



# WITNEY TOWN COUNCIL

## Youth Services Grant

### APPLICATION FORM

(PLEASE COMPLETE ELECTRONICALLY)

<b>Organisation</b>			
Name of Organisation	Assisted Reading for Children (ARCh)		
Registered Address (including Post Code)	Suite E, Gobles Court 7 Market Square Bicester, OX26 6AA		
Website	<a href="http://www.archoxfordshire.org.uk">www.archoxfordshire.org.uk</a>	Telephone	01869320380
Facebook/Instagram		Email	info@archoxfordshire.org.uk
Contact Name	Elaine Adams		
Position in Organisation	Joint CEO/Founder  (i.e. Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary)		
Registered Charity	YES/	Registration Number	1146276

What are the activities and/or aims of the organisation?

We are seeking funding for our work in the Witney area over the forthcoming year.

As 2026 is the National Year of Reading, it feels a particularly important time to strengthen children's literacy skills and foster a lifelong love of reading. Schools continue to tell us how many children have been struggling with reading ability, communication skills and confidence. While there have been many challenges for young people in recent years, the need for consistent, individual reading support remains significant.

ARCh is dedicated to rising enjoyment of literacy for children in Oxfordshire via a network of dedicated, trained and resourced volunteers.

Since 2008 ARCh has offered a unique service to schools in the county, supporting around 1000 children each year via approx. 260 volunteers providing up to twice weekly 'happy reading' sessions which involved sharing books, games and lively conversation. The charity provides a complete service to

schools and our volunteers are provided with resources (personalised to individual children) and ongoing support and access to training workshops. We work with 12- primary schools, with 11 staff members and 7 trustees.

This long term commitment sees volunteers continue to work with the same children for the entire year, building special mentoring relationships. Our annual schools survey consistently indicates dramatic improvements, not only in children's reading ability and interest, but also confidence and self-esteem. Our latest results indicated a 98% improvement in confidence in reading and 96% in attitude to reading.

We provide vetted, trained, resourced and supported reading helper volunteers to primary schools across the Witney area. Children are selected for support by their schools; each volunteer usually sharing twice weekly 'happy half hours' enjoying books, games and conversation with their children on a one to one basis. The charity provides resources, personalised to individual children's interests to enable our reading helpers to hook (initially) reluctant readers.

We have reading helpers in most Witney Primary Schools and we continue to recruit and train new reading helpers so that we can reach more children who need support.

### Membership

How many members do you have?	300 trained Reading Helpers 12 members of staff
Approximately how many of your members live in Witney?	22
Is membership restricted in any way?	No
What is your annual subscription, if any?	None
Are you affiliated to Oxfordshire Youth or another similar umbrella organisation? If so, which one?	No
Local venue/meeting place (if applicable)	We use Burwell Hall, Witney for our regular book exchange meetings

<b>Grant-Funding</b>	
<p>Purpose for which the grant is required:</p> <p>We are asking WTC Youth Services Grant to support the school's contribution towards the ARCh service for 10 Witney schools. 10 x £555 - <b>£5550</b></p> <p>The average cost to ARCh to recruit, train, resource and support a reading helper in their first year is £900. With a school contributing £555, we seek to raise the remaining £345 per volunteer through grants and donations.</p> <p>Currently we have 22 reading helpers working with 66 children in Witney town itself. The funding required to cover the shortfall for these volunteers is £12,210 (22 x £555), we are asking for funding for 10 of these volunteers.</p> <p>A grant of £5550 would enable us to continue supporting our reading helpers to work with a further 30 children over the coming year – the National Year of Reading.</p>	
Amount of grant applied for	£ 5550.00
Has your organisation previously applied to the Town Council for a grant?	/NO
If YES, please give details	
Have you applied for a grant to any other body or organisation?	YES/
If YES, please give details	Jim Cousins Trust Hailey Relief Fund Blake Educational Trust Witney Educational Foundation Bartholomew Educational Trust Walter Stickland, Ducklington Stanton Harcourt Educational Trust
<b>Financial</b>	

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**

What fundraising events or activities will your organisation be holding this year?

We do not run fundraisers, but do apply for any relevant grant and fund that would progress our work in the County.

### **General**

Please provide or attach any additional information which may assist the Council in reaching its decision.

The charity is highly regarded and has won multiple awards, most notably the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service.

School staff describe our impact as "transformative" – not only do children's literacy levels soar but their communication skills improve and they display increased levels of confidence and self esteem.

Beneficiaries are children aged between 5 and 11 via support from their special ARCh reading friend who comes into school to see them twice a week, takes an interest in them and values them as individuals. Children often tell us that the ARCh "happy half hour" is their favourite time of the week! Sessions are child led, with the adult there to guide of course, but children feel ownership of their time and choose the books and activities. Hence, no two ARCh sessions are the same and children are excited to attend. There are always lots of opportunities for success and praise – this is something that may well be missing from the children's lives.

We provide vetted, trained, resourced and supported reading helper volunteers to primary schools across the Witney area.

Your support would make a direct, tangible difference—helping children build confidence, improve literacy, and access the wider curriculum with greater independence. It would also allow us to offer subsidised or fully funded places to schools facing financial pressures.

We very much hope you will consider supporting this essential work during the National Year of Reading, and we look forward to hearing from you.

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.

Signed:



Date: 7<sup>th</sup> June 2026

*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.	





# WITNEY TOWN COUNCIL

## Youth Services Grant

### APPLICATION FORM

(PLEASE COMPLETE ELECTRONICALLY)

Organisation			
Name of Organisation	Aspire Oxfordshire		
Registered Address (including Post Code)	Aspire Oxford, St. Thomas School, Osney Lane, Oxford OX1 1NJ		
Website	<a href="https://www.aspireoxfordshire.org/">https://www.aspireoxfordshire.org/</a>	Telephone	01865 204450
Facebook/Instagram	@aspireonline	Email	[REDACTED]
Contact Name	Pam Granger		
Position in Organisation	Youth Hub Manager <small>(i.e. Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary)</small>		
Registered Charity	YES/NO	Registration Number	1117726
<b>What are the activities and/or aims of the organisation?</b> Each year, Aspire supports over 1,700 people to break cycles of unemployment and homelessness. We support a wide range of people in Oxfordshire, including refugees, young people, prison leavers, and more. Whatever barriers a person is facing, we're there to guide them on the complex journey towards long-term independence and wellbeing. We provide three main forms of support: 1- Dignified, secure housing that keeps people off the streets. 2-Employment, training, and education (ETE) support to help people advance towards their goals. 3-Wraparound wellbeing support, to help people build a foundation of confidence and wellbeing. These initiatives work in tandem to help people at every step of their journey towards a better life. Aspire doesn't just help people to build confidence, gain experience, and overcome barriers. We also help them to			

move from short-term desperation to long-term wellbeing – whatever that means to the person we're working with.

<b>Membership</b>	
How many members do you have?	Over 1,700 service users a year.
Approximately how many of your members live in Witney?	Around 100 young people benefit from our youth service in Witney each year.
Is membership restricted in any way?	Aspire accepts referrals and self-referrals, and we seek to help anyone who needs our services.  In the case of our Youth Hub, attendees are aged 16-25.
What is your annual subscription, if any?	N/A
Are you affiliated to Oxfordshire Youth or another similar umbrella organisation? If so, which one?	We have partnerships with a wide range of charities and organisations, including Oxfordshire Youth. However, we are ultimately an independent charity.
Local venue/meeting place (if applicable)	Aspire Youth Hub, 14 Church Green Witney OX28 4AW
<b>Grant-Funding</b>	

### **Purpose for which the grant is required:**

Aspire's Witney Hub reaches 50-100 young people (aged 16-24) a year, helping them to build the foundations of a better life.

The young people we work with face real difficulties in accessing opportunities and moving forward. Many of them have faced circumstances no young person should have to face: whether that's homelessness, long term unemployment, family breakdown, or other issues. Without empathetic, effective support, these young people are left in cycles of poverty and isolation, excluded from the opportunities they need.

Our Youth service uplifts these young people and helps them build a brighter future. We offer dedicated housing for young people, so they have a safe and supportive environment to call home. We also offer ETE support, which helps young people to learn new skills, identify their goals, and take positive steps forward. To further promote confidence and wellbeing, we offer a range of additional activities such as gardening sessions, a pregnancy peer support group, art classes, and more.

As part of our youth service, we offer roll-on/roll-off English & Maths tuition, at a GCSE and functional skills level. Through small group and 1-2-1 sessions with a dedicated tutor, clients build their English and Maths skills at a comfortable pace. They receive wraparound Aspire support during the process, helping them to improve wellbeing and resilience. They then complete examinations to receive qualifications.

Many of the young people we support have had negative experiences with mainstream education, leaving them without the essential qualifications that many courses and jobs demand. These experiences leave their confidence at a low, making them feel anxious about the prospect of further study.

Our tuition service offers small group sessions in a trusted and familiar setting. The roll on/roll off model creates flexibility for those who need it, reducing anxiety and pressure. With supplementary support through our wellbeing and employment services, the tuition service reaches those who might otherwise disengage. Tuition is delivered by our tutor, Lucy Phipps, a highly respected educator who won the 2025 High Sheriff's Award in Oxford, alongside one of Aspire's Youth workers.

Once young people have these qualifications, we further support them to secure work, start further education, or enrol on apprenticeships. Tuition opens doors for young people who would otherwise remain trapped, empowering them to recover lost confidence and access the opportunities they deserve. With roughly 50% of Youth Hub attendees accessing Aspire tuition, tuition is an essential part of our Youth Service.

Last year, we saw an 85% exam pass rate, demonstrating the power of this patient, personal approach. We also saw a 60% increase in young people accessing English and Maths tuition. This reveals just how widespread the need for tuition is, especially among the vulnerable cohort we work with.

The young people at our Hub have indicated that they find group tuition stressful, often due to negative experiences in the education system. We feel that our 1-2-1, roll-on/roll-off model is a key part of our tuition programme's successes, so we would like to maintain this model moving forwards. This means that we cannot accommodate additional demand by expanding group sizes.

In light of increasing demand, we are seeking to expand our English and Maths tuition offer in 2026. We would like to deliver a higher number of tuition sessions this year, so that we can meet the increasing demand. To do so, we need to secure additional funding for extra sessions.

£2,500 could fund our tutor's fees for nearly 85 hours of English and Maths tuition.

Amount of grant applied for		£2,500
Has your organisation previously applied to the Town Council for a grant?		YES/NO
If YES, please give details	We have received grants from the Town Council in the past. Most recently, the Town Council covered the £70 room rental fee at the Corn Exchange, allowing us to exhibit art created by our youth hub attendees.	
Have you applied for a grant to any other body or organisation?		YES/NO
If YES, please give details	We are seeking funds for our tuition scheme from a variety of sources. Recent applications include an application for £10,000 from the SPAR Community Cashback Fund, and we are drafting several applications. Our Youth Hub has secured funds for its core activities, so we are currently prioritising the English and Maths tuition service.	
<b>Financial</b>		
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**

### **What fundraising events or activities will your organisation be holding this year?**

Aspire has a robust fundraising strategy that encompasses all forms of fundraising. Approximately half of our funds come from statutory sources, and the remaining amount comes from Trusts and Foundations, individual giving, events, and corporate support.

We plan to host an 'open day' at the Witney Hub, inviting stakeholders and funders to visit the Hub and see its work firsthand. We would be delighted for the Witney Town Council to attend.

In addition, we run quarterly booths in the Westgate as part of our partnership with Landsec. In December, we operate a gift-wrapping booth that raises funds for Aspire.

In Witney and its environs, we have been supported by local community groups who run events to fundraise for us. Last year, the Standlake Christmas Market and Santa Fun Run both raised funds for Aspire's Youth Hub.

We regularly have runners in the Oxford Half and, thanks to our Run for Charity subscription, in events across the UK.

Our corporate supporters often run office events to raise funds for Aspire.

## **General**

Please provide or attach any additional information which may assist the Council in reaching its decision.

Below are the profiles of three young people receiving Aspire tuition. We wrote these profiles shortly after they passed their English exams.

**'A', 19**

A had to leave school in year 8, due to severe anxiety. A received homeschooling, but says they didn't have any tutors or support. In their own words, they 'didn't really do any proper learning'.

Following a mental health check with their GP, A was referred to Aspire's youth services.

Despite struggling with their anxiety, A has an 100% attendance rate at Aspire. A travels independently to sessions by bus.

A believes that English & Maths qualifications will open doors to a wide range of opportunities. Having passed their English exam, they're now looking ahead to their Maths exam in March.

**'B', 23**

Living in Young People's Supported Accommodation, B has faced multiple barriers to progression. B has turbulent personal relationships and had extremely negative experiences in school. As a result, B needs support in tuition sessions to avoid being triggered. B is 6 months pregnant and is not in a relationship with the baby's father.

B said that Aspire tuition is 'so much easier to understand' than her prior education. B has passed their English exam and took their Maths exam in February.

B is working towards a vocation as a Teaching Assistant or Teacher. Maths and English qualifications could help B progress towards her goals.

**'K', 18**

K left formal education in year 10. Since then, K attended a college course for two years; however, they had no certified English & Maths qualifications on record. K often falls out with their parents due to complicated circumstances, impacting K's self-esteem.

Currently in Young People's Supported Accommodation, K has maintained an 87% attendance rate at Aspire. K always arrives early for sessions.

K said: "I don't know exactly what I want to do but I just want to be able to do it for myself - I don't want to be stuck anymore."

The below video offers a brief introduction to our Youth Hub:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ts8aFEWgv-k>

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.

Signed:



Date: 13/05/2026

*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.	
--------------------------	-------	---------	--



# WITNEY TOWN COUNCIL

## Youth Services Grant

### APPLICATION FORM

(PLEASE COMPLETE ELECTRONICALLY)

<b>Organisation</b>			
Name of Organisation	Be Free Young Carers		
Registered Address (including Post Code)	Be Free Young Carers Harwell Innovation Centre, 173 Curie Avenue, Didcot OX11 0QG		
Website	<a href="https://befreeyc.org.uk/">https://befreeyc.org.uk/</a>	Telephone	01235 838554
Facebook/Instagram	<a href="https://instagram.com/befreeyc/">https://instagram.com/befreeyc/</a> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/befreeyc">https://www.facebook.com/befreeyc</a>	Email	yc@befreeyc.org.uk
Contact Name	Hannah Waugh		
Position in Organisation	Head of Fundraising  (i.e. Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary)		
Registered Charity	YES/NO	Registration Number	1042708
<p>What are the activities and/or aims of the organisation?</p> <p>BFYC are dedicated to providing services and activities for young carers that concentrate on preventive and reactive measures to the young carers circumstances. Our mission is to enable Oxfordshire's young carers to achieve their full potential by delivering a far-reaching developmental and emotional support network of people and resources in their daily lives, their schools and communities.</p> <p>Our services include:</p> <p>School holiday activity programme –We run respite activities throughout the school holidays, providing young carers with the mental health respite from their caring role and letting them be a child for a few hours.</p>			

Befriending service - young carers are paired up with our trained volunteers who will meet with our young carers weekly and give them a break from their role. The Befriender is also a trusted adult that the young carer can confide in.

1-2-1 emotional support and counselling service – complex cases are referred to our youth workers who will visit the young carer in their school environment and deliver 1-2-1 emotional support. We also have a trained counsellor to provide our counselling service. Each weekly session is for 60 minutes and is usually over a period of 6 weeks.

Mindfulness movement – aimed at our primary school aged young carers, it enables mental wellness through yoga-led 45-minute sessions in schools, fostering relaxation, breathing techniques, and overall emotional wellbeing.

13+ Youth Groups – aimed at our older young carers, these youth clubs meet monthly at various locations, they are user led and are a vital way that we engage with our teenagers.

Employability – 121 mentoring over 6 weeks to gain work experience, interview skill workshops, training opportunities. We work closely with our corporate partners to offer our young carers the very best opportunities that they wouldn't be able to access otherwise.

Young carer advocacy– we help and support schools to set up young care clubs, we attend assemblies, offer young carer tool kits and videos to help teachers and children identify, understand, and support young carers. Rising year 7's meet ups with other young carers joining the schools.

Cost of Living – In response to digital poverty, we offer rising year 7s a laptop to start secondary school with. We also offer period products and food on every interaction that we have with young carers.

**Membership**

How many members do you have?	800 - 1000
Approximately how many of your members live in Witney?	45-50 (We have 81 Young Carers registered in West Oxfordshire)
Is membership restricted in any way?	Our members do have to be young carers and we have a registration process that has to be completed.
What is your annual subscription, if any?	N/A
Are you affiliated to Oxfordshire Youth or another similar umbrella organisation? If so, which one?	We are partners with The Carers Trust but do not receive any regular funding from them.
Local venue/meeting place (if applicable)	Our West Oxfordshire hot desk is at the Guide Posts High Street office.

## Grant-Funding

Purpose for which the grant is required:

We are applying for funding specifically for our 13+ Youth Groups and our new 8 - 12 Youth Groups. This is a crucial service we offer for our young carers to offer them a safe space. This group meets once a month throughout the year. We give the young carers the ownership of what they want to do on the next meet up, empowering them to make their own decisions of what they want to do with their free time. In addition to providing young carers with a break from their caring responsibilities, our youth groups also have a significant impact on their emotional wellbeing. They have enabled young carers to build new social connections, which is crucial for tackling the isolation they may face. By creating a safe and supportive environment, we have been able to facilitate the formation of new friendships and foster a sense of community among our young carers. As a result, we have seen their self-confidence blossom. This not only helps them within the youth group, but also within the school environment. They are more likely to form connections with their classmates and have the self-confidence to assert themselves in lessons.

Following the success from our 13+ youth clubs we have established that there is a need to provide this same service to our 8 – 12 young carers so they have the regular interaction and opportunity to make friends.

Funding will cover the cost of the hired spaces for the venues along with the cost of food at each of these sessions which will allow 20 - 30 young carers to have food during the youth club. In addition funding covers the staff costs to deliver these sessions.

**The main outcomes of our youth clubs are:**

- To provide young carers with the opportunity to socialise with their peers.
- To improve the wellbeing of the young carers through creating a support network of peers who face similar challenges.
- The project will give young carers the opportunity to spend time with a youth worker who they can turn to for support for their wellbeing if they need it.

Amount of grant applied for

£3500

Has your organisation previously applied to the Town Council for a grant?

YES/NO

If YES, please give details

We currently have local applications grant aid funding in place.

Have you applied for a grant to any other body or organisation?

YES/NO

If YES, please give details

We are actively seeking funding for our youth clubs both in West Oxfordshire and in our other areas.

**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**

What fundraising events or activities will your organisation be holding this year?

The charity has a range of fundraising events taking place across the year. We are working in partnership with corporates and community groups in order to deliver these fundraising activities.

Golf Days in partnership with Frilford Heath Golf Club,

Quiz at Frilford Heath Golf Club,

Smaller fundraising events with our community and corporate partners.


In addition we have just completed a partnership with Dorchester Festival which we are currently in the process of wrapping up.

In addition to our fundraising activities we are actively fundraising through trusts and grants, regular givers and individual donors.

**General**

Please provide or attach any additional information which may assist the Council in reaching its decision.

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.

Signed: 		Date: 01/06/2026
---	--	------------------

*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.	





# WITNEY TOWN COUNCIL

## Youth Services Grant

### APPLICATION FORM

(PLEASE COMPLETE ELECTRONICALLY)

<b>Organisation</b>			
Name of Organisation	St Mary's Church		
Registered Address (including Post Code)	Church Green, Witney OX28 4AW		
Website	<a href="http://www.witneyparish.org.uk">http://www.witneyparish.org.uk</a>	Telephone	01993 779 492
Facebook/Instagram	Witney Benefice	Email	<a href="mailto:office@witneyparish.org.uk">office@witneyparish.org.uk</a>
Contact Name	Miss Dianne Augustine		
Position in Organisation	Youth Chaplain <small>(i.e. Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary)</small>		
Registered Charity	YES	Registration Number	1129784
<p>What are the activities and/or aims of the organisation?</p> <p>The organisation provides religious services, pastoral support, and community-focused activities across the Parish of Witney. Alongside its worship and ministry, it plays an active role in supporting residents, offering spaces, programmes, and initiatives that strengthen community wellbeing, connection, and inclusion. Its aim is to serve the parish both spiritually and practically, contributing to the life, care, and cohesion of the wider community.</p>			

<b>Membership</b>	
How many members do you have?	14 trustees
Approximately how many of your members live in Witney?	All
Is membership restricted in any way?	no
What is your annual subscription, if any?	N/A
Are you affiliated to Oxfordshire Youth or another similar umbrella organisation? If so, which one? Yes	Working in partnership with Oxfordshire Youth on West Oxfordshire Youth Partnership oversight committee, Witney Youth Partnership,
Local venue/meeting place (if applicable)	Winchester Room at St Mary's Church, Witney OX28 4AW
<b>Grant-Funding</b>	

Purpose for which the grant is required:

Witney's Youth Café is a weekly open-access provision for young people aged 12–18 in Witney, offering a safe, welcoming, and inclusive third space after school. The café provides free activities, creative opportunities, wellbeing support, and trusted adults who build positive relationships with young people. Many attendees face social isolation, anxiety, or limited access to safe places to go; the café offers consistency, belonging, and early-help support that prevents issues from escalating.

Over the next 12 months, the Youth Café will deliver **48 weekly sessions**, each designed to promote connection, confidence, and wellbeing. Throughout the year, the Youth Café will deliver a series of targeted events for **SEND young people**, developed in partnership with *My Life My Choice* and *Yellow Submarine*. We will also host dedicated sessions for **LGBTQ+ young people**. These events provide a safe, welcoming environment where young people can drop in, relax, talk, take part in activities, or seek support from trained adults. The project is intentionally **low-barrier and youth-led**, ensuring that all young people — including those who may struggle in school or at home — can access a safe space without stigma and feel fully included in their community.

The Youth Café is delivered by trained staff and volunteers, supported by strong partnerships with local schools, community organisations, and families. The project aligns directly with Witney Town Council's Youth Services Grant priorities by increasing safe places to go, offering preventative support, and providing positive activities that help young people thrive.

Witney has a clear and growing need for safe, accessible, and youth-friendly third space where young people can go after school. Local schools, families, and community partners consistently report rising levels of **anxiety, loneliness, and social isolation** among young people, particularly those living in new housing developments such as Windrush Place, where community infrastructure is still emerging. Many young people tell us they have **nowhere safe to go**, especially between 3–6pm and feel uncomfortable in public spaces where they may experience conflict, judgement, or overcrowding.

Feedback from the Youth Café pilot shows that young people value having a **warm, supervised, and non-judgemental space** where they can relax, talk, and build friendships. Several attendees shared that free food is important because of the **ongoing cost-of-living pressures** affecting their families; for some, the café provides the only reliable snack or meal they receive after school. Teachers and pastoral staff have also highlighted that a significant number of pupils struggle with emotional regulation, confidence, and peer relationships, and benefit from consistent, trusted adults outside the school environment.

Local youth provision remains limited, with few open-access, drop-in options that are free, inclusive, and suitable for young people with additional needs. Existing services are often oversubscribed, targeted, or require referrals, leaving gaps for those who do not meet thresholds but still need support. The Youth Café directly addresses this gap by offering **preventative, early-help support** in a setting young people choose to attend.

Demand continues to grow: each week new young people attend, and many return regularly, demonstrating the café's role as a **trusted, needed, and valued** part of their week. Without sustained funding, this vital safe space risks being lost at a time when young people in Witney need it most.

### **Sustainability Plan**

The Youth Café is designed with long-term sustainability in mind. Over the next 12 months, we will:

- Strengthen our volunteer base to reduce reliance on paid hours.
- Develop partnerships with schools, community groups, and local organisations.
- Seek match funding from local trusts, churches, and community grants.
- Build a multi-year funding strategy, including county-level youth funds and local business sponsorship.
- Embed the Youth Café within the wider Youth Chaplaincy structure for shared staffing and operational efficiencies.
- Collect strong impact data to secure future investment.

This grant will provide the stability needed to grow the project, strengthen partnerships, and secure long-term funding for a dedicated Youth Chaplain role.

*All costs directly support 48 weekly Youth Café sessions.*

## 1. Staffing

### Youth Chaplain (Project Lead)

- **£19.74/hour × 6 hours/week × 52 weeks = £6,159.36** Covers session delivery, preparation, safeguarding oversight, volunteer support, partnership work with schools, and project coordination.

### Youth Worker (Sessional Staff)

- **£14.50/hour × 3 hours/week × 48 sessions = £2,088.00** Supports delivery, youth engagement, activity facilitation, and safeguarding.

## 2. Volunteer Support

### Volunteer Expenses

- **£10 per session × 48 sessions = £480.00**

### Volunteer Training

- **Safeguarding, first aid, youth-work training = £300.00**

## 3. Venue & Operations

### Venue, Insurance, Admin & Compliance

**£0.00 (in-kind support)** St Mary's Church is generously supporting the initiative by **providing the venue free of charge and covering insurance, administration, and compliance costs**. This significantly reduces overheads and ensures that the majority of funding directly benefits young people.

## 4. Equipment & Activities

### Youth Café Equipment & Creative Resources

- **£600.00**

### Digital Equipment / Maintenance

- £250.00

**5. Food & Refreshments**

**Snacks & Drinks for Young People**

- £25 per session × 48 sessions = £1,200.00

**6. Contingency (5%)**

- £600.00

**Total Funding Requested**

**£10,877.36**

Amount of grant applied for	<b>£10,877.36</b>	
Has your organisation previously applied to the Town Council for a grant?	YES	
If YES, please give details	The £3,000 grant supported the delivery of the Enrichment Programme for 15–18-year-olds, providing high-quality opportunities across the summer and autumn terms. <b>Twelve young people</b> took part in the Summer Programme and <b>15</b>	

	<p><b>students</b> engaged in the Autumn Programme. Participants benefited from a blend of <b>creative workshops, team-building activities, and practical employability support</b>, including <b>CV writing, job applications, and interview preparation</b>. The programme also offered targeted guidance for students <b>resitting English and Maths</b>, helping them understand their progression options with confidence. As a result, young people reported increased <b>confidence</b>, improved <b>employability skills</b>, and a stronger <b>sense of connection to their community</b>.</p>
<p>Have you applied for a grant to any other body or organisation?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>If YES, please give details</p>	<p>SNG community grassroots grant. WODC Youth Voice grant.</p>
<p><b>Financial</b></p>	
<p>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.</p>	
<p><b>Fundraising</b></p>	

Our organisation plans to deliver **at least one dedicated fundraising event this year**, designed to raise income for the Youth Café and wider youth-work programmes. This event will also serve to strengthen community engagement, showcase young people's talents, and build local support for the sustainability of our work. Additional small-scale fundraising activities may be introduced as capacity allows.

## General

Please provide or attach any additional information which may assist the Council in reaching its decision.

### Youth Voice – Feedback from the Pilot

Young people have been central to shaping the Youth Café from the very beginning. Their feedback during the pilot was clear, consistent, and deeply insightful. They told us what matters to them, what helps them feel safe, and what makes the café a place they want to return to each week.

### What Young People Value

- **A calm, welcoming atmosphere and positive ambience** Young people described the café as peaceful, friendly, and a place where they can decompress after school.
- **Enjoyment of creative activities and informal, youth-led decision making** They appreciate having choices, contributing ideas, and shaping activities.
- **Deep appreciation for free food, snacks, and drinks** Refreshments are consistently highlighted as essential.

- **Recognition of the impact of the cost-of-living crisis** Several young people shared that their families are struggling with rising costs and that they often arrive hungry.
- **Free food is not just appreciated — it is essential for some attendees** For some, the café provides the only reliable snack or meal they receive after school.

**Why Youth Voice Matters**

This feedback demonstrates that the Youth Café is not simply a social space — it is a **lifeline** for many young people. Their voices confirm that the café meets real, immediate needs and provides a safe, supportive environment that they trust and value. Their insights continue to shape the development of the project, ensuring it remains relevant, inclusive, and youth-led.

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.

Signed: 

Date: 9<sup>th</sup> June 2026

*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.	

--	--	--	--





# WITNEY TOWN COUNCIL

## Youth Services Grant

### APPLICATION FORM

(PLEASE COMPLETE ELECTRONICALLY)

<b>Organisation</b>			
Name of Organisation	Clear Sky Children's Charity		
Registered Address (including Post Code)	The Manor House Little Wittenham Abingdon OX14 4RA		
Website	<a href="https://clear-sky.org.uk/">https://clear-sky.org.uk/</a>	Telephone	01865 362789
Facebook/Instagram	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/ClearSkyCharity/">https://www.facebook.com/ClearSkyCharity/</a> <a href="https://www.instagram.com/ClearSkyCharity">https://www.instagram.com/ClearSkyCharity</a>	Email	info@clear-sky.org.uk
Contact Name	Jess Haynes		
Position in Organisation	Digital Services Manager  (i.e. Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary)		
Registered Charity	YES	Registration Number	1140441
<p>What are the activities and/or aims of the organisation?</p> <p>Clear Sky is an Oxfordshire-based Play &amp; Creative Arts Therapy charity that works with children aged 4 to 12, who are struggling with their mental health due to childhood trauma. Since 2010 we have supporting over 1,800 children with almost 15,000 therapy sessions. Our aim is to support families through a range of therapeutic parenting programmes and to provide professional training services to practitioners and family workers across the UK. We receive NO statutory funding to deliver these essential services. Our comprehensive, holistic support services are proven to help children experiencing emotional and psychological difficulties and include:</p>			

- Delivering Play and Creative Arts Therapy in schools across Oxfordshire and surrounding counties, supporting children to overcome mental health challenges in a safe, child-led environment.
- Working with families to promote emotional wellbeing and strengthen relationships at home through our Parent-Child Attachment Play programme, Playful Parents and Heart to Heart groups both supporting parents/carers and young people directly and through our CPD accredited Attachment Play Practitioner training courses.
- Training teaching staff to use our specialist skills and child-centred approach to better support children and families. In 2025, we expanded our reach further with the launch of our Emotionally Healthy Schools platform.
- Delivering high-quality online learning through our Institute for Play and Attachment learning hub to therapists and counsellors, which has members across the UK and internationally. We believe in the power of play to transform young lives.

**Membership**

How many members do you have?	We are not a membership organisation. We are seeking funding to run some new groups for young people in the Witney locality
Approximately how many of your members live in Witney?	N/A
Is membership restricted in any way?	No
What is your annual subscription, if any?	None
Are you affiliated to Oxfordshire Youth or another similar umbrella organisation? If so, which one?	Yes, Oxfordshire Youth
Local venue/meeting place (if applicable)	N/A

**Grant-Funding**

Purpose for which the grant is required:

We are seeking funding to run 2 Heart to Heart groups in the Witney community.

The Heart to Heart programme provides 10-week community-based support sessions that are specifically designed for children and teens and their parents or carers to strengthen family relationships and emotional wellbeing.

Heart to Heart is a group programme for children, teens and their parents/carers to attend together across the age ranges of 5 – 9 years and 10 – 15 years. Each group will support up to 8 young person/adult pairs.

Heart to Heart offers structured activities, evidence-based parenting support, and opportunities for peer connection. By engaging both young people and their caregivers together, it creates additional opportunities for learning, development, and social inclusion.

Many young people and families experience challenges related to emotional wellbeing, communication, attachment, and family relationships. Adolescence can be a particularly difficult period, often creating additional pressures for both young people and their parents or carers. Heart to Heart directly addresses these needs by providing a safe, supportive environment where Parents / carers and their children will come together through enjoyable, interactive and low-key activities which help to strengthen their relationship and improve communication in a contained and nurturing group.

Heart to Heart supports young people by helping them develop emotional awareness, communication skills, and stronger family connections. All group members will be equipped with the latest science of attachment and encouraged to develop attachment skills using a wide variety of enjoyable activities including multi-media clips provided, Lego modelling and the occasional junk sculpture.

Families will explore all aspects of middle childhood and teen development including the amazing changes happening in prepubescent and teenage brains, why teens turn nocturnal and other wonderful aspects of emotional, neurological and psychological development.

Heart to Heart Practitioners will share evidence-based tools and techniques with all group members to help them manage stress and develop resilience

Improved family relationships and emotional wellbeing help young people participate more fully in education, community activities, and social opportunities, enabling them to lead more fulfilling and varied lives.

Heart to Heart strengthens the wider community by building stronger families. Improved family relationships can reduce isolation, increase social connectedness, and enhance community wellbeing. The programme creates supportive networks between parents/carers, and young people, encouraging peer support that can continue beyond the programme itself.

We will seek a community partner such as a school, community organisation or family support service to identify and engage families who may benefit from participation. Collaboration with community partners will also strengthen awareness of the programme and create opportunities for ongoing support for families after the programme ends.

Funding will be used to deliver the 10-week programme, including staffing, venue costs, activity materials, resources, and programme evaluation. The programme consists of a coffee morning, an

introductory session, one-to-one meetings with the young person or parent at the start and end of the programme and 6 group sessions.

Costs per Heart to Heart Group facilitator fees = £765

Materials, resources and travel = £165

Venue hire = £1,300

Total = £2,230

Total grant requested for 2 x Heart to Heart groups = £4,460

Amount of grant applied for

£4,460

Has your organisation previously applied to the Town Council for a grant?

NO

If YES, please give details

N/A

Have you applied for a grant to any other body or organisation?

NO

If YES, please give details

No, not for our Heart to Heart groups project.

### 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

What fundraising events or activities will your organisation be holding this year?

Our annual fundraising target for 2026/27 across all our services is in the region of £35,000 (final figure TBC). Our fundraising target supports our core services. This proposed Heart to Heart project is not included within that target. Delivery of this project is therefore dependent on securing dedicated funding.

We apply to a number of grant funding bodies and charitable trusts every year to support our services. We also connect with a variety of local community groups and organisations who support us with fundraising such as the Arts Society, WI, golf clubs, member clubs and individuals.

### General

Please provide or attach any additional information which may assist the Council in reaching its decision.

Please visit <https://clear-sky.org.uk/> to see a short film and for more details about our work.

Our 2024/25 Impact Report can be viewed here

<https://clear-sky.org.uk/wpcontent/uploads/2025/09/FINAL-2024-25-Impact-Report-4.pdf>

If you need any more details to support our application, please get in touch.

Thank you for your consideration.

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.

Signed:



Date: 4 June 2026

*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.	





# WITNEY TOWN COUNCIL

## Grant-aid to Local Organisations APPLICATION FORM

(PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM IN BLOCK CAPITALS)

<b>(1) Your Organisation</b>			
Name of Organisation		Courtside Hubs CIC	
Registered Address*		Unit 20, Wheatley Business Centre, Old London Road, Oxford,	
Post Code	OX33 1XW	Tel No.	01865 689754
Contact Name		James Auckland	
Position in Organisation		Director <small>(i.e. Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary)</small>	
Registered Charity		NO	Registration No.
<p><i>What are the activities and/or aims of the organisation:</i></p> <p>Courtside Hubs CIC is a community interest company dedicated to increasing physical activity and promoting community through the management and activation of local park facilities. Our purpose is to bring people together and help them to be active.</p>			
<b>(2) Membership</b>			
How many members do you have?		n/a	
Approximately how many of your members live in Witney?		n/a	
Is membership restricted in any way?		n/a	

What is your annual subscription, if any?	Zero
Are you affiliated to a national organisation? If so, which one?	No
Local venue/meeting place	Courtside at The Leys
<b>(3) Grants</b>	
<p>Purpose for which the grant is required:</p> <p>Our planned Schools Outreach Project will be the largest of its kind to be implemented across Witney over a school calendar year (we would like to extend this project to 3 years if successful).</p> <p>It consists of two parts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A targeted approach to visit up to 14 schools in year 1 (predominantly Key Stage 2 primary age children) as a first step in community engagement, delivering free pickleball and physical activity to 3,000-4,000 children per annum within the parish of Witney.</li> <li>• Deliver a series of free activity festivals throughout the year as a follow-on offer; pupils invited to attend masterclasses with ex-pros, fun inflatables and free/inclusive tennis, padel and pickleball provision.</li> </ul>	
Amount of grant applied for	£2,000
Has your organisation previously applied to the Town Council for a grant?	YES
If YES please give details	Courtside (The Recipient) was been awarded a capital grant of £250,000 for the provision of the Leys Multi-Activity Hub. This grant was awarded and administered by the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government. The Funder (WTC) has awarded a grant as a contribution to match fund the principal grant to enable delivery of the Project.
Have you applied for a grant to any other body or organisation?	NO
If YES please give details	
<b>(4) Financial</b>	
<p>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.</p>	
<b>(5) Fundraising</b>	

What fundraising events or activities will your organisation be holding this year?

On 18<sup>th</sup> July 2026, Courtside at The Leys will be hosting an Open Day in association with the tennis charity Bright Ideas For Tennis. Former GB Davis Cup pros will be providing their time for free to deliver community coaching taster sessions and match play opportunities against them for the public, with all proceeds from the day going towards the Schools Outreach Project Fund.

## **(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.

### **Project objectives:**

Needs (why):

- Traditional sports and leisure offers haven't solved the inactivity problem: 64% of adults and 27% of children in England are overweight or living with obesity...
- Our healthcare systems are under excessive pressure: 7m people are on hospital waiting lists and there are 2260 patients per GP (up 17% since 2015); WHO estimates that 60% of health issues are lifestyle related...
- We have lost community spaces: church attendance is in decline, 10 pubs close every week, youth clubs are fading, bingo halls are relics of the past...
- We face an epidemic of mental ill health: 1 in 5 (20.3%) 8-16 year olds and 1 in 4 (25%) of 17-19 year olds are suspected to have a probable mental health disorder...
- We have a growing youth skills gap: in December 2024, almost 1 million 16-24 year olds were not in education, employment or training, which threatens their chances of living productive and fulfilling lives...

Although modest, our objective is to address some of these issues through a series of new community-led responses, harnessing public, private and philanthropic sectors. We believe this is needed to help children and disadvantaged communities feel stronger, healthier and happier, both individually and collectively.

**No. children involved:** 3,000 – 4,000

### **Benefits:**

**Impact:** improved physical health and mental well-being; increased school attainment (attendance and improved educational and life skills); coaching qualifications and local workforce opportunities; research has shown already that a schools outreach programme offering free tennis activity has resulted in:

- 97% of children feeling more confident
- 68% increase in happiness reported by teachers
- 93% increase in concentration reported by coaches
- 64% increase in independence reported by parents
- 60% increase in friendships reported by parents

Amount of grant sought – £2,000

Date required by: 1<sup>st</sup> September

**Total project cost and sources of funding:**

Total Schools Outreach project cost is approximately £3,000

Sources of funding:

- Courtside hope to raise approx £1,000 (33%) from planned fund raising events
- We seek the remaining £2,000 of grant funding from the Witney own Council Youth Services Grant in order to deliver positive health outcomes to up to 4,000 children across lower socio-economic groups in the parish of Witney.

**Summary of project cost:**

The cost of the Schools Outreach project can be simply broken down into two sections:

People cost:

- 1 x coach x 6hrs/day @£30/hr = £180 per day delivering free taster sessions to classes of 30 children throughout the day
- 14 x schools @£180

Sub-Total = £2,520

Equipment cost:

- Cones, TDL's (throw down lines), marker spots = £290
- Bucket of mini-orange tennis balls = £60
- 1 x wheeled equipment holdall = £42

Sub-total = £392

Final total = £2,912

**How will the success of the project be measured?**

The success of the project will be measured by:

- The number of children (6-11yrs) from low soci-economic areas (IMD 1-4) receiving free physical activity sessions
- The number of BAME children (6-11yrs) receiving free physical activity sessions
- The number of children who followed-up from the schools outreach session onto a free weekly parks session and/or attended a free activity festival day at The Leys community multi-activity hub

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.

Signed:



Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2026

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.

<b>Address for correspondence:</b>	
<b>Telephone number:</b>	

**E mail address:**

--	--



# WITNEY TOWN COUNCIL

## Youth Services Grant

### APPLICATION FORM

(PLEASE COMPLETE ELECTRONICALLY)

<b>Organisation</b>			
Name of Organisation	Ducklington Sports Club		
Registered Address (including Post Code)	Ducklington Sports Club, Glebelands Playing Fields, Aston Road, Ducklington, Oxfordshire, OX29 7US		
Website	www.ducklingtonsportsclub.co.uk	Telephone	
Facebook/Instagram	www.facebook.com/ducklingtonsportsclub	Email	[REDACTED]
Contact Name	Hamish Law		
Position in Organisation	Treasurer		
Registered Charity	YES	Registration Number	1137103
<b>What are the activities and/or aims of the organisation?</b>			
<p>Ducklington Sports Club is a community football club based in Ducklington, providing organised, inclusive, and enjoyable football for children and young people across the local area.</p> <p>The club fields 14 teams across a wide range of age groups, with 218 registered players. Of these, 102 players (47%) have a Witney address, making Ducklington Sports Club a significant provider of youth sport for Witney's young people.</p> <p>The club is committed to inclusivity and widening participation. For the 2026/27 season, we are proud to be launching our first-ever girls' team, the Ducklington U11 Jaguars, marking an important step forward in providing equal sporting opportunities for girls in our community.</p> <p>All players are welcomed regardless of ability, background, or experience. The club aims to foster teamwork, physical fitness, and a safe environment for the kids to enjoy football.</p>			

<b>Membership</b>	
How many members do you have?	218 registered players across 14 teams
Approximately how many of your members live in Witney?	102 members (approximately 47%)
Is membership restricted in any way?	Membership is open to all. The only caveat is that space must be available in the respective age group squad.
What is your annual subscription, if any?	Approximately £150 per player per year (varies depending on the league in which each team competes)
Are you affiliated to Oxfordshire Youth or another similar umbrella organisation? If so, which one?	Yes — The Football Association (FA).
Local venue/meeting place (if applicable)	Ducklington Sports Club, Glebelands Playing Fields, Aston Road, Ducklington, OX29 7US
<b>Grant-Funding</b>	

Purpose for which the grant is required:

The grant of £2,000 is requested to fund the purchase of new match footballs and first aid kits for all 14 teams ahead of the 2026/27 season.

Adequate footballs and properly stocked first aid kits are essential for every training session and competitive match. Our current equipment is in need of replacement following the conclusion of the 2025/26 season.

This funding is particularly timely as we launch the Ducklington U11 Jaguars, our first girls' team, and need to ensure all new and existing teams are properly equipped from the outset of the season.

With 102 of our 218 players (47%) residing in Witney, this investment will directly benefit a significant number of Witney's young people.

Amount of grant applied for

£2,000

Has your organisation previously applied to the Town Council for a grant?

YES

If YES, please give details

£1700 towards footballs and first aid kits last year

Have you applied for a grant to any other body or organisation?

YES

If YES, please give details

£3,700 received from Ducklington Parish Council towards internal refurbishments at the sports club building.

### Financial

Accounts enclosed.

### Fundraising

What fundraising events or activities will your organisation be holding this year?

Ducklington Sports Club runs a varied and well-attended programme of fundraising events and social activities throughout the year, which also serve to strengthen community ties:

- Annual Beer and Gin Festival (May): One of the club's flagship events, open to the wider community.
- Monthly quiz nights which are held regularly throughout the year, popular with members and local residents alike.
- Ducklington Flower Show (31st August): One of the busiest events in the local calendar, in which the club plays a central part.

In addition, the club actively seeks sponsorship from local businesses to help meet running costs.

### General

Please provide or attach any additional information which may assist the Council in reaching its decision.

Ducklington Sports Club is proud to serve the wider Witney community. Of our 218 registered players, 102 (47%) live within Witney itself, and the club draws further from surrounding villages including Ducklington, Aston, Standlake, and Hardwick.

The 2026/27 season represents a landmark year for the club. We are launching the Ducklington U11 Jaguars, our first-ever girls' team, which will provide structured, coached football to girls aged under 11 in the local area. This is a direct response to growing demand from families and reflects the club's commitment to inclusion and equal access to sport.

Grant funding from Witney Town Council would directly enable us to equip all 14 teams, including the new girls' team, with the footballs and first aid kits they need to participate safely and enjoyably throughout the season.

Should a grant be awarded, Ducklington Sports Club will acknowledge Witney Town Council's support on all relevant club literature, communications, and our club website.

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.

Signed:



Date: 1/6/2026

*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.	





# WITNEY TOWN COUNCIL

## Youth Services Grant

### APPLICATION FORM

(PLEASE COMPLETE ELECTRONICALLY)

<b>Organisation</b>			
Name of Organisation	Thames Valley Partnership t/a Hope After Harm		
Registered Address (including Post Code)	The Coach House, Manor Farm, Aston Sandford, Aylesbury, HP17 8JB		
Website	<a href="#">Hope After Harm – Empowering victim-survivors, families and young people</a>	Telephone	01844 202 001
Facebook/Instagram	<a href="#">Hope After Harm   Facebook</a>  <a href="#">Hope After Harm (@hope after harm)</a> • <a href="#">Instagram photos and videos</a>	Email	<a href="mailto:enquiries@hopeafterharm.org.uk">enquiries@hopeafterharm.org.uk</a>
Contact Name	Thalia Jervis		
Position in Organisation	Chief Executive		
Registered Charity	YES	Registration Number	1031545

What are the activities and/or aims of the organisation?

**Hope After Harm** exists to ensure that no survivor of violence or trauma is left to face recovery alone. Every day, we walk alongside people whose lives have been shattered by harm—helping them find safety, rebuild confidence, and rediscover hope. Our work fills a critical gap: when emergency services step away, survivors often face isolation, poverty, and overwhelming barriers. We provide the practical support and compassionate advocacy they need to move forward. Based in the Thames Valley we reach some of the most vulnerable individuals in our communities. Last year, we supported over 1,400 people, offering tailored help that transforms despair into possibility.

We provide specialist, trauma-informed services that empower people to rebuild their lives and reclaim their future:

**Young People’s Mentoring** – Intensive volunteer based mentoring and restorative justice interventions for vulnerable young people, improving wellbeing and engagement in education sitting alongside support for schools embedding restorative justice. We supported 81 Young People last year – 48 through mentoring and 33 through restorative justice (Thames Valley).

**Sexual Violence Services** – Confidential casework, peer support groups, and outreach to diverse communities, supporting **victim-survivors** last year including a specialist project “Code Blue” supporting police victims of sexual violence and domestic abuse alongside outreach services enabling us to access diverse communities (Thames Valley).

**Family Matters Programme** – Helping **families** navigate the trauma and stigma following the deeply shocking and stigmatising arrest of a family member for online child abuse through dedicated specialist casework support bridging the gap in statutory services and relieving the emotional and administrative toll on police officers (6 Police force areas including Thames Valley).

**Bright Sky Digital Programme** – A global digital platform available across 12 countries in 23 different languages app accessed by 308,708 people in 2024–25, breaking down barriers to support-seeking and providing trusted advice when people need it most.

**Rise for Change Training** – Trauma-informed training for 450 professionals, equipping them to respond safely and effectively to domestic abuse and trauma in the workplace either as managers or customer service representatives empowering others to make a difference.

<b>Membership</b>	
How many members do you have?	Not applicable – we are not a membership organisation
Approximately how many of your members live in Witney?	Not applicable – we are not a membership organisation
Is membership restricted in any way?	Not applicable – we are not a membership organisation
What is your annual subscription, if any?	Not applicable – we are not a membership organisation
Are you affiliated to Oxfordshire Youth or another similar umbrella organisation? If so, which one?	We are members of the Buckinghamshire Family Hub Network
Local venue/meeting place (if applicable)	Not applicable
<b>Grant-Funding</b>	
<p><b>Purpose of the grant</b></p> <p>The grant is required to support Hope After Harm’s Young People’s Programme in Witney. The programme provides trauma-informed mentoring for young people who are facing significant challenges, including trauma, exclusion or risk of exclusion, conflict, poor wellbeing, low confidence, family difficulties, bullying, discrimination, risk-taking behaviour or contact with the criminal justice system.</p> <p>This is an existing, proven programme, and the grant would allow us to strengthen access for young people in Witney. Last year, Hope After Harm supported 48 young people through mentoring across the wider project. Each Young Person is mentored for up to one year. Five referrals came from Witney, all for mentoring, representing 10.4% of the total mentoring project. These referrals came from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Witney Community Primary School: 3 referrals</li> <li>• Tower Hill School: 1 referral</li> <li>• Witney Community College: 1 referral</li> </ul>	

This demonstrates a clear local need for sustained, trusted support for young people in the town.

The need is reinforced by local evidence. Oxfordshire County Council's Witney Central Community Profile identifies higher levels of child poverty and free school meal eligibility than local and county averages. In Witney Central, 17% of children aged 0–15 were living in relative low-income families in 2022/23, compared with 9% across West Oxfordshire and 11% across Oxfordshire. For children aged 11–15, this rose to 21%. The same profile shows that 29.4% of pupils living in Witney Central were eligible for free school meals in January 2024, around double the West Oxfordshire average of 14% and above the Oxfordshire average of 15.7%.

The wider context also shows why early mentoring matters. Department for Education statistics show that suspensions in England remained a significant issue in spring 2024/25, with 312,562 suspensions and 3,300 permanent exclusions during that term. Young people facing disadvantage, trauma, poor wellbeing or exclusion often need more than a short-term intervention; they need consistent, trusted support that helps them rebuild confidence and stay connected to education, family and community life.

Our mentoring model matches each young person with a trained volunteer mentor who provides regular one-to-one support over time. Sessions are tailored to the young person's needs and may focus on emotional wellbeing, confidence, relationships, school engagement, coping strategies, communication, positive routines and future goals. A mentor offers something distinct: a consistent adult relationship outside school, family or statutory services. For young people who may have low trust, feel isolated or have experienced instability, that relationship can be central to making progress.

The programme supports young people to live a fuller and more varied life by helping them re-engage with opportunities around them. Mentoring can support a young person to return to activities they have withdrawn from, take part more positively in school, manage conflict, strengthen social skills, try new experiences, make safer choices and begin to see a more hopeful future. The aim is not simply to provide sessions, but to help young people develop resilience, confidence and skills that continue beyond the period of direct support.

Hope After Harm already works with a range of Oxfordshire and Thames Valley partners to identify and support young people who may otherwise fall through gaps in provision. In Witney, referrals have come directly from Witney Community Primary School, Tower Hill School and Witney Community College. More widely, we work with many other Oxfordshire schools, pupil referral and alternative education settings, Thames Valley

Police, youth justice partners, children and family services, targeted early help teams and voluntary sector partners. In Oxfordshire, our links include West Oxfordshire Youth Partnership, SAFE!, TRAIN Youth, Mind Oxfordshire, Oxfordshire County Council/Children's Services, Abingdon Family Help Team, Oxford Wood Recycling and Graticura Residential.

This partnership approach helps us reach young people who are harder to engage because of trauma, exclusion, poverty, family circumstances, offending behaviour or low trust in services. It also means our support complements, rather than duplicates, existing local provision. The programme adds value to the local community by strengthening the network of support around young people, families and schools. When young people receive the right support early, this can reduce pressure on schools, improve relationships, reduce conflict and help young people feel more connected to their community.

Outcomes are measured through structured assessment, casework review and feedback from young people, mentors and referrers. The programme has moved to an adapted Teen Assessment Tool, which helps us track distance travelled across key areas such as wellbeing, confidence, relationships, coping skills, engagement and future outlook. This allows us to evidence change over time, identify where further support is needed and demonstrate the impact of mentoring in a consistent way.

Local volunteering is also an important part of the model. Volunteer mentors are not a low-cost substitute for professional support; they are trained, supervised and supported to provide safe, reliable relationships for young people. Where mentors are drawn from or connected to local communities, they help build community capacity and create a stronger sense that supporting young people is everyone's responsibility. This is important for sustainability: investment in volunteer mentoring leaves skills, relationships and capacity in the community beyond the life of a single grant.

The grant would be used to support the essential costs of providing trained volunteer mentors for young people in Witney. Although mentors give their time freely, safe and effective mentoring requires proper infrastructure. Funding would contribute towards:

- mentor recruitment and training, including safeguarding
- clinical supervision
- mentor travel costs
- IT equipment for mentors
- professional oversight and casework support from Hope After Harm staff
- monitoring, evaluation and liaison with schools and partners

These elements ensure that each young person receives consistent, safe and high-quality support from a trained and supervised mentor.

Sustainability is central to the programme. By investing in volunteer mentors, strong referral pathways and outcome measurement, the project builds capacity rather than relying solely on short-term activity delivery. Young people who benefit from mentoring are supported to develop confidence, skills and relationships that continue beyond the funding period. Hope After Harm will also continue to work with local schools, Thames Valley Police, pupil referral and alternative education settings, community partners and wider funders to sustain access to mentoring for young people in Witney where need remains.

Amount of grant applied for	£ 1000
-----------------------------	--------

Has your organisation previously applied to the Town Council for a grant?	NO
---	----

If YES, please give details	
-----------------------------	--

Have you applied for a grant to any other body or organisation?	YES
---	-----

If YES, please give details	This activity is part funded by the National Lottery, but we need additional funds to sustain the project we have applied to multiple funders including Berkshire Community Foundation, Charles Hayward Trust, Charles Plater, Clare Foundation, Coutts, DCR Allen Ch Trust, Hays Travel Foundation, Heart of Bucks, JD Foundation , Kelly Family Trust, MK Community Foundation, Turners Court Youth Trust, Witney Community Insight Fund and the Woodstock Family Charitable Foundation.
-----------------------------	--

**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.

Provided as separate attachment

## Fundraising

What fundraising events or activities will your organisation be holding this year?

This financial year our fundraising activities will include:

- MK Marathon (5 sponsored runners)
- WI Tea Party and raffle
- Christmas fundraising campaign (online)
- Update of website to include legacy donations information
- Easyfundraising sign up campaign (internal and external) [Fundraising | Charity Fundraising Online | You Spend Online, Brands Donate | Easyfundraising](#)

## General

Please provide or attach any additional information which may assist the Council in reaching its decision.

### **Young Person A: mentoring gives a future**

The young person was referred when he left a gang and was then assaulted by rivals. He faced numerous challenges at home as he was now the eldest man of the household, and expected to guide his younger brothers. At the start of the mentorship, he had extremely low morale, poor body language and stated his lack of hope for the future. Since fully engaging with New Leaf, bettering himself at school and changing peer groups, he has gone from strength to strength. A is a talented footballer, he has recently acquired a spot at a college studying a B-Tech Sport Management degree and hopes to work in some sporting field. The YP is clearly in greater spirit as he has left his previous life, has new friends and a steady girlfriend. He scores himself higher across all our outcomes and feels having to have someone to speak to during his parents splitting has made him optimistic for the future.

### **Young Person B: Mentoring and Restorative Justice**

The referral came in following an assault on the young person at school which was captured on video. After the incident, his attendance dropped and he was scared of taking the bus alone to school, only attending when mum would drop him off.

Through arranging his mentor meetings at school and entering together, it led to an increase in attendance and more comfort in re-entering the building. Along with a restorative justice intervention he built the confidence to address conflicts with some of those harassing him.

His school grades remained poor, yet he really applied himself to his workshop apprenticeship, bettering his relationships at home and enjoying life again. He also had

no further police involvement having been previously detained for reckless driving of his motor bike in public.


**Young Person C: Mentoring – a new influence**

A polite young man easily influenced by his peers was referred following starting a fire in the school bathroom and anti-social behaviour within his community.

YP A stated by having a mentor and someone positively encouraging him to be great, he stopped smoking cannabis and spent less time with those that got him in trouble with police and at school. Since stopping using substances his had no further instances of psychosis and says that he rarely hears the voices in his head which would previously persist.

He still struggles to navigate relationships, with his grades and is on a reduced timetable. Despite his various challenges it is clear for school and family to see that his wellbeing has improved immensely and hopefully it will transfer into other areas of his life.

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.

Signed: 	Date: 3 June 2026
---	-------------------

*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.	



# WITNEY TOWN COUNCIL

## Youth Services Grant

### APPLICATION FORM

(PLEASE COMPLETE ELECTRONICALLY)

<b>Organisation</b>			
Name of Organisation	1 <sup>st</sup> North Leigh Guides		
Registered Address (including Post Code)	[REDACTED]		
Website		Telephone	[REDACTED]
Facebook/Instagram	North Leigh Guides (private group)	Email	[REDACTED]
Contact Name	Wendy Goddard		
Position in Organisation	Leader  (i.e. Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary)		
Registered Charity	YES	Registration Number	306016 (National number)
<p>What are the activities and/or aims of the organisation?</p> <p>We aim to provide girls with a range of activities, including outdoor and adventurous opportunities. During the summer term each year we meet at a variety of locations including North Leigh Common, Pinsley Woods, Blenheim Community Path, Woodstock outdoor pool and Farmoor reservoir. This year we are also holding a two night camp at Youlbury Scout activity centre.</p> <p>The girls learn how to light fires and cook on them, enjoy being out in nature, and how to take care of it, engage in group activities and negotiate interpersonal relationships, and challenge themselves with new skills and experiences.</p>			

<b>Membership</b>	
How many members do you have?	15 Guides, 2 Young Leaders, 4 Adult Leaders
Approximately how many of your members live in Witney?	12 Guides, 1 Young Leader, 1 Adult Leader
Is membership restricted in any way?	Girls, aged 10 – 14; Young Leaders, female aged 14 – 18; Adult Leaders, female aged over 18
What is your annual subscription, if any?	£1,045 paid to Girlguiding HQ this year. Girls pay £5.00 per week
Are you affiliated to Oxfordshire Youth or another similar umbrella organisation? If so, which one?	Girlguiding
Local venue/meeting place (if applicable)	North Leigh Memorial Hall Youth Centre (during the autumn and spring terms)
<b>Grant-Funding</b>	
<p>Purpose for which the grant is required:</p> <p>To fund a sailing session for the girls at the Oxford Sailing Club at Farmoor reservoir.</p> <p>For the past two years the Witney Lions have given us a grant of £500.00 through their Dream Scheme, which has paid for this. They are now reassessing how they allocate grants so we are unable to apply this year.</p>	
Amount of grant applied for	£500.00

Has your organisation previously applied to the Town Council for a grant?		NO
If YES, please give details		
Have you applied for a grant to any other body or organisation?		YES
If YES, please give details	Witney Lions Dream Scheme	
<b>Financial</b>		
<p>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.</p> <p>Accounts attached.  We are not required by Girlguiding to provide a financial projection, but the £5.00 subs per week paid by the girls only just covers the outgoings of Girlguiding subs (£1,045 this year), hall rent (£25.00 per week for the autumn and spring terms) and resources for meetings.</p>		
<b>Fundraising</b>		
<p>What fundraising events or activities will your organisation be holding this year?</p> <p>We man a 'human fruit machine' at the village festive fair, which made a very small profit last year, but otherwise we are funded entirely by the girls' subs.</p>		
<b>General</b>		
<p>Please provide or attach any additional information which may assist the Council in reaching its decision.</p>		

Voluntary groups such as ours provide young people with very cost effective opportunities for adventurous activities, but working within a very limited budget is challenging and extra funding can make all the difference to what we can offer.

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.

Signed: [REDACTED]

Date: 04.06.2026

*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.	



(PLEASE COMPLETE ELECTRONICALLY)

<b>Organisation</b>			
Name of Organisation	Bright Futures Oxfordshire		
Registered Address (including Post Code)	[REDACTED]		
Website	www.thestation.life	Telephone	[REDACTED]
Facebook/Twitter		Email	[REDACTED]
Contact Name	Paul Meathrel		
Position in Organisation	Trustee  (i.e. Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary)		
Registered Charity	YES/NO	Registration Number	1143123
<p>What are the activities and/or aims of the organisation?</p> <p>Our mission is to give people across Oxfordshire a bright future. We do this through the provision of community projects which seek to relieve poverty and hardship, promote education and social cohesion and inclusion.</p> <p>Most recently this has been through setting up the Station, a detached youth work programme in Witney, funded by Witney Town Council, offering a number of services:</p> <p>Youth workers connect with young people on a weekly basis, going to where they congregate around the town as well as serving hot chocolate at Henry Box and Wood Green Schools (plus soon to become mobile with our customised milk float taking hot chocolate to the streets!).</p> <p>We also run two very successful school holiday football programmes, Break (half term) and Kick (summer holidays), which have been really well attended.</p>			

<p>We recently launched Spark, offering parenting support through courses and one-off sessions with the aim of supporting whole families and improving home life for some of the young people we meet.</p> <p>Finally, we are about to launch one-to-one youth mentoring for some of the young people identified as needing extra support.</p>	
<b>Membership</b>	
How many members do you have?	No members as such.
Approximately how many of your members live in Witney?	Almost all the young people we work with live in Witney itself.
Is membership restricted in any way?	No
What is your annual subscription, if any?	N/A
Are you affiliated to Oxfordshire Youth or other similar umbrella organisation? If so, which one?	No formal affiliation but we do work with Oxfordshire Youth and we are part of the Witney Forum and the WODC Witney Youth Partnership.
Do you have safeguarding procedures in place?	Yes
Local venue/meeting place (if applicable)	N/A
<b>Grant-Funding</b>	
<p>Purpose for which the grant is required:</p> <p>We have a vision to launch a youth cafe in Witney - a permanent place where young people are welcome and can simply spend time with friends and with our youth workers - a safe space with safe people.</p> <p>The grant would cover six months' employment at eight hours per week, for a Project Coordinator, to begin to make this vision a reality. The role would include gathering and facilitating youth voice, investigating options for premises, producing a feasibility and sustainability study, networking with stakeholders and investigating funding options.</p> <p>We feel this role is the first step in getting the project off the ground and will continue to seek further funding. A larger grant would obviously enable us to continue this employment beyond the initial six months and would therefore be gratefully received.</p>	

Amount of grant applied for	£3,500
Has your organisation previously applied to the Town Council for a grant?	YES/NO
If YES, please give details	We have received funding for the past three years to run the Station, and last year also received a Youth Services grant to launch Spark, our parent support project.
Have you applied for a grant to any other body or organisation?	YES/NO
If YES, please give details	
<b>Financial</b>	
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.	
<b>Fundraising</b>	
<p>What fundraising events or activities will your organisation be holding this year?</p> <p>We will be seeking further grant funding for different elements of our work, including beginning to apply for grants for launching the cafe.</p>	
<b>General</b>	
<p>Please provide or attach any additional information which may assist the Council in reaching its decision.</p> <p>One of the areas for improvement highlighted in the 2025 Annual Residents' Satisfaction Survey was the lack of structured spaces for youth, where they can gather to socialise, without having to spend money or being made to feel unwelcome.</p> <p>This theme has come through in our own conversations with young people as well, and more than just the need for a social space: they have mentioned the lack of support outside of school, not knowing who to turn to if they have problems and issues arising outside of school hours.</p>	

Our half term and summer holiday schemes, Break and Kick, have been very well attended, confirming that there is a real demand and a need to provide more permanent facilities for young people.

Thames Valley Police have highlighted the two hours after school as the time when most anti-social behaviour incidents occur (Strategic Needs Assessment 2024).

These are exactly the needs we want to address by establishing a permanent youth cafe, where young people can relax in a safe and welcoming environment, free of charge, and our trained mentors and youth workers can be on hand if they need someone to talk to or are looking for further support.

Having built relationships and trust over the past two years with young people, schools and parents, we believe we are very well placed to provide such a facility. Furthermore, our detached youthwork and the use of our new hot chocolate van to go to young people where they are in the town, enable us to make contact with greater numbers and harder to reach young people, engaging with them in a low key and relaxed way to develop trust and draw them in to use the facility once established.

Since the cafe would be used by young people primarily after school hours, there would be potential to run sessions during the day for other groups, for example our own parenting support sessions - or working with other organisations to maximise the use of the facilities at all times.

We have already begun to explore possible venues and we would be very keen to work with Witney Town Council to make this idea into a reality, for the benefit of our young people and the wider community in our town. There are a lot of avenues to explore and factors to consider, which is why this role is so key.

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.

Signed:



(Completing this application on behalf of the Trustees)

Date: 05/06/2026

*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.	





# WITNEY TOWN COUNCIL

## Youth Services Grant

### APPLICATION FORM

(PLEASE COMPLETE ELECTRONICALLY)

<b>Organisation</b>			
Name of Organisation	Witney Buttercross Scout Group		
Registered Address (including Post Code)	Scout Hut, Marlborough Lane, Witney, Oxfordshire, OX28 6DY		
Website	<a href="https://www.witneyscouts.org/">https://www.witneyscouts.org/</a>	Telephone	██████████
Facebook/Instagram	@WitneyScouts	Email	chair@witneyscouts.org
Contact Name	Richard Lord		
Position in Organisation	Chair of Witney Buttercross Scout Group – Chair of Trustees Board (i.e. Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary)		
Registered Charity	YES/NO	Registration Number	304425
<p>What are the activities and/or aims of the organisation?</p> <p>To promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social, and spiritual potential as individuals, responsible citizens, and members of their local, national, and international communities. We provide a wide variety of interest-led, exciting, and adventurous indoor and outdoor activities to help young people develop skills for life.</p>			
<b>Membership</b>			

How many members do you have?	375
Approximately how many of your members live in Witney?	<p>The vast majority (virtually all) of our youth members live in Witney and the immediately surrounding communities.</p> <p>Local villages and towns have their own Scout Groups which serve their communities, such as North Leigh, Burford, Long Hanborough and Eynsham.</p>
Is membership restricted in any way?	No. We are entirely inclusive and open to all young people, both boys and girls, regardless of their background.
What is your annual subscription, if any?	£50 per term.
Are you affiliated to Oxfordshire Youth or another similar umbrella organisation? If so, which one?	Yes, we are affiliated nationally with The Scout Association (Group Registration Number: 39626) and locally via the Oxfordshire County Scout Association.
Local venue/meeting place (if applicable)	Our primary headquarters is the Scout Hut on Marlborough Lane, Witney. We also utilize local spaces including Madley Park Hall, Cogges, and Blake's School. Our new outdoor activity hub and campsite is located at 'The Old Oak' on Park Road, North Leigh.
<b>Grant-Funding</b>	

Purpose for which the grant is required:

This grant is requested to fund essential infrastructural and environmental improvements at our newly approved 6.5-acre campsite and outdoor activity hub, 'The Old Oak' in North Leigh.

Following successful planning approval, this site will serve as a fundamental outdoor recreation facility for our hundreds of Witney-based Scouts. Crucially, the grant will specifically support the provision of a temporary access facility/toilet block near the entrance (as recommended by the planning officer to establish the site). These improvements will ensure a safe, accessible, and inclusive environment for weekend camps, weekday evening sessions, and collaborative use by other local youth groups and primary schools.

Our group provides active, skills-for-life outdoor education to young people in the Witney area, giving them vital opportunities to develop resilience, teamwork, and a deep connection to nature. To continue delivering safe, high-quality night-away experiences and expeditions, we urgently need to upgrade our aging outdoor kit. Many of our current tents and cooking utilities are nearing the end of their operational life, suffering from heavy wear and tear that compromises their weatherproofing and safety.

A modern, reliable kit store is crucial to ensuring our scouting program remains fully inclusive. By providing high-quality group equipment, we remove the financial barriers for local families who might otherwise struggle to afford expensive personal outdoor gear. The requested funds will be used to purchase durable, commercial-grade patrol tents and camp kitchen utilities that will withstand the elements and serve our Cubs, Scouts, and Explorers for many years to come. Your support would directly impact young people in our local community, empowering them to step away from screens, build confidence, and experience the rewards of the great British countryside.

Amount of grant applied for

£7000

Has your organisation previously applied to the Town Council for a grant?		YES/NO
If YES, please give details	We have applied for grants over the last few years. We have benefitted greatly from the funding for some camping equipment, and our young people are really benefitting from the councils support for our newer kayaks. The kayaks really do support in training our young people on the water, training them to be able to use water safely.	
Have you applied for a grant to any other body or organisation?		YES/NO
If YES, please give details		
<b>Financial</b>		
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.		
<b>Fundraising</b>		

What fundraising events or activities will your organisation be holding this year?

At the heart of our Group's success is the incredible effort put in by our young people. From the Beavers and Cubs to the Scouts and Explorers, every single unit works tirelessly to raise funds for their own activities. Whether it's through sponsored events, community projects, bake sales or creative tallies, their energy and enthusiasm keep our adventures affordable and accessible for everyone.

Behind the scenes, the WBSG Trustees are working equally hard. Their current mission? Finding the vital volunteers needed to support and drive these fundraising efforts forward.

Volunteers and young people also spend their time erecting marquees for local organisations, such as Audley Travel and Witney Music Festival. However, these funds go into providing fun, adventurous activities for our young people, rather than the operational spending for our spaces.

### **The Challenge We Face**

It's no secret that we are living in challenging times. Everyone is busy, and finding spare time is harder than ever. Due to this, finding new volunteers has become an uphill battle.

But here is the reality; **our leaders want to focus on delivering world-class scouting and unforgettable activities for Witney's young people.** Many do not have the additional time to support with fundraising activities for the entirety of Witney Buttercross Scout Group. That's why WBSG's Trustees are embarking on a recruitment drive for volunteers to support with fundraising efforts.

**General**

Please provide or attach any additional information which may assist the Council in reaching its decision.

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.

Signed: 

Date: 04/06/26

*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.	



# WITNEY TOWN COUNCIL

## Youth Services Grant

### APPLICATION FORM

(PLEASE COMPLETE ELECTRONICALLY)

<b>Organisation</b>			
Name of Organisation	West Oxfordshire Levellers RL		
Registered Address (including Post Code)	6 Park View Lane, Witney, Oxfordshire, OX28 1FZ		
Website	westoxfordshirelevellers.co.uk	Telephone	██████████
Facebook / Instagram	Facebook: West Oxfordshire Levellers RL Twitter (X): WestOxLevellers	Email	████████████████████ ██████████
Contact Name	Ian Ferry		
Position in Organisation	Club Secretary (i.e. Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary)		
Registered Charity	YES/NO	Registration Number	n/a
<p>What are the activities and/or aims of the organisation?</p> <p>We are a community focussed not for profit Rugby League club providing different forms of the sport to Primary and Secondary aged children, along with Mixed Adult opportunities.</p> <p>Core Values &amp; Vision: Inclusion • Support • Growth • Respect • Resilience • Togetherness • Fun</p> <p>We promote staying healthy by having fun. We use sport as a tool to develop players, and young people especially. We teach the skills needed to work as a successful team. We support player confidence to use individual inspiration when opportunities arise, within and outside the club. We aim to work with partners to facilitate young player opportunities to gain insights into the business world as they prepare for life after school. Work with our sponsors to encourage adult workers into sport and improve fitness whilst making new friends.</p> <p>The health and wellbeing of players are the club's highest priority. We have at least one first aider for every coaching session or match. All senior coaches are fully qualified with valid DBS checks and have passed safeguarding training. We align with national standards and seek new approaches to meet Physical and Mental Health needs. We don't alienate. We encourage players with additional needs to join us. We support players who wish to use their sessions for physical or skill sections of their Duke of Edinburgh awards. For those who wish to play in matches, we assist players and their families in RFL registration.</p>			

<p>We are dedicated in facilitating Primary and Secondary children in trying something different, making new friends, keeping active, building confidence and having fun. As the club grows, we aim to enhance support of female players; and those from ethnic, cultural or religious minorities to ensure we thrive as an all-inclusive club.</p>	
<p><b>Membership</b></p>	
<p>How many members do you have?</p>	<p>66 (including 58 players, 7 coaches and 1 volunteer). This is a 10% increase from last year and includes a considerable increase in female participation.</p>
<p>Approximately how many of your members live in Witney?</p>	<p>55 (including around 20 in Eynsham).</p>
<p>Is membership restricted in any way?</p>	<p>No, we are all-inclusive (all genders, all ages, all abilities). We actively encourage children with ADHD to join our club.</p>
<p>What is your annual subscription, if any?</p>	<p>We ask players to pay £4 subs per training session. This year we have planned 22 of these, some paid up front for £88 and some pay weekly.</p>
<p>Are you affiliated to Oxfordshire Youth or another similar umbrella organisation? If so, which one?</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>Local venue/meeting place (if applicable)</p>	<p>Wood Green School, Woodstock Road, Witney (training and home matches)</p>
<p><b>Grant-Funding</b></p>	
<p>Purpose for which the grant is required:</p> <p>Building on our successful inaugural Girls Skills Day on International Women's Day 2026 (supported by Witney Town Council), West Oxfordshire Levellers RL aim to hold a second Girls Rugby League Activity Day for school years 2 to 11 with separate groups for younger and older ages. The information and activities will be specifically designed for girls; and be appropriate for those currently partaking in sports and those who do not play team games. The club will utilise the feedback from our first event, to enable us to enhance and fully optimise the opportunity for our current girls and those attending for the first time.</p> <p>Each activity will be themed around Rugby League to include skill development, problem solving, team-working/building and learning leadership qualities. The club will follow the Rugby Football League's principles of Respect and Togetherness. The skills learned and advice provided can be adapted to other sports or school activities to help develop girls as the individuals they are. Success will not be measured by strength, stamina or ability to play; but on involvement and enjoyment.</p> <p>We aim to provide instruction from experienced coaches, advice from strength and conditioning leads and nutritional support. Coaches will provide their assistance free of charge. However, we budget for up to £200 for other experts. All our coaches and experts are fully qualified and have passed enhanced DBS checks. All these costs have been funded by the individuals themselves. There are no additional insurance costs as this is already included in our Rugby Football League insurance.</p>	

Part of the funding will be used prior to the event in booking facilities\* (up to £100 for 4 hours, including set-up for pitches), promotion and recruitment (up to £200). Promotion will take the form of posters, flyers and wayfinding on the day (signage and banners). Social media promotion and liaison with schools will be cost-free, and the club already has the majority of equipment required. We aim to provide refreshments up to £300 (either by hiring a catering company with trailer or by using the Coffee Shed. Each participant will receive a pack for their further development; and we budget up to £100 for design and production. We aim to provide spot-prizes during the day and budget for up to £100 for these (some items we have already, paid for by the committee or donated by the RFL, so will not incur charges). If the costs of the event exceed that of an awarded grant, the difference will be covered by our budget reserve, without compromising the offer to our participants.

**Summary of budgets:**

Facility Hire	£100*
Promotion	£200
Experts	£200
Refreshments	£300
Development Packs	£100
Prizes	£100

\*Dependent on availability of The Leys and if there is a cost. If there is no cost for event hire, the funding will be used to boost support on the day.

**Outcomes:**

Rugby League benefits from players of all shapes and sizes. By encouraging young players (especially girls and those who may identify as someone else, but are not biologically male) to be who they are and how they are; we can increase the number of female players enjoying more and more regular team activities.

The Girls Rugby League Activity Day (Part 2) will also serve as a recruitment event for the club. However, the club acknowledges some participants may not wish to join the team; and will therefore ensure all are treated with equal respect and provided with the same support, regardless of their choices.

Amount of grant applied for	£1000	
Has your organisation previously applied to the Town Council for a grant?	YES/NO	
If YES, please give details	<p>We were fortunate to be awarded £50 in celebration of the Town Council's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.</p> <p>Last year we also applied for £1000 to run our inaugural Girls Skills Day at The Leys on International Women's Day. We were overjoyed to receive the full amount and used the money as set out in our application. Since this event we have seen a dramatic increase in the number of secondary aged female players especially.</p>	
Have you applied for a grant to any other body or organisation?	YES/NO	

If YES, please give details	<p>Thames Valley Police (TVP) – We applied for and were successfully awarded £800 from the TVP Community Fund (money raised by the ill-gotten proceeds crime and donated to local causes) to further our anti-knife crime/drugs initiative. To add to the balls we commissioned from a previous fund we will purchase bespoke/customised bottles, carries and banners for matches and sessions.</p> <p>The Rugby Football League (RFL) - This year we had the opportunity to apply for a grant up to £1500 which will be used recruitment and retention of female players. Within the criteria we are also allowed to use funding for such things as providing transport for girls to get to away matches/festivals and provide any specific equipment or items they require to help them enjoy the experience fully. The decision on the award is still pending with the possibility of a smaller amount granted or none at all. We do feel confident we will receive an amount that will help us though.</p>
-----------------------------	--

**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.

We have attached our most recent bank statement to the email as part of this application. (Please note the balance is higher than a typical month as hire of our training facilities are payable by credit card only. As we do not have a club card, a member of the committee has temporarily paid all fees so far this season (£400), pending reimbursement).

When parents pay subs etc, we ask that they use their child's name as reference. These details and those of their bank accounts have been redacted from the versions shared to comply with our club GDPR policy. Please note the invoices have the home address of our Club Chair John Connaughton as the account was set-up by the latter. Our 2026 season will be officially closing in July (although we will explore the wish for summer holiday sessions with our parents), so our projection will be for our 2027 season, commencing in February.

Our costs for next year are for facilities hire only as we already have all our equipment and playing kits. We do also set-aside a small budget to replace any vital damaged assets. Our Primary and Secondary sessions take place at the same time (different areas of the grounds) which reduces the cost to £25 per hour. We plan to hold 22 sessions as per our previous 2 years, which totals £550 in hire charges which are paid 1 month in advance. We plan at least 2 home fixtures which will total £100. Most games are played away from home and incur no charges.

Our subs for each session are currently £4 per hour per player\* and we aim to have a bare minimum of 30 players at each session, this will total £2520. Regular attendance can be affected by player's school commitments and family holidays, hence the average number of 30 provided. If we deduct the pitch fees this will leave a remainder of £1870. We naturally aim for attendance to be higher and therefore increase the amount of subs paid, but have to be realistic about our players balancing other commitments, including their schoolwork.

Our coaches and first aiders are volunteers so incur no charges. Mandatory training requirements that are chargeable are paid for by those volunteers and not the club. We also provide a range training wear for players and each order gains a surplus of approximately £5 to cover postage etc.

**Summary of income and expenditure for 2027:**

Item	Income	Expenditure
Subs from players (current rate £4 each per session)	£2520	
Hire of facilities for weekly training sessions (22)		£550
Hire of facilities for matches		£100
<b>Total estimated surplus for 2027</b>	<b>£1870</b>	

\*The figure of £4 per session has been in place since 2024. This was reviewed by the committee prior to our 2026 campaign. It was agreed to maintain this rate to make it affordable, especially for families who have two or more children playing in the club. We do not currently envisage raising this figure in 2027, unless there is a considerable increase in pitch hire costs.

**Fundraising**

What fundraising events or activities will your organisation be holding this year?

Each year we take part in fund raising events for our chosen charity, MNDA Oxfordshire Branch. This includes the annual Blenheim Park "walk2dfeetmnd" and some of our players craft items for sale at other MNDA Oxfordshire Branch events/meetings. All proceeds from these activities go to MNDA Oxfordshire Branch and not the club. Last year our Chairman also ran a marathon in aid of MNDA Oxfordshire Branch and generated funding through sponsorship.

**General**

Please provide or attach any additional information which may assist the Council in reaching its decision.

As a Rugby League club serving a population outside of the traditional heartlands (Lancashire, Yorkshire, Cheshire and Cumbria) we do receive a small amount of support from our governing body, the Rugby Football League (RFL). The club formed in 2019, has continued to build membership, strengthen our offer and encompass our aims to provide wraparound player support.

This year we had the opportunity to apply for a grant from the RFL for up to £1500. If successful, use funding for recruitment and retention of female players. This is still pending a final decision, but we are hopeful of further assistance. RFL funding, personnel and time are extremely limited, but we are ever grateful to them for organising meetings and online workshops.

The vast majority of the endeavour in managing the club is made by volunteers, players and their parents. We also have our highest number of Facebook followers (currently 2134) who help spread our message. Funding and support from local organisations such as councils, local police, schools and our amazing sponsors; are vital in underpinning our aims and values. Recognition of our efforts is invaluable for a club made-up of volunteers.

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.

Signed:



Date:

7<sup>th</sup> June 2026

*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.	



# WITNEY TOWN COUNCIL

## Youth Services Grant

### APPLICATION FORM

(PLEASE COMPLETE ELECTRONICALLY)

<b>Organisation</b>			
Name of Organisation	Witney Mills Cricket Club		
Registered Address (including Post Code)	[REDACTED]		
Website	<a href="http://www.witneymillsc.co.uk">www.witneymillsc.co.uk</a>	Telephone	N/A
Facebook/Instagram		Email	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
Contact Name	Tim Allen [REDACTED] [REDACTED]		
Position in Organisation	Committee member  (i.e. Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary)		
Registered Charity	YES/NO	Registration Number	N/A

What are the activities and/or aims of the organisation?

We are an active cricket club in the heart of witney. We aim to promote cricket and to increase participation in the sport. We run 4 adult sides, where a significant number of players have come through (or are still in) our junior section, as well as running age group cricket for boys from U9-U15's. In addition we are part of the English cricket boards (ECB) all stars and dynamos programs allowing us to run activities for children from 5-11 in a safe and organised environment. Our dynamos club is girls only, and one of the long term aims of the club is to align ourselves with Oxfordshire crickets aim to increase participation in cricket for girls and women. Our aim would be to provide more training and match facilities, as well as upgrading our female changing facilities – to allow us to also have a pathway for girls into hardball cricket that we can provide in witney, currently we work with other clubs to do this in west Oxfordshire. We have a strong belief that the

strengthening of our junior cricket provision is key to keeping the club thriving and growing as well as it benefiting the children and families involved.

**Membership**

How many members do you have?	Approximately 270 (This includes Adult members and junior members)
Approximately how many of your members live in Witney?	More than 75%
Is membership restricted in any way?	Membership to the club is open to all, without prejudice.
What is your annual subscription, if any?	Adult membership £100 Junior membership £50 (first child), £25 (second child), free for 3 <sup>rd</sup> + child
Are you affiliated to Oxfordshire Youth or another similar umbrella organisation? If so, which one?	Oxfordshire Cricket Board (OCB) English Cricket Board (ECB)
Local venue/meeting place (if applicable)	Witney Mills Cricket Club - Newland

**Grant-Funding**

Purpose for which the grant is required:

The grant would be used to purchase a new mobile batting cage. We use the mobile batting cage to allow for multiple junior age groups (and our senior players) to train whilst ensuring the safety of others on the ground – it is an essential tool that we used multiple times per week. Our current cage has lived a long life but has been battered by the weather over the last few years; and despite regular maintenance and care it has recently structurally failed. The cost to repair and replace the effected sections is significant, and there is high likelihood that some of the other parts will fail soon due to the additional strain put on them by the sections in the photos below having buckled/sheared off; so a replacement cage would be the most cost effective way of us being able to continue to provide this essential piece of equipment for our training purposes.



Amount of grant applied for	<b>£1700</b>	
Has your organisation previously applied to the Town Council for a grant?	<b>YES/NO</b>	
If YES, please give details	In 2021 we applied and were awarded £2,079.00 for a new lawnmower. Prior to 2021 we received an annual award of £500.	
Have you applied for a grant to any other body or organisation?	<b>YES/NO</b>	

If YES, please give details	<b>We have not applied to any other organization for a grant in relation to the replacement of our batting cage</b>
<b>Financial</b>	
<p>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.</p> <p><b>Please find attached the Profit and Loss accounts for 2025 and 2026 so far. These have not yet been audited for 2025 yet but will be shortly.</b></p>	
<b>Fundraising</b>	
<p><b>What fundraising events or activities will your organisation be holding this year?</b></p> <p><b>We have a long-term plan, in line with the ECB and OCB's aim to increase the participation in cricket – particularly aimed at increasing the level of participation through women's and girl's cricket. In order to achieve this, we are setting ourselves an adventurous target with the hopes of being able to improve the facilities within the cricket clubhouse to accommodate an improvement to the women's toilets and changing facilities; as well as increasing the playing area available for matches and training by inserting an artificial pitch onto our second field.</b></p> <p><b>Our fundraising efforts include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>two cricket days:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>a 'family fun day' with multiple matches going on from 10am – 6pm starting with a girls only "dynamos" festival in the morning but with activities for all age groups throughout the day. With plenty of games/activities and even a bouncy castle!</b></li> <li>○ <b>A kids vs parents day in September with all ages groups battling for the bragging rights in their respective households (from our all stars (5+ years) up to our Under 13's) – then culminating with the Den Harvey memorial match, a fixture between any U18s against the coaching team.</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Quiz nights</b></li> <li>• <b>Raffles</b></li> <li>• <b>Sponsorship</b></li> <li>• <b>We have also entered the club into the Toyota 'cricket for all' raffle. This is a raffle set up by the ECB in conjunction with Toyota where 100% of ticket sales are given to the respective club.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>All of the activities above were planned to raise funds for the long-term plan aiming at the advancement of cricket in the witney area to allow for us to provide opportunities for girls cricket and expand our current junior cricket offerings – we had not factored in the need to replace this equipment. This grant would aid us in our overall aim and we are extremely grateful for your consideration.</b></p>	

**General**

Please provide or attach any additional information which may assist the Council in reaching its decision.

**Please see attached document showing the long term aims and ambition of the club.**

**We are very grateful for your consideration and look forward to hearing from you. Should you have any further questions please don't hesitate to reach out to the contact details above.**

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.

Signed: 

Date: 4<sup>th</sup> June 2026

*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.	





# WITNEY TOWN COUNCIL

## Youth Services Grant

### APPLICATION FORM

(PLEASE COMPLETE ELECTRONICALLY)

Organisation			
Name of Organisation	Witney Basketball Club		
Registered Address (including Post Code)	Wood Green School Woodstock Road Witney OX28 1DX		
Website	www.witneybasketballclub.co.uk	Telephone	[REDACTED]
Facebook/Instagram	@WitneyWolvesBasketball	Email	[REDACTED]
Contact Name	Gavin Fielding		
Position in Organisation	Chairperson  (i.e. Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary)		
Registered Charity	NO	Registration Number	N/A
<p>What are the activities and/or aims of the organisation?</p> <p>To offer: 1) accessible grassroots basketball opportunities to local children of all backgrounds; and 2) basketball training, playing coaching and officiating opportunities to members of the club.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ To work with local schools and facilities providers to promote the game of basketball by improving awareness and accessibility;</li> <li>❖ To promote and facilitate involvement of club members in the running of the Club to improve its foundations</li> <li>❖ To contribute to the Oxfordshire Basketball Association and the development of basketball in the county</li> <li>❖ To establish a strong network of funders, local authorities, basketball teams, local businesses, infrastructure planners and developers to improve basketball in the area and</li> <li>❖ Meet its duty of care to all officers and members of the club.</li> </ul>			

<b>Membership</b>	
How many members do you have?	131
Approximately how many of your members live in Witney?	60
Is membership restricted in any way?	Ages 7 and over
What is your annual subscription, if any?	Depends on the amount of training sessions but approximately £180 for 8 months for one session a week. This increases if training twice a week and participating in games.
Are you affiliated to Oxfordshire Youth or another similar umbrella organisation? If so, which one?	No but part of the Oxfordshire Basketball Association and have attended WODC Youth Partnership meetings and contribute as an "information member".
Local venue/meeting place (if applicable)	Usually at Wood Green School unless it is exam season
<b>Grant-Funding</b>	
<p>Purpose for which the grant is required:</p> <p>To purchase a second set of basketball kit for juniors and adults that will act as an away kit to the one we already have. Three sets of kit will be required and we invite Witney Town Council to be involved in the design process if they'd like to be where a local landmark or reference could be included.</p> <p>To contribute to ever increasing court costs. To hire out Carterton Leisure Centre is now £64 an hour after a recent increase in court fees. These costs fall on our members where sadly, despite the club offering You Move discounts, members have had to stop attending sessions as they are unable to pay. We are hoping that the council will help cover one month's court costs which will help the club recuperate some reserves it is currently using to keep sessions over the summer going.</p>	

Amount of grant applied for	£ 3,500
Has your organisation previously applied to the Town Council for a grant?	YES
If YES, please give details	Witney Wolves Basketball (Men's team) obtained a £50 donation during the 50 for 50 initiative.
Have you applied for a grant to any other body or organisation?	NO but may do in future
If YES, please give details	
<b>Financial</b>	
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.	
<b>Fundraising</b>	
<p>What fundraising events or activities will your organisation be holding this year?</p> <p>We may be looking into applying for grant funding with Sport England.</p> <p>If there is capacity in the committee, fundraising events for the club could be considered if deemed necessary. We also occasionally run a small 'tuck' shop during games to raise funds.</p> <p>Continued efforts are being made to receive sponsorship and funding from local businesses.</p>	
<b>General</b>	
<p>Please provide or attach any additional information which may assist the Council in reaching its decision.</p> <p>Basketball is the second most popular team sport for young people and reaches diverse communities whilst promoting a healthy lifestyle.<sup>1</sup> However, the amount of funding basketball receives falls behind other</p>	

1

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/nba-and-uk-government-announce-comprehensive-plan-to-elevate-basketball-in-the-uk>

sports where the national governing body, Basketball England, is under-resourced and unable to liaise with clubs and local governments regularly. Basketball in England has been overlooked for decades where the potential for the sport to really breakthrough wider society is starting to become clear. There is a real need for investment in the sport where the positive impact will be wide and long lasting.

Basketball's popularity and potential in Witney and West Oxfordshire is no different. Less than three years ago, there was no junior basketball programme in Witney and nowhere for young people to try the sport. Today we have over 80 young members and the demand has not stopped. With over 10 different nationalities represented in the club, the club goes further than just offering basketball but a means for the local community to come together, and for young people to acquire life skills being part of a team, and getting involved in coaching and officiating. Investing in the club to purchase additional kit will have lasting benefits and strengthen the club's ability to compete in more leagues. Funds for court hire will help the club recoup some reserves it has spent to keep expensive sessions over the summer running and avoid passing on higher costs to our members.

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.

Signed: 

Date: 07/06/2026

*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.	
--------------------------	-------	---------	--





# WITNEY TOWN COUNCIL

## Youth Services Grant

### APPLICATION FORM

(PLEASE COMPLETE ELECTRONICALLY)

<b>Organisation</b>			
Name of Organisation	Yellow Submarine		
Registered Address (including Post Code)	12 Park End Street Oxford OX1 1HH		
Website	www.yellowsubmarine.org.uk	Telephone	01869 233119
Facebook/Instagram	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/ysubcharity">https://www.facebook.com/ysubcharity</a> <a href="https://www.instagram.com/ysubcharity/">https://www.instagram.com/ysubcharity/</a>	Email	[REDACTED]
Contact Name	Alice Margey		
Position in Organisation	Grants and Trusts Fundraiser  (i.e. Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary)		
Registered Charity	YES/NO	Registration Number	1136735
<p>What are the activities and/or aims of the organisation?</p> <p>Yellow Submarine is an award winning Oxfordshire charity that believes people with learning disabilities and autism deserve to live life to the full!</p> <p>We offer a variety of social activities and life-changing projects to 11-18s and to adults with mild to moderate needs including social clubs, activity days, residential holidays, life skills, personal development and workplace training. These projects increase confidence and independence in our members as well as provide respite for families and carers.</p> <p>We are well known in Witney, especially through our popular social enterprise cafe in the Windrush Leisure Centre, and last year we were delighted to open our new small commercial Bakery in the Stanley Court development.</p>			

<b>Membership</b>	
How many members do you have?	740 across Oxfordshire, young people and adult
Approximately how many of your members live in Witney?	74 adults and young people, of which 19 are aged 11-18. Our Witney youth club attracts young people from surrounding villages too; in total 60 11-18s are on our Witney membership list.
Is membership restricted in any way?	To individuals with mild to moderate learning disabilities and/or autism, aged 11 or above.
What is your annual subscription, if any?	None
Are you affiliated to Oxfordshire Youth or another similar umbrella organisation? If so, which one?	Yes, to Oxfordshire Youth and OSCP
Local venue/meeting place (if applicable)	Various, the main being the Children & Family Centre, but also Burwell Hall, the Methodist Church, the Scout Hut, The Leys, Windrush Leisure Centre, Rush, the Corn Exchange and others.
<b>Grant-Funding</b>	
<p>Purpose for which the grant is required:</p> <p>Our Witney Youth Club summer activities, which directly support families with learning disabled children aged 11-18 in Witney and West Oxfordshire. Our activities give families respite, and provide stimulating, fun activities for their children out and about in the local community, building their confidence and friendships. We will be organising nearly £2000-worth of activities, for groups of 12-16 young people each time. These costs are only for the activities and do not include staffing, volunteer or overheads costs, which are funded from elsewhere.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Gaming with APCAM - £300, plus approx. £60 transport costs (going by S1 bus)</li> <li>- Wheels for All - £80</li> <li>- Trampolining in Carterton - £7 pp, approx. £105 for 15 young people</li> <li>- Fat Squirrel - £300 for activities, plus £120 for transport</li> <li>- Adventure Plus - £450</li> <li>- Music Workshop @ Inspire Sounds - £450, plus approx. £60 transport costs (going by S1 bus)</li> <li>- Blenheim Palace Adventure Playground – £7 pp, approx. £105 for 15 young people, plus approx. £60 transport costs (going by S7 bus)</li> </ul>	

We are also running some low cost/free activities utilising Witney contacts to facilitate our sports activities, as well as using the Yellow Submarine bakery facilities for baking, pizza-making etc. Also in the pipeline is Karate, going to the OPA play day at the Leys, and perhaps a trip on the bus into Oxford.

We recognise that funds are limited and any contribution towards our work would be gratefully received, and exclude staff, volunteer and overheads costs, which are covered by other funding.

Amount of grant applied for		£2000
Has your organisation previously applied to the Town Council for a grant?		YES/NO
If YES, please give details	£2000 awarded 2025 towards our summer activities for 11-18s	
Have you applied for a grant to any other body or organisation?		YES/NO
If YES, please give details	We constantly fundraise towards our activities from local and national grant funders, and are very pleased to accept support from fundraising events and individuals.	
<b>Financial</b>		
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.		
<b>Fundraising</b>		

What fundraising events or activities will your organisation be holding this year?

We attend Witney Carnival every year; our members love to vote for who or what they are to represent within the theme of the parade! We are very grateful to a wide variety of community groups and many individuals who raise funds to support us, plus we now have a regular stall at the Farmers' Market, and Yellow Submarine goodies are stocked in The Shop.

Further afield we have Witney runners in the Oxford Half – including parents of our Witney 11-18s - plus schools, businesses and individuals support us through their own fundraising events or initiatives, and we are active participants in schools' Make A Difference (MAD) week. We are also a part of the charity Food Tent at Truck Festival, near Abingdon, serving up delicious cheese toasties!

**General**

Please provide or attach any additional information which may assist the Council in reaching its decision.

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.

Signed: 	Date: 3 June 2026
---	-------------------

*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.	



# WITNEY TOWN COUNCIL

## Youth Services Grant

### APPLICATION FORM

(PLEASE COMPLETE ELECTRONICALLY)

<b>Organisation</b>			
Name of Organisation	Yes Futures		
Registered Address (including Post Code)	3Space International House, Canterbury Crescent, London, SW9 7QD		
Website	www.yesfutures.org	Telephone	020 8144 4393
Facebook/Instagram	yes_futures	Email	info@yesfutures.org
Contact Name	Ali Jaffer		
Position in Organisation	Chief Executive <small>(i.e. Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary)</small>		
Registered Charity	YES	Registration Number	1155082
<p><b>What are the activities and/or aims of the organisation?</b></p> <p>Yes Futures exists to empower young people facing challenging circumstances to build their self-belief and aspiration for the future. We combine structured, intensive youth coaching with a range of inspirational experiences to help young people develop the confidence, resilience, and communication skills they need to thrive in education and beyond. We deliver our programmes in partnership with schools, colleges and community organisations across the South-East and London.</p> <p>Our expert coaches are typically professional executive, leadership and life coaches who have undertaken further training in youth coaching. They are integral to the support of the students on our programmes.</p>			

The children we work with set clear, achievable goals and their coaches encourage them to push themselves outside their comfort zones. Failing safely is by design, and the success that follows is transformative.

<b>Membership – N/A we are not a membership organisation</b>	
How many members do you have?	N/A
Approximately how many of your members live in Witney?	N/A
Is membership restricted in any way?	N/A
What is your annual subscription, if any?	N/A
Are you affiliated to Oxfordshire Youth or another similar umbrella organisation? If so, which one?	No
Local venue/meeting place (if applicable)	N/A

**Grant-Funding**

Purpose for which the grant is required:

Yes Futures requests a £7,500 grant to deliver the Witney Inside Track & Action Project in 2026/2027. This is a “dual-track” youth initiative designed to build long-term personal resilience through tangible, real-world competence.

Traditional open-access youth provision often fails to reach vulnerable or highly anxious youth because those who need the support most lack the confidence to self-select and attend. Our model directly solves this challenge by blending an inclusive universal tier with intensive, targeted 1:1 intervention, ensuring council funding lands exactly where it is needed most.

The universal tier consists of four modular, two-hour masterclasses open to the wider youth population of Witney. Spaced three to four weeks apart, these sessions involve participants mastering hard, adult-world ‘systems’ in a fun and interactive way.

The session are: **Graphic Typography** (visual design geometry/calligraphy), **Courtroom Clash** (legal logic and formal debate), **AI App Generation** (prompt engineering and screen-based software design), and **The Startup Blueprint** (business plan development).

Every session is self-contained and drop-in friendly, guaranteeing that every attendee creates a tangible digital or physical asset within 120 minutes, earning genuine confidence through proven capability.

Operating in parallel is our targeted tier, delivering intensive 1:1 professional coaching for 18 of Witney's most disengaged or anxious young people, identified through strategic autumn partnerships with local school pastoral leads. For these vulnerable youth, group settings might feel difficult initially. Our coaches work 1:1 with them to establish deep psychological safety, provide a consistent, trusted adult sounding board, and co-create practical strategies to build personal agency. This is the core of our traditional 'Rising Futures' programme we offer to secondary schools.

This intensive coaching journey transforms into civic responsibility during the project's anchor event: a student-led Community Volunteering Day. The 18 coached young people are joined by up to 6 additional peers (forming a unified team of 24), who will collaboratively design and execute a physical rejuvenation project for a local Witney community asset or green space. This day builds a profound sense of place, shifting their identities to active, proud young citizens who realise they have a real stake in their town.

By backing this work, Witney Town Council will secure local impact: four premium skills workshops for the wider community of young people, a profound and intensive 1:1 intervention for 18 hard-to-reach teenagers and a visible legacy of local community service.

Amount of grant applied for	£ 7500	
Has your organisation previously applied to the Town Council for a grant?	NO	
If YES, please give details	N/A	
Have you applied for a grant to any other body or organisation?	NO	
If YES, please give details	Not for this work in Witney.	
<b>Financial</b>		

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.

We have enclosed a copy of our latest financial accounts (ended December 31 2025)

### **Fundraising**

What fundraising events or activities will your organisation be holding this year?

Yes Futures' fundraising is focussed on two key areas: applications to grants and foundations and donations from corporate partners.

As a small organisation with a relatively heavy and intensive delivery load we do not have much capacity to organise specific community fundraising events. However, we are always open to new ideas and would consider organising a local fundraising event if this helped embed our work and local presence

### **General**

Please provide or attach any additional information which may assist the Council in reaching its decision.

Yes Futures is increasingly working directly with a range of organisations (beyond schools) whose priorities align with our own. We have recently won a contract with Woodley Town Council in Berkshire for 2026/2027, where we will offer our coaching programmes to a selection of vulnerable young people, and although that project is in the early stages of development, they would be able to provide a reference based on the set up and planning work we have done. We also have a range of long-standing school partners who could provide additional references as to the quality and depth of our work.

We have attached an accompanying short proposal document which outlines our project in more detail, and our impact statistics for 2025. Our historical annual reports are available via the Charity Commission website and we are happy to share any additional information on request.

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.

Signed:

Date:

	6 <sup>th</sup> June 2026
---	---------------------------

*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.	

