**Please tell us a bit about yourself. What is your connection to Luton?**

I am an independent poet looking to work in SEND schools to create poetry and spoken word, exploring access to poetry for all and the new ways we can engage with poetry. I grew up in **[insert area or ward of Luton]** area in Luton, although I’ve now moved away to live in **[insert area]**, I regularly work in Luton performing my poetry and delivering workshops.

**Please tell us why you are applying - what work you are proposing to be funded? and an estimate of costs**

I have worked as a poet and spoken word artist for several years and am passionate about poetry being accessible to all. By working with SEND schools, I will provide opportunities for students to explore poetry, rhyme and rhythm. At the same time, I will be learning and expanding my own practice in making my poetry accessible. Luton has such diversity, and I would like to reflect the diversity of the residents. I plan to display the poetry publicly to increase visibility and representation for SEND students.

I would like to work with one SEND school to create poetry together for 12 weeks. During this time, students will explore new skills and creating visible interactive poetry points within the school. The theme for the poetry would be friendship and identity.

I have budgeted my time as a facilitator, school staff time, supplies / materials.

This would be a weekly school programme, run during the school day with one 2-hour workshop each week.

£2600 – Artist Fee for the artist/facilitator

£2000 – for teaching staff arrangements

£500 – materials budget

£500 – Contingency.

TOTAL: £5600

**Will you be working with a partner organisation or school? If you would like support to be connected to partners, you can tell us here too.**

I would like to display the poetry in the **[insert venue]**. I have been in conversation with them about exploring new ways to upgrade their space. I am yet to build connections with a school but am aware of **[insert school name]** SEND school.

**Who are you reaching, engaging through this work, and would be their experience?**

I would engage with SEND primary school students in year 6, their teaching staff and the general public in the final display. Students would be able to use their imagination, develop their communication and teamwork skills through it.