

## Support for Young Entrepreneurs

**Kent Community Foundation offer SWEF Business Grants from £500 - £2,000 for young entrepreneurs aged 18-30 living in Kent or Medway**

[Find out more and apply for a grant on our website.](#)

If you need support to be ready to apply for a grant, Kent Community Foundation has compiled a list of organisations that offer young entrepreneurs information and guidance when setting up a small business.

### Local Support for Young Entrepreneurs in Kent & Medway

#### The Kent Foundation

- **What they do:** Offers free mentoring, coaching, and networking for young people under 30 starting or growing a business in Kent.
- **Services:** 1:1 mentoring, business development workshops, networking events.
- **Website:** [kentfoundation.org](http://kentfoundation.org)

#### Kent & Medway Growth Hub

- **What they do:** Central hub for business support services across Kent and Medway.
- **Services:** Business advice, mentoring, training programmes, and access to funding.
- **Website:** [kentandmedwaygrowthhub.org.uk](http://kentandmedwaygrowthhub.org.uk)

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#### Be Your Own Boss – Youth Entrepreneurship Programme

- **What they do:** A hands-on course for 18–24-year-olds to explore self-employment and develop business skills.
- **Includes:** Business planning, branding, marketing, and product development.

- **Website:** [growingkentandmedway.com](http://growingkentandmedway.com)

### CAP Enterprise (Kent) CIC

- **What they do:** Offers enterprise training, start-up support, and social enterprise development.
- **Special focus:** Social impact businesses and support for ex-offenders.
- **Website:** [capenterprise.co.uk](http://capenterprise.co.uk)

### National Resources for Starting a Business

#### GOV.UK – Start a Business

- **What they offer:** Step-by-step guidance on registering a business, tax, insurance, and legal requirements.
- **Website:** [gov.uk/set-up-business](http://gov.uk/set-up-business)

#### The King's Trust

- **What they offer:** Support for 18–30-year-olds including mentoring, funding, and training.
- **Website:** [www.kingstrust.org.uk/](http://www.kingstrust.org.uk/)

#### Start Up Loans (British Business Bank)

- **What they offer:** Government-backed loans up to £25,000 with free mentoring and support.
- **Website:** [www.startuploans.co.uk](http://www.startuploans.co.uk)

#### Enterprise Nation

- **What they offer:** Business planning tools, webinars, and a supportive community.
- **Website:** [www.enterprisenation.com](http://www.enterprisenation.com)

### Other things to consider

- **Business Bank Account:** Essential for managing finances and applying for grants. Most major UK banks offer start-up accounts
- **Business Plan:** Crucial for clarity and funding. Templates from Start Up Loans, Enterprise Nation and Prince's Trust
- **Insurance:** Consider public liability, professional indemnity, and employer's liability if hiring
- **Legal Structure:** Decide between sole trader, limited company, or CIC depending on your goals.

Please contact our Individuals' Grants Officer Georgie MacFarlan via [individuals@kentcf.org.uk](mailto:individuals@kentcf.org.uk) if you have any questions about SWEF business grants.