**SEFDEY – Annual discretionary grant**

SEFDEY award up to two annual discretionary grants to individuals, bodies or organisations who require funds to promote knowledge and understanding about Early Years in current contexts in England. These small, single grants represent seed funding. Applications should show how the money will lead to growth.

Interested parties should submit a 500 word proposal to show how they meet the following criteria:

* Clear explanation of how the money will have a positive impact and help to assure sustainability and longevity for new and existing initiatives and projects.
* Close alignment with SEFDEY aims to provide a strong voice for the Early Years sector, achieved by
  + Sharing expertise and research
  + Providing opportunities for collaborative research and continuing professional development
  + Giving mutual support to members
  + Supporting colleagues to develop new qualifications Endorsing the quality of Foundation and Top-Up Degrees in Early Years
  + Promoting the recognition of FDEY as a professional qualification
  + Maintaining employers’ recognition and awareness of the FDEY as a qualification in its own right and as a progression route to further studies
  + Promoting collaboration and understanding between HEIs, FEIs, employers and other Early Years organisations
  + Promoting widening participation and anti-racist pedagogy
* Efficient use of funds
* Clear plans to disseminate outcomes or findings

Proposals should include a title, timeline, and list of persons or organisations involved. They will be considered at any time between September and June. They should be sent to the Secretary of SEFDEY at ….. any time between September and June. Applicants will receive a prompt acknowledgment together with an anticipated date for a decision.