

Stonebroom Pre-School Trustees Annual Report 2020 - 2021

Stonebroom Pre-School
Stonebroom Village Hall
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Stonebroom
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Correspondence Address:

Stonebroom Pre-School
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Stonebroom
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Derbyshire
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Ofsted Registration No. EY311549
Early Years Alliance Membership No. 25838
Registered Charity No. 1026865

Trustees:

Anisha Eccleshare (Chairperson)
Helena Latham (Secretary)
Rebecca Whittaker (Treasurer)
Kathryn Moseley
Katie Clarke
Debbie Garbutt
Beth Graham
Dawn Clark

Introduction

Stonebroom Pre-School has been running for 49 years providing an invaluable resource for the local community and wider area. The pre-school is a not-for-profit organisation and registered charity that serves Stonebroom and its surrounding villages by delivering high quality, local and cost effective educational childcare to 2, 3 and 4 year olds.

The pre-school has adopted the Early Years Alliance Model Constitution. The employed staff are supported by a voluntary management committee comprised of parents and other interested parties.

We currently offer pre-school care in line with the Early Years Foundation Stage, with funded and non-funded places available to 2 – 4 year olds. We offer three hour sessions in the morning and afternoon, Monday to Friday in term-time.

Achievements and Performance

Once again, the pre-school year was dominated by the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic. However, unlike in the previous year, we were not required to close the pre-school to all but key worker children during the January to March 2021 lockdown, instead remaining open for all of our children throughout.

Despite this, we suffered a significant loss of attendance during this period as parents quite understandably decided to keep their children at home as a precautionary measure, and we continued to communicate with and provide educational materials for these children and families digitally. We ran a reduced staff rota within the setting during this time, and our employees took the opportunity to engage in additional training from home.

Following the conclusion of the lockdown, children gradually returned to the setting, although we had somewhat lower numbers than previous summer terms. We maintained Covid safety by continuing with external signage to enforce social distancing, staggered drop off and pick up times, increased dedicated daily cleaning rotas, increased ventilation, increased outdoor play, increased hand sanitising, daily temperature checks, adapted procedures and strict illness protocols. This was extremely successful and contributed to us being able to avoid further closure or any significant numbers of Covid-19 cases, despite its presence in the local community.

We resumed something resembling normal service in September 2021, allowing parents back into the building once more. However, we have persisted with increased cleaning and strict illness protocols as we continue to guard against any outbreaks of infection.

We continued to improve the setting throughout the year, redecorating and having new flooring laid in the kitchen and bathrooms. Externally we used remaining ring-fenced grants to invest in new climbing frames and a large reading shelter to further enhance our outdoor offering and contribute towards both the physical and mental development of our children.

The pandemic decimated much of our fundraising and community event calendar once again, although we did manage to hold our 2020 Christmas Performance behind closed doors, and an outdoor graduation ceremony in July 2021 for those leaving for school.

Financially, the pre-school was affected to a much greater degree during this year than last as, although childcare funding from the local authority was guaranteed, we again lost several thousand pounds in fees during the spring lockdown. This time no additional grants were available to cover these losses, and as a result, as predicted last year, much of the financial help we received early in the pandemic has now been used, as the costs of retaining our staff, covering illness and self-isolation, and additional cleaning were unmatched by sufficient child fees and funding to offset them.

Consequently we made a loss of £4619.08, our first loss in three years.

Therefore, we increased our fees by a small amount to remain viable, while staying as affordable as possible for the local families we serve. We continue to be one of the very lowest cost providers in the local area, at significantly lower cost than many local commercial operators, and due to our longstanding financial reserve management, remain very financially stable.

We would like to thank the staff for another year of dedication in often very difficult circumstances. They have remained committed despite the ever-present risk, to ensure that the children at the setting were cared for. They have also balanced this with continued professional development, as they have undertaken in-depth and involved training, as well as preparing diligently for the demands of the new EYFS framework.

In conclusion, the trustees feel that despite the continued obstacles presented for us to overcome this year, the pre-school once again met its aims and objectives and continues to be a wonderful asset to the local community.

Aims and Objectives

We aim to continue delivering a comprehensive, high quality early years education to all of our children, offering a choice of activities appropriate to their ages and stages of development. We will maintain our focus on individuality, progression, and care. We aim to encourage parental involvement from the outset, for the benefit of the children and pre-school alike.

We hope to attract greater numbers of children back to the pre-school as we emerge from the pandemic, and it is also important to recruit new parents to secure long term stability with regard to our voluntary committee.

Finally, we hope to further return to pre-pandemic normality by reviving our social events throughout the year, especially our Christmas Fair which is due to take place in early December 2021. These events not only raise funds, but also connect children, parents and the wider community to the pre-school. Thank you to all involved for your hard work over the past year, and for the year ahead.

Anisha Eccleshare (Chairperson)
On behalf of the Committee of Trustees
Stonebroom Pre-School

Stonebroom Pre-School

Accounts for Year End 31/07/2021

Opening Balance 01/08/2020 (All Accounts)	£	56,423.95
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Income

Fees	£ 11,419.50
Funding	£ 58,227.98
Uniform Payments	£ 156.50
Milk Rebate	£ 124.64
Grants	£ 365.20
Fundraising	£ 122.78
Donations	£ 1.00
Other Income	£ 33.00

Total	£ 70,450.60
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Expenditure

Wages	£ 62,527.00
Consumables	£ 1,396.06
Food	£ 717.57
Administration	£ 548.05
Equipment	£ 3,162.27
Services	£ 4,112.37
Insurance	£ 913.58
Training	£ 810.30
Other	£ 882.48

Total	£ 75,069.68
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Income	£ 70,450.60
Expenditure	£ 75,069.68
Profit	-£ 4,619.08

Opening Balance + Profit	£ 51,804.87
Actual Closing Balance	£ 51,804.87
Difference	£ -



CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name

STONEBROOM PRE-SCHOOL

On accounts for the year
ended

31 July 2021

Charity no
(if any)

Set out on pages

1

(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 31/07/2021.

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").

Independent
examiner's statement

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.

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

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

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

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

Signed:

Tracey K Priest

Date:

27/05/2022

Name:

TRACEY K PRIEST

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

Address:

6 OAKLAND STREET

ALFRETON

DERBYSHIRE, DE55 7GT