

Beecham Family Award 2026

Guidance Notes

What is it?

The Beecham Family Award is made possible by a generous donation to Penderels Trust from Terry and Jean Beecham. We supported their children to live full and independent lives, and this award continues their commitment to helping others do the same. We launched the award in 2022 to continue Terry and Jean's legacy. Since then, we have provided grants each year to people who use Penderels Trust services.

The purpose of the award is to help improve wellbeing and independence. In previous years, grants of up to £500 have been available. We are pleased that this year the maximum amount you can apply for has increased to **£750**.

Last year, we were able to make eight awards, and we look forward to supporting more people through this year's scheme.

What can it be used for?

Anything that benefits the individual's wellbeing and/or independent living. This may include but is not limited to:

- Trips or short breaks
- Days out
- Activities
- Equipment/items

However, it is also subject to the following conditions:

- It cannot be used as part-payment. It must completely cover all the costs involved.

- It cannot be used for something that can be financed by other means.
- Multiple requests will not be accepted. Each individual can only submit one application.
- It cannot be used for something that has already happened or been purchased.

Due to limited funding, we will not be able to make grants for the following items:

- White goods (large household items such as fridges, freezers, cookers and washing machines)
- Large furniture items like sofas, beds, mattresses.
- DIY projects or items that need building e.g. a new shed, painting a room
- Electronic devices (tablets, mobile phones, laptops or computers)
- Carers breaks
- General clothing (specific items related to support with a disability or health condition may be considered)
- Groceries
- Debt payments

You do not need to apply for the full amount of £750 and should only apply for the precise amount you need. We will consider all applications equally.

Top tips for completing your application

We want to give every application the best possible chance of success. The guidance below will help you explain your request clearly and provide the information needed to consider your application.

- **Be specific about what you are requesting**

The more detail you can provide, the easier it is for us to understand your request and assess your application.

For example, a request for “bedroom furniture” is too broad, as it does not explain exactly what is needed. A request for “a desk and chair so my son can study at home”, together with details of the items you would like to buy, is much clearer and more likely to be considered.

- **Make sure the grant can cover the whole cost**

We can only fund projects, activities or purchases where the grant award will cover the full cost.

For example, if you apply for a trip abroad, the grant may cover flights and accommodation, but there are likely to be additional costs such as food, drinks and spending money. Because of this, we are unlikely to fund such requests. We have previously funded UK activity breaks where the total cost could be met by the grant award.

- **Check the list of items we cannot fund**

Before applying, please make sure that your request is not included in the list of items and activities that are excluded from funding.

- **Apply for the item or activity that matters most to you**

If you have several things you would like funding for, please choose the one that would make the biggest difference and submit an application for that item or activity.

- **Request the amount you genuinely need**

Please do not increase the cost of your request simply because the maximum award is £750. Applications should reflect the actual cost of the item or activity you are requesting.

By applying only for the amount you need, you help us make the funding available to more people.

- **Include costs and supporting information**

Where possible, please include prices, quotations, links or other information that helps us understand the detail and cost of what you are requesting. Applications that clearly show what the funding will be used for are easier for the panel to assess.

If successful, you will be asked to send Penderels Trust an invoice/hyperlink for the item/equipment/activity etc which we will arrange payment for. Requests for cash and bank transfers will not be accepted, we must be able to pay on your behalf to evidence how the money has been used.

Who can apply?

Only people supported by Penderels Trust can apply. We may ask for further clarity if we are unable to find you on our system. However, we do welcome applications from people on behalf of someone else as long as this person is supported by Penderels Trust.

How do I apply?

Please complete the application form which can be found on our website (www.penderelstrust.org.uk/beechnam) and return it by 5pm on 6th November 2026.

You can:

- Complete the online form which you can access via our web page:
www.penderelstrust.org.uk/beechnam
- Complete electronically and email to our dedicated email address:
beechnam@penderelstrust.org.uk
- Print off, complete and post to:
Beechnam Family Award
Penderels Trust
Resource House
1A Brandon Lane
Coventry
CV3 3GU
- Print off, complete and send a photo of each page to:
beechnam@penderelstrust.org.uk

We will also accept applications as a voice note or video answering the questions in the form. These should not be longer than 5 minutes and can be sent by email to **beechnam@penderelstrust.org.uk** or WhatsApp to **07908 611189**.

Please get in touch if there is another way you would like to submit your application and we will do what we can to accommodate this.

How are the award winners decided?

Our Beechnam Award Committee, made up of staff and trustees, will meet in November to look at all applications.

To make the process as fair as possible, applications are anonymised and scored using the same set of criteria.

We only have a limited amount of funding available each year. This means that some good applications will not receive an award. This is not because the application is poor or has been completed incorrectly. It is simply because there are more applications than we can fund.

We will do our best to let everyone know the outcome of their application. However, if we receive a high number of applications, this may not always be possible. If you have not heard from us by 30th November, please assume that your application has not been successful this time.

Thank you for taking the time to apply, and good luck with your application.

Further Terms and Conditions

- 1) By completing your application and providing your contact details, you are giving permission for Penderels Trust to contact you regarding your application.
- 2) The information you provide in your application will not be used anywhere else or for any reason other than the processing and awarding of the Beechnam Family Award.
- 3) We may contact you about sharing your stories and/or pictures for promotional purposes. It is not compulsory and you can choose not to participate.
- 4) **All awards must be used by 5th November 2027.**

If you have any questions, please contact us via **beechnam@penderelstrust.org.uk**

If you have any questions or would like any support with your application, please email us at:
beechem@penderelstrust.org.uk