

STEPPING STONES PRE SCHOOL CLIPSTON

England & Wales · Charity number 1023443

Details

Other names	"STEPPING STONES" CLIPSTON-NASEBY PLAYGROUP, "STEPPING STONES" CLIPTON-NASEBY PLAYGROUP, STEPPING STONES CLIPTON-NASEBY PLAYGROUP, CLIPSTON STEPPING STONES PRE-SCHOOL
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	1993-07-12
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	High Street Clipston Market Harborough LE16 9RU
Phone	01858 525113
Email	info@steppingstonesclipston.co.uk
Website	steppingstonesclipston.co.uk

Activities

Objects: The aims of the Pre-school are to enhance the development and education of children primarily under statutory school age by encouraging parents to understand and provide for the needs of their children through community groups and by:(a) offering appropriate play, education and care facilities, family learning and extended hours groups, together with the right of parents to take responsibility for and to become involved in the activities of such groups, ensuring that such groups offer opportunities for all children whatever their race, culture, religion, means or ability;(b) encouraging the study of the needs of such children and their families and promoting public interest in and recognition of such needs in the local areas;(c) Instigating and adhering to and furthering the aims and objects of the Pre-school Learning Alliance.

Activities: Provision of pre-school education.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Education/training
- **Who:** Children/young People

Geography

- Leicestershire
- Northamptonshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-07-31	£95,767	£105,535	-	-
2024-07-31	£85,683	£84,064	-	-
2023-07-31	£100,674	£99,524	-	-
2022-07-31	£74,272	£75,846	-	-
2021-07-31	£57,028	£55,547	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Andrew John Blake	Chair	2025-03-17
Chloe Godsmark		2025-09-25
Lily Faulkner		2024-09-26
Rose Clementine O'Connor		2025-09-25
Sean Faulkner		2024-09-26

STEPPING STONES PRE SCHOOL CLIPSTON

England & Wales - Charity number 1023443

Accounts

Stepping Stones Pre School Clipston

Year Ended 31 July 2025

**Treasurer's Report
and
Financial Statements**

STEPPING STONES PRE SCHOOL CLIPSTON LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE FRAMEWORK

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1023443

DATE OF REGISTRATION 12 July 1993

TRUSTEES

Andy Blake (Chairperson)
Ellis Wheeler (Secretary)
Louise Gowling (Treasurer)
Danielle Nutley
Katelyn Williams
Lily Faulkner
Sean Faulkner
Sorrel Gray

GOVERNING DOCUMENT AND CHARITABLE OBJECTIVES

The charity acts in accordance with its constitution date 29 October 2014.

The objects of the charity are to enhance the development and education of children primarily under statutory school age by encouraging parents to understand and provide for the needs of their children through community groups and by:

Offering appropriate play, educations and care facilities, family learning and extend hours groups together with the rights of parents to take responsibility for and to become involved in the activities of such groups, enduring that such groups offer opportunities for all children whatever their race, culture, religion, means or ability.

Encouraging the study of the needs of such children and their families and promoting public interest in and recognition of such needs in the local areas.

Instigating and adhering to and furthering the aims and objectives of the pre-school learning alliance.

MAIN ACTIVITY

The charity provides pre-school education to children.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The charity notes that it has a responsibility under the Charity Regulations which govern it to ensure that the public benefit from the activities of the charity.

Stepping Stones Pre School Clipston ensures that it meets these requirements but ensuring that applications for places at the school are made available to all families in the local community.

CONTACT NAME AND ADDRESS

Stepping Stones Pre School Clipston
High Street
Clipston
Market Harborough
LE16 9RU

Stepping Stones Pre School Clipston
Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2025

TREASURERS REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

Stepping Stones Pre School has had another busy year, and although children numbers have remained the same as last year the setting made a deficit for the year of £9,768 (FY2024: surplus £1,612).

The setting has continued to benefit significantly this year from the steps taken in the previous years to maximise income for the setting and proactively manage the cost base to ensure that the staffing levels are appropriate and sustainable for the number of children attending the setting and the cost base challenged and discretionary spend minimised.

The following specific receipts and payments are of note:

- Fee and funding income in total for the year was £81,931, £7,091 higher than in the previous year (FY2024:£74,840)
- Fundraising and donations generated £8,067 (FY2024:£8,892), a successful Christmas wreath making event, Summer Raffle and fundraising at the clipston festival in the financial period has helped with keeping the fundraising similar over the last two years. Voluntary contributions have decreased significantly due to the economic climate.
- In 2025 we received a grant from Kelmars Windfarm Community Benefit Grant of £3,726, this has been used to purchase new Forest School Equipment and new Equipment for the setting (FY2024:£NIL).
- We received bank interest on our High Interest account which has raised £1,943 this year (FY2024: £1,599).
- Staff costs have increased compared to the prior year at £74,361 (FY2024:£70,379). There was a significant increase in minimum wage from April 2025, we elected to give the staff a payrise to show our appreciation of their continued support.
- From 1 September 2024 the revised rent from the Primary School came in to effect, therefore the rent costs for the year (2025:£14,538) were significantly higher than that of the previous year (£,1650). This is the main contribution to the deficit during the year.

The cash balance at 31 July 2025 was £56,342 (FY2024:£66,231). This is approximately £14,098 higher than the cash we are required to hold under our Reserves Policy.

The petty cash balance at 31 July 2025 was £226 (FY2024:£105).

The forecast for next year anticipates a higher number of children attending the setting to the current year as we start with nearly the same number of children as to when we closed for the Summer. To ensure the ongoing financial viability of Stepping Stones, the challenge remains to optimise attendance levels at the setting, proactively manage staff and overhead costs and maximise the opportunities for fundraising.

Stepping Stones Pre School is a break even organisation and we do heavily rely on all voluntary contributions, fundraising and donations to keep Stepping Stones Pre School to continue to be run as successfully as it can and provide a much needed provision in our wonderful community.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF STEPPING STONES PRE-SCHOOL CLIPSTON

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Stepping Stones Pre-School Clipston for the year ended 31 July 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of the 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').

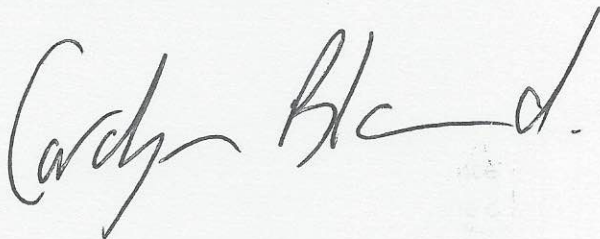
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the act.

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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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



Carolyn Bland
3 Chestnut Grove
Clipston
Market Harborough
Leics
LE16 9RH

Stepping Stones Pre School Clipston
Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2025

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

	Note	2025		2024	
		£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS					
Unrestricted Funds					
Fees and funding:					
Northants County Council		70,151		61,606	
Fees re unfunded children		11,780		13,234	
			81,931		74,840
Fundraising		3,973		3,966	
Donations, matched giving and gift aid		4,094		4,926	
Bank interest		1,943		1,599	
Other income		-		352	
			10,010		10,843
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED RECEIPTS			91,941		85,683
Restricted Funds					
Grants received		3,826		-	
TOTAL RESTRICTED RECEIPTS			3,826		-
TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR			95,767		85,683
PAYMENTS					
Unrestricted Funds					
Wages, bonuses and national insurance		74,361		70,379	
Staff training and course fees		1,249		303	
Telephone		1,113		964	
Rent		14,528		1,650	
Fees, subscriptions and memberships		959		859	
Insurance		806		645	
Resources and equipment		2,213		2,158	
Printing, postage and stationery		221		32	
Marketing and advertising		347		440	
Accountancy fees - payroll		380		694	
Furniture, housekeeping and maintenance		5,085		4,472	
Snacks		656		878	
Miscellaneous purchases		149		590	
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED PAYMENTS			102,067		84,064
Restricted funds					
Grant expenditure		3,468		-	
TOTAL RESTRICTED PAYMENTS			3,468		-
TOTAL PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR			105,535		84,064
EXCESS OF PAYMENTS OVER RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR			- 9,768		1,619
Funding Split:					
Unrestricted Funds		-	10,126		1,619
Restricted funds			358		-
			9,768		1,619

Stepping Stones Pre School Clipston
Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2025

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31 JULY 2025

		2025		2024	
	Note	£	£	£	£
CASH FUNDS					
Bank current account			12,800		24,632
High Interest account			43,542		41,599
Petty cash			226		105
			<u>56,568</u>		<u>66,336</u>
DISTRIBUTION BETWEEN FUNDS					
Unrestricted Funds					
Opening balance		65,834		64,215	
Excess receipts over payments for the year	-	10,126		1,619	
Transfer from restricted funds		502			
Closing balance			56,210		65,834
Restricted funds					
Opening balance		502		502	
Excess receipts over payments for the year		358		-	
Transfer to unrestricted funds	-	502			
Closing balance			358		502
			<u>56,568</u>		<u>66,336</u>

STEPPING STONES PRE SCHOOL CLIPSTON

England & Wales - Charity number 1023443

Accounts

Stepping Stones Pre School Clipston

Year Ended 31 July 2024

**Treasurer's Report
and
Financial Statements**

STEPPING STONES PRE SCHOOL CLIPSTON LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE FRAMEWORK

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1023443

DATE OF REGISTRATION 12 July 1993

TRUSTEES

Hannah Osborne
Katie Usher
Rosie O'Connor
Louise Gowling
Katelyn Williams
Emma Davies
Charlotte Horn
Melissa Hill

GOVERNING DOCUMENT AND CHARITABLE OBJECTIVES

The charity acts in accordance with its constitution date 29 October 2014.

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Offering appropriate play, educations and care facilities, family learning and extend hours groups together with the rights of parents to take responsibility for and to become involved in the activities of such groups, enduring that such groups offer opportunities for all children whatever their race, culture, religion, means or ability.

Encouraging the study of the needs of such children and their families and promoting public interest in and recognition of such needs in the local areas.

Instigating and adhering to and furthering the aims and objectives of the pre-school learning alliance.

MAIN ACTIVITY

The charity provides pre-school education to children.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The charity notes that it has a responsibility under the Charity Regulations which govern it to ensure that the public benefit from the activities of the charity.

Stepping Stones Pre School Clipston ensures that it meets these requirements but ensuring that applications for places at the school are made available to all families in the local community.

CONTACT NAME AND ADDRESS

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High Street
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**Stepping Stones Pre School Clipston
Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2024**

TREASURERS REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

Stepping Stones Pre School has had a very busy year, children numbers have been higher than seen for several years and record income. The setting made a surplus for the year of £2,116 (FY2023:£1,150).

The setting has continued to benefit significantly this year from the steps taken in the previous years to maximise income for the setting and proactively manage the cost base to ensure that the staffing levels are appropriate and sustainable for the number of children attending the setting and the cost base challenged and discretionary spend minimised.

The following specific receipts and payments are of note:

- Fee and funding income in total for the year was £74,840, £15,615 lower than in the previous year (FY2023:£90,455)
- Fundraising and donations generated £8,942 (FY2023:£8,899), a successful Christmas window event, Summer Raffle and fundraising at the clipston festival in the financial period has helped with keeping the fundraising similar over the last two years. Donations have decreased slightly due to the economic climate.
- In 2023 we received a grant from Market Harborough Building Society Charitable Foundation of £1,320 for the Mud Kitchen purchased during the 2023 year (FY2024:£NIL).
- We now receive bank interest on our High Interest account which has raised £1,599 this year (FY2023:£NIL)
- Staff costs have decreased compared to the prior year at £70,379 (FY2023:£79,520). The decreased session numbers resulted in decreased staffing requirements for the setting decreasing the staff costs. There was a significant increase in minimum wage from April 2024, we elected to give the staff a payrise to show our appreciation of their continued support.
- Staff training costs were £303 (FY2023:£2,517) which is considerably lower than previous years.

The cash balance at 31 July 2024 was £66,727.92 (FY2023:£64,675.26). This is approximately £22,200 higher than the cash we are required to hold under our Reserves Policy.

The petty cash balance at 31 July 2024 was £105.00 (FY2023:£42.00).

The forecast for next year anticipates a lower number of children attending the setting to the current year. To ensure the ongoing financial viability of Stepping Stones, the challenge remains to optimise attendance levels at the setting, proactively manage staff and overhead costs and maximise the opportunities for fundraising. The Primary School where we are based have also significantly increased our rent from 1 September 2024, therefore we will need to be increasing our income and managing our costs to ensure the future viability of Stepping Stones Pre School.

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF STEPPING STONES PRE-SCHOOL
CLIPSTON**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Stepping Stones Pre-School Clipston for the year ended 31 July 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of the report

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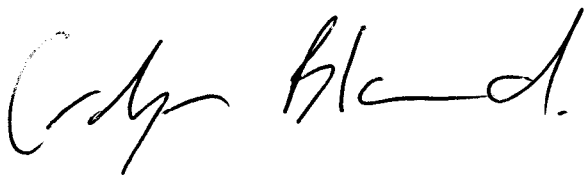
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Independent examiner's statement

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1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act;
or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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



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Stepping Stones Pre School Clipston
Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2024

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

	Note	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS					
Unrestricted Funds					
Fees and funding:					
Northants County Council		61,606		62,261	
Fees re unfunded children		<u>13,234</u>		<u>28,194</u>	
			74,840		90,455
Fundraising		3,966		3,264	
Donations, matched giving and gift aid		4,926		5,363	
Bank interest		1,599		-	
Other income		<u>352</u>		<u>272</u>	
			10,843		8,899
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED RECEIPTS			85,683		99,354
Restricted Funds					
Grants received		-		1,320	
TOTAL RESTRICTED RECEIPTS			-		1,320
TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR			85,683		100,674
PAYMENTS					
Unrestricted Funds					
Wages, bonuses and national insurance		70,379		79,520	
Staff training and course fees		303		2,517	
Telephone		964		785	
Rent		1,650		1,730	
Fees, subscriptions and memberships		859		848	
Insurance		645		624	
Resources and equipment		2,158		4,619	
Printing, postage and stationery		32		488	
Marketing and advertising		440		1,117	
Accountancy fees - payroll		694		552	
Furniture, housekeeping and maintenance		4,472		3,951	
Snacks		878		824	
Miscellaneous purchases		<u>590</u>		<u>629</u>	
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED PAYMENTS			84,064		98,204
Restricted funds					
Outdoor equipment/covid grant		-		1,320	
TOTAL RESTRICTED PAYMENTS			-		1,320
TOTAL PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR			84,064		99,524
EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR			1,619		1,150
Funding Split:					
Unrestricted Funds			1,619		1150
Restricted funds			-		-
			1,619		1150

Stepping Stones Pre School Clipston
Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2024

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31 JULY 2024

	Note	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
CASH FUNDS					
Bank current account			24,632		24,675
High interest account			41,599		40,000
Petty cash			105		42
			<u>66,336</u>		<u>64,717</u>
DISTRIBUTION BETWEEN FUNDS					
Unrestricted Funds					
Opening balance		64,215		63,065	
Excess receipts over payments for the year		1,619		1150	
Transfer from restricted funds					
Closing balance			<u>65,834</u>		<u>64,215</u>
Restricted funds					
Opening balance		502		502	
Excess receipts over payments for the year		-		-	
Transfer to unrestricted funds					
Closing balance			<u>502</u>		<u>502</u>
			<u>66,336</u>		<u>64,717</u>

STEPPING STONES PRE SCHOOL CLIPSTON

England & Wales - Charity number 1023443

Accounts

Stepping Stones Pre School Clipston

Year Ended 31 July 2023

**Treasurer's Report
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Financial Statements**

STEPPING STONES PRE SCHOOL CLIPSTON LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE FRAMEWORK

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1023443

DATE OF REGISTRATION 12 July 1993

TRUSTEES

Louise Gowling
Rosie O'Connor
Hannah Osborne
Katelyn Williams
Emma Davies

GOVERNING DOCUMENT AND CHARITABLE OBJECTIVES

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Offering appropriate play, educations and care facilities, family learning and extend hours groups together with the rights of parents to take responsibility for and to become involved in the activities of such groups, enduring that such groups offer opportunities for all children whatever their race, culture, religion, means or ability.

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MAIN ACTIVITY

The charity provides pre-school education to children.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The charity notes that it has a responsibility under the Charity Regulations which govern it to ensure that the public benefit from the activities of the charity.

Stepping Stones Pre School Clipston ensures that it meets these requirements but ensuring that applications for places at the school are made available to all families in the local community.

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Stepping Stones Pre School Clipston
Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2023

TREASURERS REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

Stepping Stones Pre School has had a very busy year, children numbers have been higher than seen for several years and record income. The setting made a surplus for the year of £1,150 (FY2022:£1,574 loss).

The setting has continued to benefit significantly this year from the steps taken in the previous years to maximise income for the setting and proactively manage the cost base to ensure that the staffing levels are appropriate and sustainable for the number of children attending the setting and the cost base challenged and discretionary spend minimised.

The following specific receipts and payments are of note:

- Fee and funding income in total for the year was £90,455, £20,018 higher than in the previous year (FY2022:£70,437)
- Fundraising and donations generated £8,899 (FY2022:£3,835), a successful Christmas raffle and fundraising at the clipston festival in the financial period has helped with keeping the fundraising similar over the last two years. Donations have increased significantly due to the generosity of our parents.
- We received a grant from Market Harborough Building Society Charitable Foundation of £1,320 for the Mud Kitchen purchased during the year (FY2022:£NIL).
- Staff costs have increased compared to the prior year at £79,520 (FY2022:£62,428). The increased session numbers resulted in increased staffing requirements for the setting increasing the staff costs. There was a significant increase in minimum wage from April 2023, we elected to give the staff a payrise to show our appreciation of their continued support.
- Staff training costs were £2,517 (FY2022:£1,261) which is considerably higher than previous years reflecting mandatory training requirements for the new team members and existing team and additional ad hoc training as required.

The cash balance at 31 July 2023 was £64,675.26 (FY2022:£63,448.98). This is approximately £24,500 higher than the cash we are required to hold under our Reserves Policy.

The petty cash balance at 31 July 2023 was £42.00(FY2022:£118.60).

The forecast for next year anticipates a significantly lower number of children attending the setting to the current year. To ensure the ongoing financial viability of Stepping Stones, the challenge remains to optimise attendance levels at the setting, proactively manage staff and overhead costs and maximise the opportunities for fundraising. The Primary School where we are based have applied to the Council for Prechoolers to attend their setting, this will impact Stepping Stones future if it goes ahead, we will be assessing the ongoing situation at each stage of the process and how it will effect Stepping Stones future, the uncertainty of the situation is already affecting business and children numbers.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF STEPPING STONES PRE-SCHOOL CLIPSTON

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Stepping Stones Pre-School Clipston for the year ended 31 July 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of the 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 all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the act.

Independent examiner's statement

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Stepping Stones Pre School Clipston
Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2023

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

	Note	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS					
Unrestricted Funds					
Fees and funding:					
Northants County Council		62,261		44,383	
Fees re unfunded children		<u>28,194</u>		<u>26,054</u>	
			90,455		70,437
Fundraising		3,264		3,370	
Donations, matched giving and gift aid		5,363		465	
Other income		<u>272</u>		<u>-</u>	
			8,899		3,835
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED RECEIPTS			<u>99,354</u>		<u>74,272</u>
Restricted Funds					
Grants received		<u>1,320</u>		<u>-</u>	
TOTAL RESTRICTED RECEIPTS			1,320		-
TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR			<u><u>100,674</u></u>		<u><u>74,272</u></u>
PAYMENTS					
Unrestricted Funds					
Wages, bonuses and national insurance		79,520		62,428	
Staff training and course fees		2,517		1,261	
Telephone		785		736	
Rent		1,730		1,730	
Fees, subscriptions and memberships		848		736	
Insurance		624		560	
Resources and equipment		4,619		2,870	
Printing, postage and stationery		488		386	
Marketing and advertising		1,117		636	
Accountancy fees - payroll		552		514	
Furniture, housekeeping and maintenance		3,951		2,304	
Snacks		824		772	
Miscellaneous purchases		<u>629</u>		<u>913</u>	
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED PAYMENTS			98,204		75,846
Restricted funds					
Outdoor equipment/covid grant		<u>1,320</u>		<u>-</u>	
TOTAL RESTRICTED PAYMENTS			1,320		-
TOTAL PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR			<u><u>99,524</u></u>		<u><u>75,846</u></u>
EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR			<u><u>1,150</u></u>		<u><u>(1,574)</u></u>
Funding Split:					
Unrestricted Funds			1,150		(1,574)
Restricted funds			<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>
			<u><u>1,150</u></u>		<u><u>(1,574)</u></u>

Stepping Stones Pre School Clipston
Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2023

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31 JULY 2023

	Note	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
CASH FUNDS					
Bank current account			24,675		63,449
High Interest account			40,000		
Petty cash			42		118
			<u>64,717</u>		<u>63,567</u>
DISTRIBUTION BETWEEN FUNDS					
Unrestricted Funds					
Opening balance		63,065		64,639	
Excess receipts over payments for the year		1,150		(1,574)	
Transfer from restricted funds					
Closing balance			<u>64,215</u>		<u>63,065</u>
Restricted funds					
Opening balance		502		502	
Excess receipts over payments for the year		-		-	
Transfer to unrestricted funds					
Closing balance			<u>502</u>		<u>502</u>
			<u>64,717</u>		<u>63,567</u>

STEPPING STONES PRE SCHOOL CLIPSTON

England & Wales - Charity number 1023443

Accounts

Stepping Stones Pre School Clipston

Year Ended 31 July 2022

**Treasurer's Report
and
Financial Statements**

STEPPING STONES PRE SCHOOL CLIPSTON LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE FRAMEWORK

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1023443

DATE OF REGISTRATION 12 July 1993

TRUSTEES

Louise Gowling
Rosie O'Connor
Katie Copping
Hannah Osborne
Isadora Ambrose

GOVERNING DOCUMENT AND CHARITABLE OBJECTIVES

The charity acts in accordance with its constitution date 29 October 2014.

The objects of the charity are to enhance the development and education of children primarily under statutory school age by encouraging parents to understand and provide for the needs of their children through community groups and by:

Offering appropriate play, educations and care facilities, family learning and extend hours groups together with the rights of parents to take responsibility for and to become involved in the activities of such groups, enduring that such groups offer opportunities for all children whatever their race, culture, religion, means or ability.

Encouraging the study of the needs of such children and their families and promoting public interest in and recognition of such needs in the local areas.

Instigating and adhering to and furthering the aims and objectives of the pre-school learning alliance.

MAIN ACTIVITY

The charity provides pre-school education to children.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The charity notes that it has a responsibility under the Charity Regulations which govern it to ensure that the public benefit from the activities of the charity.

Stepping Stones Pre School Clipston ensures that it meets these requirements but ensuring that applications for places at the school are made available to all families in the local community.

CONTACT NAME AND ADDRESS

Stepping Stones Pre School Clipston
High Street
Clipston
Market Harborough
LE16 9RU

**Stepping Stones Pre School Clipston
Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2022**

TREASURERS REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022

Stepping Stones Pre School has had another challenging year with much lower than historical levels of children attending the preschool. It has still seen income challenges due to Covid-19, but despite these challenges overall the setting made a loss for the year of £1,574 (FY2021:£1,481 profit).

The setting has continues to benefit significantly this year from the steps taken in the previous years to maximise income for the setting and proactively manage the cost base to ensure that the staffing levels are appropriate and sustainable for the number of children attending the setting and the cost base challenged and discretionary spend minimised.

The following specific receipts and payments are of note:

- Fee and funding income in total for the year was £70,437, £17,450 higher than in the previous year (FY2021:£52,987)
- Fundraising and donations generated £3,835 (FY2021:£3,536), a successful Christmas raffle and fundraising at two clipston festivals in the financial period has helped with keeping the fundraising similar over the last two years however the impact of Covid-19 still affecting the normal ability to hold events.
- Staff costs were a similar level to the prior year at £62,428 (FY2021:£45,040). The increased session numbers resulted in increased staffing requirements for the setting increasing the staff costs. There was another increase in minimum wage from April 2022, we elected to give the staff a payrise to show our appreciation of their continued support.
- Staff training costs were £1,261 (FY2021:£733) which is considerably higher than previous years reflecting mandatory training requirements for the new team members and existing team and additional ad hoc training as required.
- During the year no grants were received (2021:£505).

The cash balance at 31 July 2022 was £63,448.98 (FY2021:£65,141.32). This is approximately £23,000 higher than the cash we are required to hold under our Reserves Policy.

The petty cash balance at 31 July 2022 was £118.60(FY2021:£0.00).

The forecast for next year anticipates a slightly higher number of children attending the setting to the current year. To ensure the ongoing financial viability of Stepping Stones, the challenge remains to optimise attendance levels at the setting, proactively manage staff and overhead costs and maximise the opportunities for fundraising.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF STEPPING STONES PRE-SCHOOL CLIPSTON

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Stepping Stones Pre-School Clipston for the year ended 31 July 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of the 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 all 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act;
or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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



Carolyn Bland
Address :

3 CHESTNUT GROVE
CLIPSTON
MARKET HARBOUROUGH
LEICS
LE16 9RH.

Stepping Stones Pre School Clipston
Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2022

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022

	2022	2021
Note	£	£
RECEIPTS		
Unrestricted Funds		
Fees and funding:		
Northants County Council	44,383	43,057
Fees re unfunded children	26,054	9,930
	<u>70,437</u>	<u>52,987</u>
Fundraising	3,370	1,389
Donations, matched giving and gift aid	465	2,147
	<u>3,835</u>	<u>3,536</u>
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED RECEIPTS	<u>74,272</u>	<u>56,523</u>
Restricted Funds		
Grants received	-	505
TOTAL RESTRICTED RECEIPTS	-	505
TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR	<u>74,272</u>	<u>57,028</u>
PAYMENTS		
Unrestricted Funds		
Wages, bonuses and national insurance	62,428	45,040
Staff training and course fees	1,261	773
Telephone	736	661
Rent	1,730	1,942
Fees, subscriptions and memberships	736	871
Insurance	560	492
Resources and equipment	2,870	1,884
Printing, postage and stationery	386	-
Marketing and advertising	636	-
Accountancy fees - payroll	514	333
Furniture, housekeeping and maintenance	2,304	2,433
Snacks	772	198
Miscellaneous purchases	913	-
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED PAYMENTS	<u>75,846</u>	<u>54,627</u>
Restricted funds		
Outdoor equipment/covid grant	-	505
Refund/concert proceeds	-	415
TOTAL RESTRICTED PAYMENTS	-	920
TOTAL PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	<u>75,846</u>	<u>55,547</u>
EXCESS OF PAYMENTS OVER RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR	<u>(1,574)</u>	<u>1,481</u>
Funding Split:		
Unrestricted Funds	(1,574)	1,896
Restricted funds	-	(415)
	<u>(1,574)</u>	<u>1,481</u>

Stepping Stones Pre School Clipston
Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2022

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31 JULY 2022

	Note	2022		2021	
		£	£	£	£
CASH FUNDS					
Bank current account			63,449		65,141
Petty cash			118		-
			<u>63,567</u>		<u>65,141</u>
DISTRIBUTION BETWEEN FUNDS					
Unrestricted Funds					
Opening balance		64,639		62,743	
Excess receipts over payments for the year		(1,574)		1,896	
Transfer from restricted funds				-	
Closing balance			<u>63,065</u>	<u>-</u>	64,639
Restricted funds					
Opening balance		502		917	
Excess receipts over payments for the year		-		(415)	
Transfer to unrestricted funds					
Closing balance			<u>502</u>	<u></u>	502
			<u>63,567</u>	<u></u>	<u>65,141</u>

STEPPING STONES PRE SCHOOL CLIPSTON

England & Wales - Charity number 1023443

Accounts

Stepping Stones
Year ended 31 July 2021
Treasurer's Report and Financial
Statements

STEPPING STONES PRE-SCHOOL CLIPSTON LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE FRAMEWORK

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1023443

DATE OF REGISTRATION 12 July 1993

TRUSTEES

Laura Keir

Carly Jeanneret

Lisa Gariano

Mark Littlewood

Rachael Littlewood

Rosie O'Connor

Sarah Broadway

Nicola Hendry-Adams

Demi Robinson

GOVERNING DOCUMENT AND CHARITABLE OBJECTIVES

The charity acts in accordance with its constitution dated 29 October 2014.

The objects of the charity are to enhance the development and education of children primarily under statutory school age by encouraging parents to understand and provide for the needs of their children through community groups and by:

Offering appropriate play, educations and care facilities, family learning and extended hours groups together with the rights of parents to take responsibility for and to become involved in the activities of such groups, enduring that such groups offer opportunities for all children whatever their race, culture, religion, means or ability

Encouraging the study of the needs of such children and their families and promoting public interest in and recognition of such needs in the local areas.

Instigating and adhering to and furthering the aims and objects of the pre-school learning alliance.

MAIN ACTIVITY

The charity provides pre-school education to children.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The charity notes that it has a responsibility under the Charity regulations which govern it to ensure that the public benefit from the activities of the charity.

Stepping Stones Pre-School Clipston ensures that it meets these requirements by ensuring that applications for places at the school are made available to all families in the local community.

CONTACT NAME AND ADDRESS

Stepping Stones Pre-school

High Street

Clipston

Market Harborough

LE16 9RU

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Richard Brown, 23 Springfield Road, Wilbarston, Market Harborough, LE16 8QR

Treasurer's Report for the year ended 31 July 2021

Stepping Stones has had another challenging year with much lower than historical levels of children attending the preschool. It has still seen income challenges due to Covid-19, but despite these challenges overall the setting made a small surplus for the year of £1,481 (FY2020: £559).

The setting has continued to benefit significantly this year from the steps taken in the previous years to maximise income for the setting and proactively manage the cost base to ensure that staffing levels are appropriate and sustainable for the number of children attending the setting and the cost base challenged and discretionary spend minimised.

The following specific receipts and payments are of note:

- Fee and funding income in total for the year was £52,987, £5,392 lower than in the previous year (FY2020: £58,379)
- Fundraising and donations generated £3,536 (FY2020: £1,020), a large gift aid rebate was paid but the impact of covid-19 still affecting the normal ability to hold events
- Staff costs were a similar level to the prior year at £45,040 (FY2020: £48,366 There was another increase in minimum wage from April 2021 and the first pay increases were given to staff for several years
- Staff training costs were £733 (FY2020: £583) which is considerably higher than previous years reflecting mandatory training requirements of the team and additional adhoc training
- During the year grants totalling £505 were gratefully received

The cash balance as at 31 July 2021 was £65,141.32 (FY2020: £63,504). This is approximately £33,000 higher than the cash we are required to hold under our Reserves policy.

The forecast for next year anticipates a slightly higher number of children attending the setting to the current year. To ensure the ongoing financial viability of Stepping Stones, the challenge remains to optimise attendance levels at the setting, proactively manage staff and overhead costs and maximise the opportunities for fundraising.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF STEPPING STONES PRE-SCHOOL CLIPSTON

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Stepping Stones Pre-School Clipston for the year ended 31 July 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').

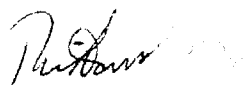
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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



Richard Brown, ACMA
23 Springfield Road,
Wilbarston,
Market Harborough,
LE16 8QR

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2021

		2021		2020	
	Note	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS					
Unrestricted Funds					
Fees and Funding:					
Northants County Council		43,057		46,221	
Fees re unfunded children		9,930		10,270	
Furlough Scheme		-		1,888	
Other		-		-	
			52,987		58,379
Fundraising		1,389		1,020	
Donations, matched giving and gift aid		2,147			250
TOTAL UN-RESTRICTED RECEIPTS			56,523		59,649
Restricted Funds					
Grants received		505		1,448	
TOTAL RESTRICTED RECEIPTS			505		1,448
TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR			<u>57,028</u>		<u>61,097</u>
PAYMENTS					
Unrestricted Funds					
Wages, bonuses and national insurance		45,040		48,366	
Staff training and course fees		773		583	
Telephone		661		650	
Rent		1,942		1,890	
Fees, subscriptions and memberships		871		365	
Insurance		492		444	
Resources and equipment		1,884		1,343	
Printing, postage and stationery		-		368	
Marketing and advertising		-		-	
Accountancy fees - payroll		333		309	
Furniture, Housekeeping and maintenance		2,433		1,614	
Snack		198		235	
Miscellaneous Purchases		-		1,607	
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED PAYMENTS			54,627		57,804
Restricted Funds					
Course fees		-		-	
Outdoor equipment/covid grant		505		2,734	
Refund/concert proceeds		415		-	
TOTAL RESTRICTED PAYMENTS			920		2,734
TOTAL PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR			<u>55,547</u>		<u>60,538</u>
EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR					
Unrestricted Funds			1,896		1,845
Restricted Funds			(415)		(1,286)
			<u>1,481</u>		<u>559</u>

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31 JULY 2021

	Note	2021		2020	
		£	£	£	£
CASH FUNDS					
Bank current account			65,141		63,504
Petty Cash			0		156
			<u>65,141</u>		<u>63,660</u>
DISTRIBUTION BETWEEN FUNDS					
Unrestricted Funds					
Opening balance		62,743		60,898	
Excess of receipts over payments for the year		1,896		1,845	
Transfer from restricted funds		-		-	
Closing balance			<u>64,639</u>		<u>62,743</u>
Restricted Funds					
Opening balance		917			
Excess of receipts over payments for the year		(415)		(1,286)	
Closing balance			<u>502</u>		<u>917</u>
			<u>65,141</u>		<u>63,660</u>