(s) will receive an organisational support grant for each outward (and inward) participant.

Detailed information on eligible costs and grant rates can be found in [section 6](#).

#### 2. Training courses and Continuing Professional Development

Funding for participants to access a structured course or a similar kind of training provided by qualified professionals and based on a pre-defined learning programme and learning outcomes. The training must involve participants from at least two different countries and must allow participants to interact with other learners and with the trainers. Predominantly passive activities such as listening to lectures, speeches or attendance at conferences are not eligible.

### Duration

- A minimum 2 days – maximum 4 weeks (maximum 10 days course fee per participant).

### Eligible costs:

- A subsistence grant.
- A travel grant.
- Contribution to course fees up to a maximum of £40 per participant per day and maximum £400 per same participant per project/Grant Agreement.
- 100% of actual identified inclusion costs for staff with disabilities and additional needs.

The applying organisation(s) will receive an organisational support grant for each outward (and inward) participant.

### Ineligible costs:

- Conference fees or travel to international conferences.

Detailed information on eligible costs and grant rates can be found in [section 6](#).

## 3. System development projects

System development projects involve activities focused on quality and innovation in FE or VET and bringing back lessons learnt and tools to the organisations involved in the projects and beyond.

Activities could include working with participants from partner organisations abroad to develop new approaches to FE and VET or collaborate with partners to bring together examples of best practice from different countries.

### Duration

- A minimum 3 days – maximum 2 months

### Eligible costs:

- A subsistence grant.
- A travel grant.
- 100% of actual identified inclusion costs for staff with disabilities and additional needs.

The applying organisation(s) will receive an organisational support grant for each outward (and inward) participant.

Detailed information on eligible costs and grant rates can be found in [section 6](#).

#### 4. Preparatory visits

Funded visits to new or existing partners for the purposes of supporting planned or ongoing Taith mobilities. Each preparatory visit must have a clear reasoning and must serve to improve inclusiveness, scope and quality of mobility activities. For example, preparatory visits can be organised to better prepare mobility of participants who have additional support needs, to start working with a new partner organisation, or to prepare longer mobility activities. They can also be organised to provide support for learners on longer term individual mobilities. Preparatory visits can be organised in preparation for any type of learner mobility, and for staff mobilities where there is a clear rationale.

##### Duration

- A minimum of 2 days – maximum of 2 weeks.

##### Eligible costs:

- A subsistence grant.
- A travel grant.
- 100% of actual identified inclusion costs for staff with disabilities and additional needs.
- Taith will fund up to a maximum of three preparatory visits per applying organisation per project/Grant Agreement.

This activity will **not** generate organisational support payments.

Detailed information on eligible costs and grant rates can be found in [section 6](#).

##### Inward Mobility:

Information on eligible sending organisations can be found in the eligibility section of the [Taith Core Programme Guide](#).

##### Eligible participants:

###### Learners:

- Learners enrolled/registered with an eligible organisation and pursuing a course in the field of FE or VET.

###### Staff:

- Staff working in the field of FE or VET, holding a contract of employment with an eligible sending organisation.
- Staff must be a minimum of 18 years old.

##### Specifically for training/facilitation placements to Wales:

- Appropriately experienced staff working in the field of further or vocational education and holding a relevant qualification where appropriate.

### Eligible activities:

All activities defined as eligible activities for outward mobility are also eligible for the purposes of inward mobility, unless otherwise stated in the activity description.

### Eligible costs and payments:

Inward mobility participants are eligible to receive grant funding for **travel** and **subsistence** for their mobility to Wales. The applying organisation in Wales, as the Taith Beneficiary, will receive an organisational support grant for every inward participant to Wales. Funding for inward mobility activities will be paid to the Welsh applying organisation to appropriately distribute to the partner (sending) organisation.

The applying organisation in Wales, as the Taith Beneficiary and host of the inward participants, will be expected to clearly communicate the terms of any contributions to be made and to specify the amount of financial support allocated to the inward participant(s).

It is generally expected that inward mobility participants will receive Group 1 subsistence rates, and a travel grant at the same level as the rates defined for the equivalent outward mobility. Payments to an inward participant may not exceed the equivalent grant rate of an outward participant from Wales to a Group 1 country for the same duration and type of mobility activity.

## 4. Applying for Pathway 1

### 4.1 Deadline

The deadline to submit an application to the **2023 Pathway 1 funding call** is **16<sup>th</sup> March at 12pm GMT**. Applications received after this deadline will not be assessed.

### 4.2 Before you apply

Before beginning an application, it is recommended that applicants:

- Read the Core Programme Guide.
- Check to make sure your organisation is eligible.
- Read through this guide thoroughly, in particular the sector specific information on eligible activities, durations, participants and costs.
- Verify your organisation has sufficient financial and operational capacity.
- Familiarise yourself with the Pathway 1 assessment criteria – in [section 5.2](#).
- Attend the guidance and support events on completing an application and read through the Pathway 1 resources.

## 4.3 Completing an application

To apply for funding for Taith Pathway 1, applying organisations must use the Pathway 1 application form and grant calculation tool accessed via the Taith website.

The application form asks for narrative responses on a range of questions including a project overview, details about planned project activities, project and financial management, and alignment to the Taith programme objectives.

Alongside the application form, applying organisations will be required to complete the grant calculation tool, which will calculate the total grant requested based on the various activities applied for. Information on the grant rates can be found in [section 6](#).

As part of the application process, applying organisations will need to confirm if they want to apply for funding for inward mobilities. Funding for inward mobilities is available for travel costs, subsistence and organisational support, up to a maximum of 30% of the equivalent outward mobility costs. The funding available for this will then be calculated automatically through the grant calculation tool.

Applications will be assessed against the set assessment criteria for Pathway 1, as shown in in [section 5.2](#). It is recommended that applying organisations read through the assessment criteria thoroughly before starting the application so you are clear on what the application is asking for, and how it will be assessed.

There are a range of resources on the Taith website which have been created to support organisations with their application. These include the qualitative questions and assessment criteria, a step-by-step application guide and pre-recorded information on completing the application form.

All applicants are encouraged to complete the qualitative application sections offline, and then copy and paste them into the online application form. This will enable applicants to work through the sections of their application in their own time, without any of the risks associated with working online. Once the offline application is complete, applicants are able to copy and paste the content into the relevant sections on the online form and submit.

Organisations can only submit one application per sector per Pathway funding call. Applicants should ensure that multiple applications to the same Pathway funding call are not submitted by different parties in the same organisation. Where organisations work across more than one sector, they can submit one application per sector, provided they meet the eligibility criteria for those sectors.

## 5. Assessment

Detailed information on the Taith assessment process and how funding decisions are made can be found in section 6 of the [Core Programme Guide](#).





## 5.1 Assessment of applications

To be considered for funding, an applying organisation must demonstrate in their application how they meet the Pathway 1 assessment criteria (see below). The assessment criteria are intended to enable Taith to evaluate the quality of the applications received and establish an overall assessment score for each application. All applications will be scored out of a maximum of 100, based on the below criteria and weightings.

To be considered eligible for funding, applications must pass the following quality thresholds:

- At least 60 out of the total 100 points, and
- At least half of the maximum points in each of the three award criteria categories.

Applications that pass the set quality thresholds will be considered fundable. Applications that do not meet the minimum quality thresholds will be deemed unsuccessful. All applications will be given feedback.

### Funding allocations

Inclusivity and accessibility are a strategic focus for Taith and the programme is looking to fund as many and as wide a range of organisations as possible. As such, no organisation will be able to receive more than 40% of the published indicative sector budget.

Taith will aim to fund all organisations who pass the assessment process and are considered to be fundable. However, Taith funding is finite and it is likely that there will be funding calls where the value of successful, 'fundable' applications exceeds the available allocated budget. Where there is not sufficient budget to fully fund all applications, Taith may adopt an approach to reduce the funding across successful organisations on an equitable basis.

The indicative budget for the Pathway 1 (2023) funding call for the FE/VET sector can be found in [section 3](#).

## 5.2 Pathway 1 Assessment Criteria

Assessment criteria for Taith Pathway 1 – Mobility of participants	
<b>Relevance and quality of project objectives and delivery plans</b> (maximum score 40 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The relevance of the proposed project to the aims and objectives of the Taith programme and the value of the proposed international activity to the applicant organisation(s).</li> <li>▪ The extent to which the proposed project addresses identified needs of the targeted participants (learners and staff) is demonstrated in a clear and concrete manner.</li> <li>▪ For consortium applications, the relevance and benefits of project delivery via a consortium is clearly demonstrated.</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ International partners identified in the application are appropriate and relevant for the desired activities and outcomes of the project, with clear reasoning for the countries involved. Where international partners are not identified in the application, the plans outlined for their identification and engagement are considered and appropriate.</li> <li>▪ Where inward mobilities are included, the proposed approach and processes to manage these are considered, appropriate and demonstrably add value to the project.</li> <li>▪ The applying organisation/consortium has evidenced sufficient administrative capacity proportionate to the scale of the proposed project. The proposal demonstrated a considered and appropriate approach to day-to-day project management, financial management, the delivery of mobilities, and the provision of support to participants.</li> <li>▪ The measures proposed to monitor the project's activities and progress, including the approach to capturing and using participant feedback and the plans to evaluate the success of its outcomes at all levels, are inclusive and realistic.</li> <li>▪ The proposal includes appropriate processes for identifying and managing risks (and exceptional circumstances) during project delivery.</li> <li>▪ The applying/organisation demonstrates it has appropriate safeguarding / duty of care measures for all its proposed activities and its plan for ensuring a supportive environment for all participants is considered and appropriate.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Quality and design of project activities</b> (maximum score 35 points)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The project's activities are clearly set out, well defined, and meet identified needs.</li> <li>▪ The proposed activities demonstrate a realistic approach to meeting the project's overall objectives, with a clearly articulated plan for each of the proposed activities, and how they fit within the overall timeframe of the project.</li> <li>▪ A clear explanation for the proposed content of each of the planned activities and the reasoning for the balance between the different types of activities proposed.</li> <li>▪ The extent to which the proposed activities are either new or additional to existing practices within the organisation(s) or, where they build on existing practices, they show innovation and commitment to continuous improvement.</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ The extent to which the proposed activities will produce high-quality learning outcomes for the participants.</li><li>▪ The proposal clearly outlines the targeted participants for each of the proposed activities and identifies appropriate and inclusive mechanisms to support their participation in a way that meets their needs and enables them to realise the full potential of their experience.</li><li>▪ The respective roles of all organisations are clearly defined for each activity, differentiating between the applying organisation/consortium, the receiving organisation(s) of the project participants and inward mobility arrangements, as required.</li><li>▪ The quality of the proposed actions to support the preparation of participants before mobility activities, and the support provided during and after their mobility activity.</li></ul>
<b>Delivery towards Taith cross-cutting commitments</b> (maximum score 25 points)	<p>The extent to which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ The proposal outlines clear channels of communication and appropriate ways of promoting the project opportunities for participants, including those from underrepresented groups.</li><li>▪ The applying organisation/consortium clearly defines its targeted underrepresented groups, provides details on the identified challenges to widening participation among them and outlines appropriate measures to overcome these challenges.</li><li>▪ The proposal outlines a clear commitment and coherent plans to specifically support the participation of those with additional learning needs and those from disadvantaged backgrounds.</li><li>▪ The proposal outlines how the project delivery will incorporate environmentally sustainable and responsible practices, including clear and tangible plans for sustainable travel where appropriate.</li><li>▪ The proposal outlines clear and effective mechanisms to promote the Welsh language and culture through its activities, including ways in which it proposes to raise the profile of Wales as an open, outward-looking and globally responsible nation.</li></ul>



## 6. Pathway 1 grant rates – FE/VET

Taith funding will be awarded in the form a grant. Grants are calculated using set grant rates for different eligible costs. As part of the application process, organisations will be required to complete a grant calculation tool. Information such as activity, destination country, duration and numbers of participants input into the tool will automatically calculate the grant amount which can be applied for.

Funding will be awarded primarily based on grant rates that contribute towards the travel and cost of living for each participant, based on the mobility length and the destination country. Additional financial support for participants facing exceptional circumstances will also be provided, including the provision of additional support for disadvantaged participants and those with disabilities and/or additional learning needs. Funding will also allow organisations to cover costs related to project delivery.

Budget Category	Description	Participant Type	Grant Rate (£)	
<b>Organisational Support (OS)</b>	A contribution to any cost incurred by the organisation(s) in relation to activities in support of the physical or virtual mobility of learners and staff, both outward and inward. OS is calculated based on the number of outward and inward participants per project. Rates start at £500 per participant for the first 10 participants and reduce as participant numbers increase.	All	<b>No. of Participants</b>	<b>Participant Rate</b>
	OS for virtual mobilities is capped at 20 participants.		0 – 10	500
<b>Subsistence</b>	A grant for living expenses, which can include accommodation, food and local transportation, whilst on a physical mobility, or preparatory visit (staff only).  Funding is calculated as a daily rate per participant. The daily rate will reduce the longer the mobility, with different rates applicable for the first 2 weeks, 2 – 8 weeks and over 8 weeks. A week is 7 days and a month is 28 days.	Learners and Accompanying Persons	<b>Daily rate for country group 1 / 2 / 3</b>	
			First 2 weeks	109 / 94 / 80
	2 – 8 weeks	76 / 66 / 56		
	8 weeks – 12 months	53 / 46 / 39		
Participants will not receive subsistence funding for virtual mobilities.	Staff	<b>Daily rate for country group 1 / 2 / 3</b>		
		First 2 weeks	85 / 75 / 65	

			2 – 8 weeks 8 weeks – 12 months	60 / 50 / 40 35 / 30 / 25
<b>Travel</b>	<p>A contribution to the direct cost of travel for inward and outward mobilities. Funding levels are based on the distance between Wales and the international partner country.</p> <p>Higher grant rates will be available for participants who utilise environmentally sustainable 'Green Travel' options. A green travel top up is available for distances between 100km and 3999km. Beneficiaries will be required to apply for the funding top up via the completion of a request form detailing the green travel option chosen.</p>	All	<p><b>Distance</b></p> <p>10 – 99km 100 – 499km 500 to 1,999km 2,000 - 2,999km 3,000 - 3,999km 4,000 - 7,999km 8,000- 12,000km 12,000km+</p>	<p><b>Travel rate/Green travel</b></p> <p>20 150/180 230/270 300/350 450/520 700 1200 1400</p>
<p><b>Inclusion Support:</b> Participants with Disabilities and/or Additional Learning Needs (ALN)</p>	<p>Participants who have a disability or additional learning needs are eligible for additional funding to support their involvement in a mobility (physical or virtual).</p> <p>Funding will be held centrally by Taith and administered on an actual costs basis once participants are identified. Beneficiaries will be required to <b>apply for funding via the completion of a request form detailing the actual costs per participant and justification.</b></p>	All	100% of eligible costs	
<p><b>Inclusion Support:</b> Participants from Disadvantaged backgrounds</p>	<p>Participants who are from a disadvantaged background are eligible for additional funding for travel related costs to support their involvement in a physical mobility. Travel-related exceptional costs include costs of visas, passports, vaccinations, COVID-19 test(s), health insurance, appropriate clothing and luggage, as necessary. Applies to costs covering travel from/to remote area also.</p> <p>See Annex 1 for eligibility criteria.</p> <p>Funding will be held centrally by Taith and administered on an actual costs basis once participants are identified. Beneficiaries will be required to <b>apply for funding via the completion of a request form detailing the actual costs per participant and justification.</b></p>	Learners	100% of eligible costs related to exceptional travel costs.	
	Funding available for travel from/to a remote area.			

<p><b>Exceptional Costs:</b> Exceptional expensive travel</p>	<p>Funding will be held centrally by Taith and administered on an actual costs basis once participants are identified. Beneficiaries will be required to <b>apply for funding via the completion of a request form detailing the actual costs per participant and justification.</b></p>	<p>All</p>	<p>80% of actual cost, if the original amount provided does not cover at least 70%.</p> <p>Participants from disadvantaged backgrounds are eligible for 100% of actual costs for exceptional expensive travel under the 'travel related exceptional costs' category, as outlined above.</p>
<p><b>Exceptional Costs:</b> Travel to a UK transport hub</p>	<p>A contribution to the cost of travel to a UK transport hub as part of international mobility. A UK transport hub is defined by Taith as a departure point from which the mobility departs to its international destination. For example an airport, train station, port or bus station.</p> <p>Funding is available for group mobilities, and for individual mobilities for participants from disadvantaged backgrounds.</p> <p>Funding will be held centrally by Taith and administered on an actual costs basis once participants are identified. Beneficiaries will be required to <b>apply for funding via the completion of a request form detailing the actual costs and justification.</b></p>	<p>Learners</p>	<p><b>Group Mobilities:</b> £500 per mobility, up to a maximum of £1200 per project, based on actual costs.</p> <p><b>Individual Mobilities:</b> Participants from disadvantaged backgrounds are eligible for up to £100 per participant per mobility, based on actual costs.</p>
<p><b>Exceptional Costs:</b> Covid related exceptional cost</p>	<p>Costs covering Covid-related exceptional costs, specifically where status of the destination country changes during mobility, causing the participant to incur significant additional costs owing to a requirement to quarantine in a dedicated facility, comply with enhanced testing requirements or similar.</p> <p>Funding will be held centrally by Taith and administered on an actual costs basis once participants are identified. Beneficiaries will be required to <b>apply for funding via the completion of a request form detailing the actual costs per participant and justification.</b></p>	<p>All</p>	<p>100% of actual cost</p>
<p><b>Course/Training Costs</b></p>	<p>Costs covering fees for courses and training in association with international training/Continuing Professional Development mobilities for staff.</p>	<p>Staff</p>	<p>Up to a maximum of £40 per participant per day and maximum £400 per same participant per Project/Grant Agreement</p>
<p><b>Virtual Group Exchanges: Development Costs</b></p>	<p>A contribution towards the cost of developing and/or delivering high-quality virtual exchanges.</p>	<p>Learners</p>	<p>Up to £1,200 per project/Grant Agreement.</p>

# Annex 1 – Inclusion support in Taith

**Taith is committed to improving access to international mobility for people with disabilities, additional learning needs, and those from disadvantaged backgrounds.**

We understand that access to sufficient funding to cover the cost of a mobility can be a major barrier for participation in international opportunities. The funding offered through Taith is set at a level that aims to remove the majority of financial barriers. The Taith grant model also includes additional financial support for disadvantaged participants (learners, students and young people) and for participants, including staff, with additional learning needs and disabilities. Information on grant rates and the funding available can be found in the relevant Pathway Programme Guides.

## 1. Disadvantaged participants – FE/VET sector

Participants who meet one or more of the following criteria will be classified as disadvantaged and will be eligible for additional financial support:

- Learners with an annual household income of £25,000 or less.
- Learners receiving Universal Credit or income-related benefits because they are financially supporting themselves, or financially supporting themselves and someone who is dependent on them and living with them, such as a child or partner.
- Learners who are care experienced. This refers to anyone who has been or is currently in care or from a looked after background at any stage of their life, no matter how short, including adopted children who were previously looked after or those who access the Care Experienced Bursary in other parts of the UK.
- Learners who have caring responsibilities.
- Refugees and asylum seekers.

## 2. Participants with additional learning needs and disabilities

Taith is committed to being inclusive to everyone and to reduce barriers to participation for those with physical, mental or health related conditions. The programme will therefore offer funding for participants with a disability and/or additional learning needs of up to 100% of actual costs for support directly related to their additional needs.

This may include aspects such as: preparatory visits to carry out risk assessments and ensure the placement has the necessary access and support in place; to fund additional staff members to support participants; and/or to pay for equipment/adjustments/resources



necessary for participation. Further detail around preparatory visits can be found in the eligible activities section of the Programme Guide.







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