



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From: 01/09/2020 (Period start date) To: 31/08/2021 (Period end date)

Charity name: Barkway Preschool

Charity registration number: 1004083

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<p>The charity's aims are to advance the development and education of children under statutory school age by;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• offering appropriate play, education and care facilities, allowing for parental involvement and responsibility;• offering opportunities for all children whatever their race, culture, religion, means or ability;• encouraging other charitable activities through which parents may help the children.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>The charity's main activity is to run Barkway Preschool which provides high quality education and childcare for children aged between 2 and 5.</p> <p>In normal times, the charity also runs a weekly mother and toddler group in the village hall, providing a structured play session for babies to 4-year-olds with their parents or carers.</p> <p>The trustees carry out various local fundraising activities to supplement income from the charity's core activities.</p>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	<p>In planning our activities, we have kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at our trustee meetings.</p>

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	n/a
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	n/a
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	<p>All trustees gave their time voluntarily and received no remuneration or other benefits. The trustees carry out a program of fundraising activities, with the help of preschool staff and volunteers from the local community. These activities include selling drink and hot food at village events and selling refreshments at the local pop-up cinema.</p> <p>During the year, all such events were suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic and therefore fundraising was severely curtailed.</p>
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>The preschool is staffed by an experienced and well-qualified team. We operate with good ratios of staff to children, to focus on individual child development within the EYFS framework.</p> <p>We offer a safe, fun and stimulating environment in which children can learn through play. Children have opportunities to grow emotionally as well as physically, to develop their communication and language skills, and to increase their self-confidence and self-awareness.</p> <p>The preschool reopened fully in September 2020 after being in lockdown for much of the previous summer term. An enhanced daily cleaning regime was introduced to protect children and staff from Covid-19. Our emphasis on outdoor activities played an important part in keeping infection rates low, and our investment in new outside climbing equipment was important for developing gross motor skills.</p> <p>During the year we had 2 children with significant SEND needs and we received additional funding to provide 1-1 support for these children.</p> <p>Due to Covid-19 rules on mixing indoors, the mother and toddler group was suspended until April 2021. Attendance grew quickly after reopening, providing a much needed weekly opportunity for parents to reconnect and share experiences and for their children to gain socialisation skills.</p>

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<p>Annual income from childcare was £86,918, up from £67,034 the year before when the first Covid lockdown had affected earnings. Income this year was also enhanced by SEND payments of £12,036. However, costs were also much higher, with increased staffing to provide SEND support and deal with pandemic issues, including extra daily cleaning. This reduced the surplus for the year to £5,444, compared with £12,523 the previous year.</p> <p>The financial position and cash balances at the year-end remained very strong. In past years the charity has been reliant on fundraising events to cover income shortfalls. More recently the preschool has achieved surpluses due to increasing local demand for childcare. Since the Covid pandemic severely limited fundraising activities this year, it was reassuring that income from operations covered the additional costs.</p>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	The trustees aim to hold a minimum of £15,000 in reserves. Reserves are held to meet unforeseen expenditure, losses due to unexpected closures, to cover sudden reductions in fee income due to changing childcare requirements and to cover terminal obligations if the preschool were to close permanently.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	Together, reserves and operating cash amounted to £64,361 at the year end. Of this, £48,446 was held in notice accounts of less than one year. Operating cash included an overpayment by the local education authority of £5,495 which was repaid in the months following the year end.
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	n/a
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	n/a

Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	<p>The charity remains well funded with ample reserves to support the preschool. With the help of government support programs, the preschool successfully navigated the uncertainties of the Covid pandemic.</p> <p>The preschool is due an Ofsted inspection by June 2023. It is currently rated 'good', which is required to participate in the government free childcare schemes. There is no reason why the preschool might lose this rating, but to do so would cause a severe loss of income and withdrawal of children, which could make it unviable to continue.</p>
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	The principal source of funds is from providing childcare, paid for either by parents or local authority funded early education schemes.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	Surplus funds not required for immediate running costs are placed in interest-bearing savings accounts with notice periods of one year or less.
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	<p>The charity's main activity is operating Barkway Preschool. The principal associated risks are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of the current premises at Barkway VA First School, since there are no suitable alternatives nearby for permanent occupation. • If the preschool were to lose its 'good' rating from Ofsted, it would no longer have access to the free childcare schemes, causing a significant and sudden loss of revenue. • Large increases in staff costs due to increases in the National Living Wage, not matched by increases in childcare funding and fees. • Loss of income due to fewer children attending; preschool has a limited catchment area but relies on younger children continually replacing those leaving for school. • A sudden and lengthy closure of preschool, due to damage to premises, health and safety issues, a pandemic, or other factors.
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Unincorporated association
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Trustees are selected from members of the association. They are appointed by members at the AGM and form a committee. The committee appoints the Officers (who oversee the operational management of the preschool) and has powers to co-opt up to 3 new trustees between general meetings.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	The charity is a member of the Early Years Alliance, which provides information, advice and training to childcare providers and campaigns to influence early years policy and practice.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	The preschool operates closely with Barley and Barkway (VA) Church of England First Schools Federation. The preschool setting shares a building with Barkway First School and many children make a very successful transition to the school's nursery or reception classes, benefiting from our joint transition program.
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Barkway Preschool
Other name the charity uses	The charity changed its name from Barkway Playgroup to Barkway Preschool on 25/11/2019
Registered charity number	1004083
Charity's principal address	84 High Street Barkway Hertfordshire SG8 8EF

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person /body entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Juliet Turner	Chair	Resigned 26/11/2020	
2	Andrew Lee	Treasurer		
3	Sarah Wylie	Secretary	Resigned 26/11/2020	
4	Miranda Hughes	Chair	(Chair from 26/11/2020)	
5	Erin Ferguson	Secretary	From 26/11/2020	
6	Hollie Bond		From 19/10/2020	
7	Alice Robertson		From 19/10/2020	
8	Sharon Smedley			
9	Hannah West		From 19/10/2020	
10	Shoshana Whybrow			
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	Details of Property
Alison Gower		Lease for premises at Barkway VA First School
Jenni McPherson		
Tracey Wood		
Jackie Connolly		

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	None
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	N/A
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	N/A

Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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Other optional information

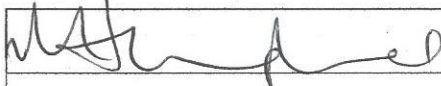
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Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)



Full name(s)

Miranda Barbara Crossley Hughes

Andrew Julian Lee

Position

Chair

Treasurer

Date

21/06/2022

BARKWAY PRESCHOOL - Charity no: 1004083

ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR END 31 AUGUST 2021

Summary of income and expenses	Total
Income:	
Paid childcare	£ 21,508
Funded childcare	£ 65,410
Snack charges	£ 300
Toddler group charges	£ 982
Uniform sales	£ 201
Fundraising	£ 237
Other Income	£ 3,735
Interest	£ 339
Total Income	£ 92,712
Expenditure:	
Staff wages	£ 74,194
Advertising	£ -
Bookkeeping	£ 1,456
Cleaning	£ -
DBS checks	£ 342
Fundraising expenses	£ -
Insurance	£ 652
Milk & Snacks	£ 304
Print/Post/Stationery	£ 5
Subscriptions	£ 221
Recruitment	£ -
Rent & Service Charge - school	£ 3,379
Rent - village hall	£ -
Supplies & Equipment	£ 3,674
Telephone	£ 46
Toddler Group expenses	£ 206
Training	£ 1,022
Uniforms	£ 565
Miscellaneous	£ 1,202
Total Expenses	£ 87,268
Surplus for the year	£ 5,444

Movement on cash:

Cash balances brought forward	£ 15,314
Surplus for the year	£ 5,444
Payment received in error	£ 5,495
Increase in term deposits	-£ 10,338
Cash balances carried forward	£ 15,915

Statement of assets held:

Cash at bank and on hand	£ 15,915
Term deposits of less than one year	£ 48,446
Total Assets	£ 64,361



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

**Independent examiner's
report on the accounts**

Report to the trustees/ members of	Charity Name <u>Barkway Pre school.</u>		
On accounts for the year ended	<u>2021 / 31 / 08</u>	Charity no (if any)	<u>1004083</u>
Set out on pages	<u>1</u> <small>(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)</small>		

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/08/2021.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

[Signature]

Date:

22/06/22

Name:

Jeremy SMITH

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

Qualified ACA (no longer a member of ICAEW)

Address:

The Mount, 7 Irnham Rd
CORBY GLEN, Lincs, NG33 4NB

BARKWAY PRESCHOOL - Charity no: 1004083

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