



WITNEY TOWN COUNCIL

Grant-aid to Local Organisations APPLICATION FORM

(PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM IN BLOCK CAPITALS)

(1) Your Organisation			
Name of Organisation		Home-Start Oxford	
Registered Address*		26 Kingfisher Green Oxford	
Post Code	OX4 7BX	Tel No.	01865 649003
Contact Name		Katharine Barber	
Position in Organisation		Chief Executive <small>(i.e. Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary)</small>	
Registered Charity	YES	Registration No.	1108612
<p><i>What are the activities and/or aims of the organisation:</i></p> <p>Home-Start Oxford is an independent charity which has been supporting local families since 1988. We provide non-judgmental, compassionate, free support to families going through tough times with at least one child under 5. Over 35 years, Home-Start Oxford has supported thousands of children through their most challenging times, enabling a more positive start in life and the opportunity to thrive.</p> <p>Our local community network of trained volunteers and expert support improve children's life outcomes by supporting their play, learning and development while working alongside their families to deal with significant life challenges. These include mental health issues, poverty, illness, disability, bereavement, autism, relationship stress, refugeehood, imprisonment, social and rural isolation, domestic abuse, addiction, debt and trauma. For many of the families we support, children's practical, intellectual and emotional needs are not always being met. Children are often not given the attention and interaction needed for a healthy attachment.</p> <p>Our support is delivered though 1:1 home visits to families, as well as through a raft of inclusive, nurturing groups. We are parents supporting parents, and at the heart of our organisation is an amazing team of 53 volunteers who make us incredibly cost effective and create our Home-Start culture.</p>			

(2) Membership	
How many members do you have?	We are not a membership organisation.
Approximately how many of your members live in Witney?	We are open to all Witney families with at least one child under the age of 5. We regularly support over 500 Witney residents per year.
Is membership restricted in any way?	N/A
What is your annual subscription, if any?	None
Are you affiliated to a national organisation? If so, which one?	Home-Start UK
Local venue/meeting place	In Witney we run regular groups at Witney Methodist Church and Ceewood Hall.
(3) Grants	
<p>Purpose for which the grant is required:</p> <p>We are requesting a contribution towards our total group work cost in Witney of approximately £60k (our home-visiting support is separately costed).</p> <p>Our open-to-all groups for babies and toddlers deliver community connection and preventative support. Run by expert staff and trained volunteers they support mental health, play, attachment, and early learning.</p> <p>Our regular weekly groups are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Little Splashers Baby Group: weekly for under 1s, at Witney Methodist Church • Puddle Jumpers: weekly for 0-5s, Ceewood Hall, Smiths Estate • Puddle Jumpers: weekly for 0-5s, Witney Methodist Church (outdoor trip or walk once per month). <p>We also offer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free summer fun days: run in outdoor spaces and parks around Witney, these include games, craft, messy fun, free snack and lunch, baby facilities and activities for older children. • An annual fun day: at Ceewood Hall in May half-term. Open to all and providing a range of activities and sources of support. • 3 PEEP Learning Together Groups: evidence-based 6-week programmes for children and families facing high levels of need. These groups are flexible and responsive to arising need and are for families who have been referred (for example by Health Visitors). These groups provide a vital first step into community engagement. • Outreach: an extended model of outreach to increase engagement in our groups amongst the most vulnerable families, giving additional, tailored support to develop relationships of trust. • Support with hardship needs: making applications for grants (e.g. for beds, white goods), referrals to food and baby banks. <p>Please see attached information for more details about our work.</p>	
Amount of grant applied for	£11,000
Has your organisation previously applied to the Town Council for a grant?	YES
If YES please give details	Witney Town Council is a key and valued supporter of Home-Start Oxford. We have received several grants over the past few years to support our work in Witney.

Have you applied for a grant to any other body or organisation?		YES
If YES please give details	Please see attached budget which includes a list of funding secured and expected.	
(4) Financial		
<i>Please enclose a copy of your latest audited accounts, a financial projection for the period following the balance sheet or a Business Plan if a new organisation.</i>		
(5) Fundraising		
What fundraising events or activities will your organisation be holding this year?		
We plan to have teams participating in two sponsored events: the Oxford Half Marathon and the Blenheim 7k.		
We will be taking part in the Big Give Christmas match funding campaign.		
We are currently one of the charities in Tesco stores open for customer voting (1 July – 30 September 2024).		
(6) General		
Recipients of a grant from the Town Council should acknowledge the fact on all relevant literature.		
Please provide or attach any additional information which may assist the Council in reaching its decision.		
<i>I certify that the above information is true to the best of my knowledge and belief, and that I am authorised to make this application for Grant-aid.</i>		
Signed:		Date: 5/7/2024

Please return your completed application form to the address overleaf, for the attention of the TOWN CLERK

For office use only:			
Acknowledged		Previously Applied	
Grant Aid Awarded/Amount	Y / N	Chq No.	

*Please note that if your address and telephone number are personal information and not that of the company or organisation, please complete the form below which will not be published on our website and will be held in accordance with GDPR regulations. By submitting this form, you are agreeing to the Town Council storing your personal information.

Address for correspondence:	
Telephone number:	
E mail address:	