

Charity registration number: 1025265

West Totton Squirrels Pre-School Learning Alliance

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

West Totton Squirrels Pre-School Learning Alliance

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West Totton Squirrels Pre-School Learning Alliance

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees	Alison Hobbs
	April Davies
	Chelsey Morgan
	Jennifer Lay
	Jenny Marsh
	Joanne Cross
	Kim Davies, Treasurer
	Michelle Earl
Charity Registration Number	1025265
Principal Office	West Totton Community Centre
	Hazel Farm Road
	Totton
	Southampton
	Hampshire
	SO40 8WU
Independent Examiner	R. A. Jones & Co
	Chartered Accountants
	38 Rumbridge Street
	Totton
	Southampton
	Hampshire
	SO40 9DS

West Totton Squirrels Pre-School Learning Alliance

Trustees' Report

The trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2023.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

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.

Public benefit

Our main activity is to deliver care and education to children between the ages of 2 and 5 within the Early Years Foundation Stage and we are a fully inclusive setting. To do this we employ a manager and practitioners who provide activities to meet the needs and interests of the children attending the Pre-school. The Pre-school has a key person approach to ensure that the progress and well-being of all individual children is consistently monitored using the online learning journal Tapestry and feeds into future planning. The staff are well trained and this is updated throughout the year and are therefore able to successfully meet the needs of the children in their care.

The staff endeavour to provide a stimulating environment inside and outside and provide information to SFYC, schools and outside agencies as necessary.

The staff build positive relationships with parents and carers and they are welcomed into the Pre-school.

There are policies and procedures in place for all aspects of safeguarding, child protection, risk assessments and health and safety and the Pre-school ensures that all staff are familiar with these and are updated regularly

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

West Totton Squirrels Pre-School Learning Alliance

Trustees' Report (continued)

Achievements and performance

The charity has continued to benefit the local community by supporting pre-school children and have seen the children in their care develop increased confidence and social skills which have equipped them for later life. The charity has also provided much needed support to families of the children in their care and in particular to parents and carers of children with learning difficulties and other developmental issues.

The Pre-school always bears in mind any particular issues or difficulties which the children in their care may suffer and through a system of encouragement and support they have endeavoured to help the children reach their full potential which will carry through to their future lives.

The preschool welcomes all preschool children in the local community regardless of personal background, faith, gender or personal circumstances and we believe this philosophy of openness to all enriches everyone through the integration and sharing of skills, aptitudes and experiences.

It was a busy year at West Totton Squirrels preschool and another group of children have left to continue their learning journey at school. The staff have helped them on their way by planning lots of learning activities and experiences.

Squirrels hopes to build on the achievement of the past year to develop new systems and activities and to provide continued training for its staff and volunteers

Financial review

The main source of funds is government funding from Hampshire County Council supplemented by fees charged to parents and a small amount generated from fund raising activities.

The overall income for the year was broadly the same as for the prior year but a significant increase in staff costs reduced the net income of the Pre-School compared to the prior year. Nevertheless the charity's finances continue to be sound with more than adequate reserves to meet current and foreseeable expenditure in the medium term

Policy on reserves

The Pre-school considers that it should have minimum reserves of £100,000 to cover increased costs or redundancies with a further amount to cover between 6 and 12 months of running costs, replacement of equipment, exceptional items and emergencies. It considers that the accumulated funds set out in the financial statements are more than adequate to cover these amounts

West Totton Squirrels Pre-School Learning Alliance

Trustees' Report (continued)

Trustees and officers

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Trustees:	Aimee Louise Dibden (appointed 10 October 2022 and Resigned 21 October 2024)
	Alison Hobbs (appointed 10 October 2022)
	April Davies (appointed 21 October 2024)
	Chelsey Morgan (appointed 21 October 2024)
	Holly Harris (Resigned 10 October 2022)
	Jennifer Lay (appointed 10 October 2022)
	Jenny Marsh (appointed 25 November 2024)
	Jessica Martin (Resigned 10 October 2022)
	Joanne Cross (appointed 21 October 2024)
	Katie Wilkinson (Resigned 10 October 2022)
	Kerry Eggleton (appointed 14 November 2022 and Resigned 18 April 2023)
	Kim Davies, Treasurer (appointed 21 October 2024)
	Kristie Ullett (appointed 18 October 2023 and Resigned 21 October 2024)
	Liz Clayton (appointed 10 October 2022 and Resigned 20 December 2024)
	Michelle Earl (appointed 10 October 2022)
	Niki Lace, Manager (resigned 10 October 2022)
	Rebecca Johnson (Resigned 10 October 2022)
	Sara Jenkins (appointed 18 October 2023 and Resigned 21 October 2024)
	Sarah Brown (appointed 14 November 2022 and Resigned 18 October 2023)
	Tara Baker (Resigned 10 October 2022)
Chairperson:	Aimee Louise Dibden (appointed 10 October 2022 and Resigned 21 October 2024)
	Katie Wilkinson (Resigned 10 October 2022)

Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

The Pre-School is governed by the Pre-School Learning Alliance Model Pre-School Constitution 2011 and is a body in membership of the Pre-School Learning Alliance.

West Totton Squirrels Pre-School Learning Alliance

Trustees' Report (continued)

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

The trustees are elected annually at the AGM by the members of the association as set out in the constitution.

Any member may stand for election as a trustee as may key staff members.

There is a child protection policy in place. Disclosure and barring service checks are carried out prior to commencement of employment or trusteeship

Arrangements for setting key management personnel remuneration

All trustees, with the exception of key staff, give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits. Key staff are remunerated solely for their duties as employees of the preschool for the performance of these duties and not for duties as trustees. No other payments or expenses were paid to trustees during the year.

Organisational structure

The Pre-School is an unincorporated association.

Major risks and management of those risks

As an ongoing process trustees assess the level of risk in relation to governance, service, employment, health and safety, child protection, financial management and information management.

The trustees keep under review the major business and operation risks that the charity faces and ensure that monitoring systems have been established so that the necessary steps can be taken to lessen the risks.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 21 February 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Kim Davies
Trustee

West Totton Squirrels Pre-School Learning Alliance

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, and the provisions of the constitution. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 21 February 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Kim Davies
Trustee

West Totton Squirrels Pre-School Learning Alliance

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of West Totton Squirrels Pre-School Learning Alliance

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of West Totton Squirrels Pre-School Learning Alliance for the year ended 31 August 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of West Totton Squirrels Pre-School Learning Alliance 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 West Totton Squirrels Pre-School Learning Alliance'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 - matter of concern identified

Since West Totton Squirrels Pre-School Learning Alliance's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. It should be noted that as set out in the accounting policy notes the comparatives have been recompiled from available information and reasoned estimates.

I confirm that no other matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of West Totton Squirrels Pre-School Learning Alliance as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I confirm that there are no other matters to which your attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Roy Jones
Chartered Accountants
Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

38 Rumbridge Street
Totton
Southampton
Hampshire
SO40 9DS

21 February 2025

West Totton Squirrels Pre-School Learning Alliance

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Income and Endowments from:			
Donations and legacies		70	70
Charitable activities		267,390	267,390
Other trading activities		3,039	3,039
Investment income	5	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>
Total income		<u>270,519</u>	<u>270,519</u>
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds		1,238	1,238
Charitable activities		<u>235,198</u>	<u>235,198</u>
Total expenditure		<u>236,436</u>	<u>236,436</u>
Net income		34,083	34,083
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		<u>261,682</u>	<u>261,682</u>
Total funds carried forward	19	<u>295,765</u>	<u>295,765</u>
		Unrestricted funds £	2022 £
Income and Endowments from:			
Charitable activities		266,247	266,247
Other trading activities		2,890	2,890
Investment income	5	<u>96</u>	<u>96</u>
Total income		<u>269,233</u>	<u>269,233</u>
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds		1,458	1,458
Charitable activities		<u>223,749</u>	<u>223,749</u>
Total expenditure		<u>225,207</u>	<u>225,207</u>
Net income		44,026	44,026
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		<u>217,656</u>	<u>217,656</u>
Total funds carried forward	19	<u>261,682</u>	<u>261,682</u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.
The funds breakdown for 2022 is shown in note 19.

West Totton Squirrels Pre-School Learning Alliance

(Registration number: 1025265)
Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	14	521	695
Current assets			
Debtors	15	1,479	343
Cash at bank and in hand	16	<u>298,372</u>	<u>262,338</u>
		299,851	262,681
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	17	<u>(4,607)</u>	<u>(1,694)</u>
Net current assets		<u>295,244</u>	<u>260,987</u>
Net assets		<u>295,765</u>	<u>261,682</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		<u>295,765</u>	<u>261,682</u>
Total funds	19	<u>295,765</u>	<u>261,682</u>

The financial statements on pages 8 to 17 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 21 February 2025 and signed on their behalf by:


Kim Davies
Trustee

West Totton Squirrels Pre-School Learning Alliance

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

1 Accounting policies

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the second edition of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation

West Totton Squirrels Pre-School Learning Alliance meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Reclassification of comparative amounts

The original financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2022 were incorrectly compiled under the Receipts and Payments regime. They have been recompiled in their entirety using the information available and reasonable estimates where necessary.

Income and endowments

Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

West Totton Squirrels Pre-School Learning Alliance

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £200 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Equipment	25% straight line basis

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Pensions and other post retirement obligations

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme which is a pension plan under which fixed contributions are paid into a pension fund and the charity has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions even if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employees the benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when they are due. If contribution payments exceed the contribution due for service, the excess is recognised as a prepayment.

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds £
Donations and legacies;		
Donations from individuals	70	70
Total for 2023	70	70

3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds £
Local authority grants	213,770	213,770
Fees received	48,305	48,305
Employers allowance	5,315	5,315
Total for 2023	267,390	267,390
Total for 2022	266,246	266,246

West Totton Squirrels Pre-School Learning Alliance

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

4 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds £
Events income;		
Other events income	3,039	3,039
Total for 2023	<u>3,039</u>	<u>3,039</u>
Total for 2022	<u>2,890</u>	<u>2,890</u>

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds £
Interest receivable and similar income;		
Interest receivable on bank deposits	20	20
Total for 2023	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>
Total for 2022	<u>96</u>	<u>96</u>

6 Expenditure on raising funds

a) Costs of trading activities

	Note	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds £
Costs of goods sold		1,238	1,238
Total for 2023		<u>1,238</u>	<u>1,238</u>
Total for 2022		<u>1,458</u>	<u>1,458</u>

West Totton Squirrels Pre-School Learning Alliance

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

7 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds £
Governance costs	235,198	235,198
Total for 2023	235,198	235,198
Total for 2022	223,749	223,749

8 Analysis of governance and support costs

Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds £
Staff costs		
Wages and salaries	190,299	190,299
Social security costs	7,926	7,926
Pension costs	3,402	3,402
Other staff costs	711	711
Independent examiner fees		
Examination of the financial statements	1,200	1,200
Other fees paid to examiners	1,200	1,200
Depreciation, amortisation and other similar costs	174	174
Other governance costs	30,286	30,286
Total for 2023	235,198	235,198
Total for 2022	223,749	223,749

9 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net incoming resources for the year include:

	2023 £
Depreciation of fixed assets	174

West Totton Squirrels Pre-School Learning Alliance

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

10 Trustees remuneration and expenses

During the year the charity made the following transactions with trustees:

Niki Lace

Niki Lace received remuneration of £281 (2022: £16,583) during the year.

The remuneration was paid to the trustee in their capacity as a member of the school staff.

The trustee was auto-enrolled into the school's pension scheme. The Pre-schools contributions were £8.

Liz Clayton

Liz Clayton received remuneration of £12,795 (2022: £Nil) during the year.

The remuneration was paid to the trustee in their capacity as a member of the school staff.

Alison Hobbs

Alison Hobbs received remuneration of £23,212 (2022: £Nil) during the year.

The remuneration was paid to the trustee in their capacity as a member of the school staff

The trustee was auto-enrolled into the school's pension scheme. The Pre-schools contributions were £696

11 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	190,299	184,339
Social security costs	7,926	6,894
Pension costs	3,402	3,976
Other staff costs	711	501
	<u>202,338</u>	<u>195,710</u>

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2023 No	2022 No
Number of employees including trustees	<u>19</u>	<u>19</u>

10 (2022 - 11) of the above employees participated in the Defined Contribution Pension Schemes.

Contributions to the employee pension schemes for the year totalled £3,402 (2022 - £3,976).

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year

West Totton Squirrels Pre-School Learning Alliance

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

12 Independent examiner's remuneration

	2023 £
Examination of the financial statements	1,200
Other fees to examiners	
All other services	1,200

13 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

14 Tangible fixed assets

	Furniture and equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 September 2022	695	695
At 31 August 2023	695	695
Depreciation		
Charge for the year	174	174
At 31 August 2023	174	174
Net book value		
At 31 August 2023	521	521
At 31 August 2022	695	695

15 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Prepayments	1,463	313
Accrued income	16	30
	1,479	343

16 Cash and cash equivalents

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash at bank	298,372	112,338
Short-term deposits	-	150,000
	298,372	262,338

West Totton Squirrels Pre-School Learning Alliance

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

17 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	-	190
Other taxation and social security	2,143	1,186
Other creditors	1	(1)
Accruals	2,463	319
	<u>4,607</u>	<u>1,694</u>

18 Pension and other schemes

Defined contribution pension scheme

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the charity to the scheme and amounted to £3,402 (2022 - £3,976).

19 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Unrestricted funds				
General	<u>261,682</u>	<u>270,519</u>	<u>(236,436)</u>	<u>295,765</u>
	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
Unrestricted funds				
General	<u>217,656</u>	<u>269,233</u>	<u>(225,207)</u>	<u>261,682</u>

20 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds at 31 August 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	521	521
Current assets	299,851	299,851
Current liabilities	<u>(4,607)</u>	<u>(4,607)</u>
Total net assets	<u>295,765</u>	<u>295,765</u>

West Totton Squirrels Pre-School Learning Alliance

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds at 31 August 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	695	695
Current assets	262,681	262,681
Current liabilities	<u>(1,694)</u>	<u>(1,694)</u>
Total net assets	<u><u>261,682</u></u>	<u><u>261,682</u></u>

21 Analysis of net funds

	At 1 September 2022 £	Net cash movement £	At 31 August 2023 £
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>262,338</u>	<u>36,034</u>	<u>298,372</u>
Net debt	<u><u>262,338</u></u>	<u><u>36,034</u></u>	<u><u>298,372</u></u>