



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 01/09/2019 To 31/08/2020

Charity name: Merry-go-round under 5's

Charity registration number: 1010031

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	To advance the education of children below compulsory school age by; (a) providing a safe and satisfying group play in which parents have the right to take part. (b) encouraging other charitable activities through which parents may help the children (c) furthering the aim of the pre-school playgroups association
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>Merry-Go-Round Under Fives provides exciting preschool education and opportunities for children under five from Baldock and the surrounding area.</p> <p>We are situated in the extensive grounds of Hartsfield School. As well as two purpose-built classrooms, we' re lucky enough to have two enclosed outdoor play areas with a wide range of outdoor learning facilities and toys.</p> <p>~ We are an independent, non-profit making charity.</p> <p>~ We are Ofsted registered.</p> <p>~ We have a high ratio of staff to children- we can focus on children's individual needs and development.</p> <p>~ We believe that care and education are equally important.</p> <p>~ We provide children with routines and activities to ensure they feel safe, valued and gain experience from socialising with other children</p>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have	Para 1.18	The trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission

had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit		on public benefit.
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	
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>Summary Due to the covid lockdown in March 2020 and social distancing when we re-opened in June 2020, we were unable to hold our AGM in October 2020.</p> <p>As the last AGM was in October 2019, I have noted all the facts and figures from September 2019 to December 2020 as follows</p> <p>Numbers on role for 2019 to 2020 school year 18 Nursery with 21 Pre-school from Sept to December 2019 rising to 28 from January to July 2020</p> <p>Waiting List Our waiting List continues to increase on a weekly basis and we currently have 27 names with ages ranging from 16 months upwards.</p> <p>Covid-19</p>

		<p>In March 2020 we were required to close due to the pandemic. We remained closed until June 2020 as none of our parents' needed childcare under the key worker eligibility.</p> <p>Before opening in late June, we had to carry out lengthy risk assessments, purchase mountains of PPE and hand sanitizer, re-structure the setting and environment to make it as safe as we could. This was a very different and strange experience for all as we were required to allocate those returning children to 'peer bubbles' who were able to attend twice a week. Luckily the weather was on our side and the 'peer bubbles' were able to enjoy lots of outside activities. Unfortunately, the government restrictions also meant that we were unable to hold our planned events – no Shepreth trip, no sports day, no end of term family picnic.</p> <p>Most of the parents chose to keep their children at home which sadly meant that many were unable to complete their final weeks at MGR.</p> <p>September 2020 saw us re-open as normal with the continued emphasis on regular sterilising and hygiene procedures.</p> <p>November 2020 saw the country in another lockdown which meant we could not proceed as normal with our nursery nativity and Santa's Grotto.</p> <p>The Nativity Production where all the nursery children play a part and sing went ahead but without an audience. Instead, we recorded it and made it available for parents to view.</p> <p>And, instead of our usual Santa's Grotto get together we invited all the children to attend a Christmas party where they had the opportunity to see Santa in his open air grotto and receive a gift from him.</p>
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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	Para 1.41	In a normal year we aim to raise c£2.5k through fundraising. The Covid pandemic meant the cancellation of the Baldock Festival, our main fundraising event of the

Classification: CONFIDENTIAL

set		year. We raised £1.6k as a result.
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	n/a
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Despite the Covid pandemic, which covered nearly half of the period, Merry-go-rounds' finances are in a very healthy position. In the year we made a surplus of £25k, with cash reserves of £88k. The setting has not been in such a strong position for a number of years.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Reserves are set aside to <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pay for the cost of demolishing the setting if required, 2. operating shortfalls, and 3. investing in the setting
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£45k provision if the setting needs to be demolished, the remaining £43k is for the operating shortfall and investing in the setting.
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	We are in negotiations with Herts DC about taking out a long-term lease. Whilst there will be an increased rent, we will get security of tenure which will enable us to invest on building a new setting.

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 funding is from Herts DC. This year it amounted to 87% of our income and it was this funding that insulated us from the effects of the pandemic as we received this income when the setting closed for the academic year in March 2019.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	n/a
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Falling child numbers. These have fluctuated widely in the past, we expect them to be down considerably in 2021 as a knock-on effect of the pandemic, however we are protected in the short term by our large reserves. 2. Security of tenure. We have never had a formal lease with North Herts DC and have instead paid a

		peppercorn rent. This has meant we have traditionally had a large reserve in case we were required to vacate the setting. We are confident we can agree a 10-year lease at a fair rent which would enable us to invest in the settings infrastructure.
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	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	Election

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	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Merry-Go-Round Under 5's
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1010031
Charity's principal address	The Mobile, Hartsfield School Ground, Clothall Road, Baldock, SG7 6PN

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Mr Ian Haydon	Chair	From 14 January 2020	
2	Mr Gary Carey	Treasurer		
3	Mrs Sheila Ely			
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5				
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Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

[illegible]

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

[illegible]

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

Other optional information

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)

Gary Carey

Position (eg Secretary,
Chair, etc)

Treasurer

Date

25th September 2023



Merry-Go-Round Under 5's

1010031

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

01/09/2019


To

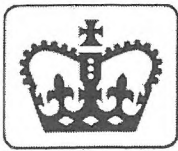
31/08/2020

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Funding	110,430	-	-	110,430	103,414
Fees	16,012	-	-	16,012	19,384
Other Income	1,695	-	-	1,695	2,744
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	128,138	-	-	128,138	125,543
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table B1).					
Bank Interest	28	-	-	28	13
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	28	-	-	28	13
Total receipts	128,166	-	-	128,166	125,556
A3 Payments					
Wages	87,097	-	-	87,097	94,934
Building and premises	4,541	-	-	4,541	5,105
Utilities	4,254	-	-	4,254	3,495
Supplies	2,074	-	-	2,074	3,697
Food & Activities	572	-	-	572	1,161
Training & Advertising	439	-	-	439	2,499
Insurance	469	-	-	469	112
Miscellaneous	2,829	-	-	2,829	488
Sub total	102,276	-	-	102,276	111,491
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	102,276	-	-	102,276	111,491
Net of receipts/(payments)	25,890	-	-	25,890	14,065
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	62,261	-	-	62,261	48,196
Cash funds this year end	88,151	-	-	88,151	62,261

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Treasurers Account	15,120	-	-
	Business Instant Account	73,031	-	-
	30 day Account	-	-	-
	Total cash funds	88,151	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		Gary Carey	25-Sep-23	



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
Merry-Go-Round Under 5's

On accounts for the year
ended

31st August 2020

Charity no
(if any)

1010031

Set out on pages

1-2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/08/2020.

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 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:

Date:

28th September
2023

Name:

PETER ILIAN

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

ACIB

Address:

6 Rutland Green, Hilton
Huntingdon
Cambs, PE28 9NT

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.