



## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

	Period start date				Period end date		
<b>From</b>	Day 1st	Month August	Year 2023	<b>To</b>	Day 31st	Month July	Year 2024

### Section A

### Reference and administration details

<b>Charity name</b>	Margaret Lloyd Playgroup
<b>Other names charity is known by</b>	NONE
<b>Registered charity number (if any)</b>	1026270
<b>Charity's principal address</b>	Grove Hill Playing Fields, Washington Avenue, Hemel Hempstead Herts <b>Postcode</b> HP26NG

#### Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Loretta Anderson	Chair		
2	Jean Nagle	Vice Chair		
3	Karina Larsen			
4				
5				

#### Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
NA	

#### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
NA		

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

Helen Hendery - Manager	Jacqueline Thomas-deputy manager
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### Section B

### Structure, governance and management

#### Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Pre school learning alliance constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Unincorporated charity

Trustee selection methods  
(eg. appointed by, elected by)

By member vote at the AGM

### Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

- Ofsted Registered as an under 5's pre-school service. Our last Ofsted inspection took place on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2022 and the report was published on 16<sup>th</sup> Jan 2023. Playgroup was judged GOOD on all levels which is a great achievement.
- Charities policies are in line with OFSTED early years procedures
- Charity are members of the pre-school Early Years Alliance and have their insurance and guidelines in place
- Charity works closely with Herts social services to support children at risk
- Charity works closely with Herts County Council with the children mostly funded individually by them to attend the playgroup
- Charity has a small but experienced trustee board who work closely with the senior staff to manage risk.

## Section C

## Objectives and activities

**Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document**

TO ENHANCE THE DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION OF CHILDREN UNDER STATUTORY SCHOOL AGE BY ENCOURAGING PARENTS TO UNDERSTAND AND PROVIDE FOR THE NEEDS OF THEIR CHILDREN THROUGH COMMUNITY GROUPS

**Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)**

The playgroup operates from a purpose-built centre in the heart of Grove Hill in Hemel Hempstead offering Early Years Foundation stage education to children from 2 years old to 5 years old.

The playgroup is open on Monday to Thursday from 9am to 3pm and on Friday from 9am to 12.00pm – This equates to 9 session options plus 4 lunch clubs. Parents/carers have flexible options so they can choose sessions that help them work and/or care for their other children and wider family commitments. Most sessions are funded through the government funding for pre-school children, but extended sessions are offered at way below the local market rate to support families. The playgroup has very many families on low income or benefits. Many children within the area are on pupil premium due to their low-income status. The playgroup has been a true community resource for over 40 years adapting to and supporting the needs of local families.

## Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

The playgroup has always been a supporter of local young people offering volunteering and work experience for students from our local schools and colleges. The playgroup also has regular volunteers who themselves have learning difficulties, which offers them experiences in helping others and being part of their community. This can also offer respite to their Carers.

## Section D

## Achievements and performance

### Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

The academic year 2023-2024 was a good year for the playgroup giving local pre-school children, many from low income families the benefit of a safe place to enjoy their day and learn from highly trained early years foundation stage practitioners. It also gives parents/carers some much needed respite, or time to work.

The playgroup is well resourced with experienced staff and has an extensive well-equipped playroom and garden, which gives children the space and freedom to explore and enjoy the full early years outdoor play/education experience as defined in the Early Years Foundation Stage by Ofsted, and is a crucial part of their start in education and preparation for school.

***Our board of trustees are very proud of the way our staff and volunteers manage the day to day running of the playgroup. Their support and care for the children and their families is outstanding.***

## Section E

## Financial review

### Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The charity is now settled with Metro bank holding a current and deposit account holding around £150,000 and has reserves of £100,000 with a good interest rate with the Nationwide.

The policy of the charity is to hold one academic year of costs in reserve and to invest all other income as required in resources and improvements to the facilities, inside and out.

This academic year our **income was just over £100,000** and our expenditure was around £136,000.

We invested funds of:

- £24,000 on a brick built outside storage facility in our garden.
- £5000 on new doors and window shutters
- £1500 on upgrading our electrics and alarms.

Our next building project is to clear and re-furbish and resource the wet play area adjacent to the building with a budget of up to £50,000

We would also like to re-new and repair our main roadway around the garden as the soft surface is cracking in places with a budget of up to £25,000.

### Details of any funds materially in deficit

NA

### Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The playgroup receives funding from Herts County Council under the governments Early Years Funding for pre-school children. Children over 2 are funded if they are in certain benefit groups. All children over 3 are funded for a minimum of 15 hours and payments are made to the playgroup termly on proof of these children's attendance and their benefits. Extra sessions attended by the children or those under 3 who don't qualify pay a minimal session fee which we keep way below the normal fees at playgroups to make is accessible to all.

Our expenditure on resources is totally in line with our ethos to offer the best early years provision possible to support families in our community and we particularly focus on funding aimed at children who are on pupil premium.

From April 2024 funding for preschool children will cover a wide age range and for more hours.

## Section F

## Other optional information


Our staff retention and training records are exemplary, as is our trustee dedication and support.

We are a small but dedicated team working hard in our community to support others. We thank all our staff and volunteers for all their hard work in the care of the children placed in our care.

## Section G Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Loretta Anderson	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair of Trustees	
Date	18/5/2025	

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

## THE MARGARET LLOYD PLAYGROUP

1<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST 2023 – 31<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST 2024

### CURRENT ACCOUNT

Income	£	Expenditure	£
Balance @ 1.8.23	0.00	Yoga	850.00
Fees	6893.00	CAD	86683.97
Herts CC	81058.41	Expenses and gifts	1200.00
Lunch clubs*	0.00	County Supplies	326.49
Misc	723.00	Shutters	4785.21
DVS/CAD	10000.00	Misc	2375.83
Transfers	<u>262636.32</u>	Pest control	325.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>361310.73</b>	Ark Farms	678.00
		Electrics	841.00
		Early Years	682.80
		Insurance	528.47
		Shopping	2834.05
		BT	988.26
		Alarm	569.10
		Castle Water	450.19
		SS Sports	1641.60
		Nest	2038.50
		O2	184.12
		Music	47.88
		Shendish	445.30
		Rent	250.00
		British Gas	1498.08
		Transfers	224489.77
		Balance @ 31.8.24	<u>26597.91</u>
		<b>Total</b>	<b>361310.73</b>

\* Note – there isn't an amount for lunch clubs as the figures do not include the day sheets due to the banking date, these will be included on next year's statement of account.

**I certify this to be a true and accurate statement of account**

*J M Canning*

**Teresa Canning 17.4.2025**

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

## THE MARGARET LLOYD PLAYGROUP

1<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST 2023 – 31<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST 2024

### DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

#### Income

	£
Balance @ 1.8.23	276596.55
Interest	1408.56
Transfer in from current	<u>224489.77</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>502494.88</b>

#### Expenditure

	£
R G Parrott	23851.80
Misc	2456.02
Transfer to current	227122.40
Balance @ 31.8.24	<u>249064.66</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>502494.88</b>

#### Notes

The balance of £249064.66 @ 31.8.24 consists of £100000.00 in Nationwide and £149064.66 in Metro.

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