

well
together

HOPE VINEYARD



Hope Vineyard Oxford received £10,499 in October 2024 to run their weekly Wednesday community sessions for preschoolers and their families at their unit in Templars Square.



Wednesday sessions alternate between two activities – a “stay and play” session called “Bags of Fun” on the first Wednesday of the month. There is also a flexible opportunity to volunteer with young children called “Fun Sorting Bags” on the other Wednesdays. Both of these sessions allow families from priority areas across Oxford city to come together in a warm, safe, and welcoming environment.

BAGS OF FUN

“Bags of Fun” has been running since October 2019, when they first set up some toys in the middle of the shopping centre with free crafts, singing and story time for pre-school children and their parents/carers who were passing by. “Bags of Fun” continues to be a popular and well attended monthly stay and play session. They are a warm and welcoming group inviting everyone to make friends and have fun.



“I felt as though some weight was lifted from my shoulders. I felt so cared for, and it was lovely seeing my children have such a wonderful time. It is a rare occurrence to enjoy a hot cup of tea, thank you!”



FUN SORTING BAGS



The “Fun Sorting Bags” sessions provide another opportunity for parents and carers to come along to the space whilst helping Hope Vineyard Oxford with sorting clothes for the pre-loved shop “Small Steps”. Adults help to sort donations and chat whilst children can play together in a dedicated space.

The organisers are keen to enable grown-ups to volunteer alongside their little ones, giving everybody the opportunity to give back to the community and be part of something bigger than themselves as well as finding community with others during the sessions. Some guests have gone on to be volunteers at Small Steps, gaining vital work experience in an inclusive way.



A peaceful atmosphere is created where comfy seating allows for feeding of babies and the chance for relaxed conversation. The sessions end with story time and a snack.

Hope Oxford also hosts a Sunday breakfast on the first Sunday of each month, and Sunday Services every other Sunday, which are open to all. Whatever your background, faith or circumstance, they invite all to ‘find home and share hope.’



**“I love coming to sort the clothes!
Chatting to others while we know
we are doing something helpful is
so satisfying!”**