

## BERA Small Grants Fund 2026/27: Professional development for a flourishing early years sector

The 2026 funding aims to support research focusing on the professional development of early years workforce, for a flourishing early years sector both in the UK and worldwide. This theme reflects BERA’s commitment to the improvement of practice and to policy impact through evidence-based research. We invite applications within one or more of the following four areas:

- Professional development and retention of practitioners in the early years
- Communication, talk and celebrating additional languages - professional development in supporting language diversity in the early years
- Mathematics professional development for the early years
- Professional learning communities and team work in the early years

<b>Project Lead</b>	
<b>Institution</b>	
<b>Principal Participants/ Partners</b>	
<b>Project Title</b>	
<b>Objectives</b> ( <i>no more than 500 words</i> )	
<b>Introduction (scope, focus and aims)</b> (100 words)	
<b>Literature: (200 words)</b>	
<b>Research design (methodology, methods and timeline)</b> (500 words)	
<b>EDI statement</b> (50 words)	
<b>Pathway to impact</b> (150 words – can be tabulated)	
<b>References</b>	

<b>Resources required and outline budget</b> (attached as additional page if required)