



## WITNEY TOWN COUNCIL

### Youth Services Grant

### APPLICATION FORM

(PLEASE COMPLETE ELECTRONICALLY)

<b>Organisation</b> ASPIRE			
Name of Organisation	Aspire Oxfordshire Community Enterprise Ltd		
Registered Address (including Post Code)	St Thomas's School, Osney Lane, Oxford OX1 1NJ		
Website	<a href="http://www.aspireoxfordshire.org">www.aspireoxfordshire.org</a>	Telephone	██████████ ██████████
Facebook/Twitter	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/AspireOxOnline/">https://www.facebook.com/AspireOxOnline/</a> <a href="https://twitter.com/aspireoxford">https://twitter.com/aspireoxford</a>	Email	lindsay@aspireoxford.co.uk
Contact Name	Lindsay Philips		
Position in Organisation	'Unlocking Potential Oxfordshire' Project Manager  (i.e. Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary)		
Registered Charity	YES/NO	Registration Number	1117726

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

Established in 2001, Aspire has now been tackling the most complex social issues in Oxfordshire for 20 years. We support local people into and towards employment and housing, as the most powerful way to break the complex cycles of homelessness, re-offending and poverty.

Our **Youth Services team (West)** are striving to support local young people who are not in education, employment or training to reach their potential.

We offer 1-1 training and employment (ETE) support, CV writing advice, online training access, laptop loan scheme for use at home, mock interviews, help with job applications, in work support plans, sessions with local employers and Aspire's H2i recruitment service, 1-1 online maths and English functional skills and GCSE sessions, confidence building and sporting/art/craft activities.

'Our House' Aspire's young people's supported housing project in Witney provides housing advice and access to safe, affordable shared accommodation together with ETE and pastoral support to promote a healthy start to living independently.

## Membership

How many members do you have?	Approximately 70 young people working with Aspire
Approximately how many of your members live in Witney?	Approximately 40 young people in Witney at any given time
Is membership restricted in any way?	Age range of participant – 17-24
What is your annual subscription, if any?	None
Are you affiliated to Oxfordshire Youth or other similar umbrella organisation? If so, which one?	Oxfordshire Youth (YPSA–Young People in supported accommodation) – we currently work in partnership to deliver ETE support to YPSA residents
Local venue/meeting place (if applicable)	Peter Room – Witney Methodist Church

## Grant-Funding

Purpose for which the grant is required:

Many of the young people we support have barriers to learning and no formal qualifications. We have found that 1-1 maths and English sessions with a local tutor have been successful in helping participants gain the grades needed to apply for further education, apprenticeships, training and employment opportunities.

The barriers to employment and education faced by our young people range widely. They include mental health issues, such as anxiety, depression, undiagnosed ASD disorders and body dysmorphia, etc. We also support young people who have historic criminal backgrounds preventing them from accessing mainstream college campuses but who desperately want to change their lives and progress. They can be taught online in a 1-2-1 capacity if it isn't safe for them to be out in public which has previously been the case. For example, one young man who had been involved in county lines and was in hiding, completed his English and maths GCSE's and is now working for a wealth management company while completing an apprenticeship.

Amount of grant applied for		£10,000
Has your organisation previously applied to the Town Council for a grant?		YES/NO
If YES, please give details		
Have you applied for a grant to any other body or organisation?		YES/NO
If YES, please give details	Semble Network Ltd through Action Funder.  The funding provided 1-1 tutor sessions for 11 young people in 2021 but this funding has now been exhausted.	
<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.  Copy attached.		
<b>Fundraising</b>		

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

This year Aspire is running an emergency appeal to raise funds to support our beneficiaries cope with the increase in cost of living and massive rise in energy bills. This will add further strain on already stretched and precarious budgets that will lead to an unacceptable rise in fuel poverty, hardship and risk of homelessness this winter. With a generous matched funding of up to £200,000, we are aiming to raise £400,00 from our existing donors, local businesses and the wider community by December 2022

If successful, our campaign will transform our capacity to reach hundreds of people most in need this winter - and see us roll out initiatives that we can make a difference in the long-term.

## **General**

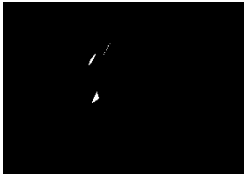
Please provide or attach any additional information which may assist the Council in reaching its decision.

Lucy Phipps, Educational Director from Inspiration Learning Ltd has given an approximate average costing of £750 per Maths or English course which includes: Initial assessments, 12 recorded learning sessions, 20 x Maths or 20 x English 1-1 sessions, practice papers, course materials and exams per candidate.

This is an average cost based on a young person studying Maths or English over an average amount of guided learning hours. It means that this funding could potentially support between 6 and 13 young people to pass one or both exams to give them the confidence and qualifications they need to succeed.

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: 23/08/2022

*If posting, please return your completed application form to the address overleaf, for the attention of the TOWN CLERK*