



Organisation			
Name of Organisation	Home-Start Oxford		
Registered Address (including Post Code)	26 Kingfisher Green Oxford OX4 7BX		
Website	www.homestartoxford.org.uk	Telephone	01865 649003
Facebook/Twitter	facebook.com/HomeStartOxford	Email	development@homestartoxford.org.uk
Contact Name	Rachel Haydon		
Position in Organisation	Development Manager		
Registered Charity	YES	Registration Number	1108612
<p>What are the activities and/or aims of the organisation?</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 36 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 through 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 50 volunteers who make us incredibly cost effective and create our Home-Start culture.</p>	
Membership	
How many members do you have?	In 2024/25 we supported 550 families reaching 750 children.
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. Last year we supported 173 families through our group work alone.
Is membership restricted in any way?	No
What is your annual subscription, if any?	None
Are you affiliated to Oxfordshire Youth or other similar umbrella organisation? If so, which one?	Home-Start UK
Do you have safeguarding procedures in place?	Yes
Local venue/meeting place (if applicable)	In Witney we run regular weekly groups at Witney Methodist Church and Ceewood Hall.
Grant-Funding	
<p>Purpose for which the grant is required:</p> <p>We are requesting a contribution towards our total group work cost in Witney (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. Informed by evidence-based 'PEEP Learning Together Programme', our groups give babies/children a great start, vital because 90% brain development happens before age 5. Inclusive and free of charge, we pro-actively reach out to the most vulnerable families.</p> <p>Our regular weekly groups open-to-all 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>Beyond our regular group sessions, we help the most vulnerable families by providing a range of opportunities and tailored support. This includes outreach support, our new specialist group 'Daisies' for families of children with special educational needs (SEN) and referrals to our one-to-one home-visiting service.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daisies: weekly term-time for 0-5s, Witney Methodist Church <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. • 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 planned work and our impact.</p>	
Amount of grant applied for	£12,000
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 fund our work in Witney which has grown into a much-relied upon source of support.
Have you applied for a grant to any other body or organisation?	YES/NO
If YES, please give details	Please see attached budget which includes a list of funding secured and in progress.
Financial	
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.	
Fundraising	

<p>What fundraising events or activities will your organisation be holding this year?</p> <p>We have a team of 16 runners taking part in the Oxford Half Marathon (2 of whom are Witney residents), and for the first time have 2 places in the London Marathon.</p> <p>We will be taking part in the Big Give Christmas match funding campaign.</p>	
<p>General</p>	
<p>Please provide or attach any additional information which may assist the Council in reaching its decision.</p> <p>Please see attached document.</p>	
<p>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.</p>	
<p>Signed: Rachel Haydon</p>	<p>Date: 26/06/15</p>

If posting, 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.	