



Organisational development and funding

Bosnian Supplementary School (BSSM)

Bosnian Supplementary School (BSSM) initially contacted Macc to discuss the various needs of the group, including to gain support with reopening services, sustainability of the organisation and funding for basic necessities.

Development workers from Macc met with BSSM to collaborate on a Development Plan which would help the group to develop an online presence, seek premises, increase board diversity and skills, funding applications, as well as working with the Volunteer Centre to secure volunteers. Macc development workers helped BSSM to prioritise development areas and actions so that our support and resources could be targeted best to where they were needed most. This also helped the group manage its own resources and capacity.

As part of Trustee Week, Macc ran ‘trustee drop-sessions’ which BSSM attended to seek management training for prospective trustees for the group. A Macc development worker talked through the process, clarified any confusion, and shared resources, including Macc factsheets and training event links to share with new trustees. They also highlighted the importance of good governance in connection with trustees and how implementing up to date information and policies is beneficial for wider purposes, such as prospective funders.

Macc reviewed BSSM’s safeguarding policies and signposted the group to the Manchester Safeguarding Board for training and resources to develop the policy. Following this, Macc shared guidance for writing effective funding applications, provided budget advice sourced relevant grants for BSSM to consider applying for. Once the group had drafted an application to the GMCVO emergency micro-grants, a Macc development worker reviewed the application answers and highlighted areas to strengthen.

The group were also seeking a premise and were advised to attend Macc’s venues webinar. This enabled BSSM details to be shared to Macc’s online directory for other organisations to network with the group and share



information on available spaces. To continue expanding BSSM's online presence, a Macc development worker connected BSSM with the Volunteer Centre to utilise BSSM's knowledge gained from the trustee drop-in sessions and recruit volunteers with digital skills.

Thanks to Macc's support, the group successfully applied for the GMCVO micro grants. Macc was able to advise further, suggesting that BSSM connect with the funder for specialist HR advice. A Macc development worker then reviewed and updated the original Development Plan for BSSM to continue working with.

As a result of the Volunteer Centre, BSSM secured two volunteers, and said from this process that they now knew they need to be more specific about their requirements in volunteer role descriptions.

Following this support from Macc, BSSM were also able to secure £2,500 funding from the Neighbourhood Investment Fund.

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