

## Trustees' Report 2023 – 2024

*This report, presented by Merib Gill, Trustee, gives an overview of activities, events, grants, fundraising and training at Beehive Pre-school during the 2023-2024 financial year.*

### Summer 2023

In the summer term there were 19 children enrolled at both the start and end of term. The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) priorities this term focused on enhancing each child's individual learning journey and experiences. Key areas of development included promoting oral health, fostering independence skills, and encouraging participation in a wide range of physical play and outdoor activities.

The preschool renewed its subscription to Tapestry, an online learning journey platform that continues to provide significant benefits for both staff and parents. The platform enhances communication between staff and families, enabling parents to actively engage in their child's progress. Additionally, Tapestry supports staff through valuable continuous professional development (CPD) opportunities. Feedback from staff and parents has been overwhelmingly positive, highlighting its role in enriching the preschool experience.

This term, the Acting Manager completed Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) training, ensuring the preschool remains fully compliant with safeguarding requirements. Attendance at local authority network meetings and training sessions further ensured that best practices were maintained. These meetings also helped strengthen professional connections with the local authority and Achieving for Children Services.

The children were fortunate to receive a visit by two local Thames Valley Police Community Support Officers. The children learnt about their job and how they help and assist people. The children thoroughly enjoyed the visit. The experience included trying on a police hat, sitting inside a police car and learning about the blue lights and sirens!

Creative activities continued to play a significant role in the children's development. For Father's Day, the children designed cards and created unique arts and crafts gifts. Transition training supported staff to implement support for children leaving to start reception in September. Children moving on to reception class had transition visits to their new classrooms and we welcomed their new teachers to the preschool. We welcomed parents and carers to a Graduation Ceremony for the children leaving and returning. The term concluded with a farewell fancy dress party to celebrate the children's achievements. Photos were taken to commemorate the occasion, creating lasting memories for children and families alike.

In line with the local authorities and our commitment to supporting the well-being of children and families, all 2-year-old funded children and those eligible for Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) received food vouchers to help alleviate financial pressures during school breaks. £20 vouchers were provided at half term, and £80 vouchers were distributed during the summer holidays.

## Autumn 2023

The autumn term marked the start of a new academic year, with 13 children enrolled at both the beginning and end of the term. Trustees and staff worked closely to ensure full compliance and readiness for the new school year. Despite recruitment challenges within the early years sector, the Acting Manager continued to lead effectively, fulfilling the responsibilities of the Manager's role with dedication. During this term, we also welcomed a committed volunteer who provided valuable support while gaining experience in the early years sector.

The term began with a staff inset day, which focused on safeguarding training and updates to the safeguarding policy to reflect the latest national and local changes. Staff also benefitted from bespoke in-house speech and language training delivered by a speech and language therapist and Early Years Communication and Language Consultant. This training aimed to enhance children's vocabulary and communication skills, supporting a recovery strategy to address the lasting impacts of the pandemic.

Children explored a variety of creative and cultural themes throughout the term. These included "All About Me," festivals of light, Diwali, and Christmas. They enjoyed making vibrant firework pictures, painting rangoli patterns, and engaging in festive stories, songs, and crafts.

On 26th September 2023, Beehive Pre-school received an Ofsted inspection. The Chair of Trustees and the Acting Manager met with the inspector to review the preschool's performance. We were delighted to retain our "Good" rating, a reflection of the dedication and hard work of both staff and trustees.

The term concluded with a joyful Christmas party. Children celebrated together, participated in games, and received books as gifts to nurture their love of reading and learning.

We were fortunate in receiving a £2,000 grant from the Windsor and Maidenhead Christian Trust and the Louis Baylis Charitable Trust donated £500 for designated projects to improve and promote outdoor play.

All 2 year old funded children and Early Years Pupil Premium children received £20 food vouchers at half term and £40 Christmas food vouchers for the Christmas period.

## Spring 2024

The spring term began with four new children joining Beehive, followed by three more after the February half term, bringing our total to 20 children by the end of the term.

The children celebrated the New Year by creating their own calendars and exploring the Chinese New Year festival, welcoming the Year of the Dragon. They planted seeds and enjoyed making and eating pancakes for Shrove Tuesday.

World Book Day was a highlight, with children dressing as their favourite storybook or nursery rhyme characters. Each child received a World Book Day voucher to

choose a book, and parents and carers generously donated £25. These funds were used to purchase new books for Beehive, enriching our story time sessions both one-on-one and as a group.

The children showed their creativity by making thoughtful Mother's Day gifts and personalised( cards. As the term ended, they enjoyed crafting Easter gifts, participating in an Easter egg hunt, and celebrating with a lively end-of-term party filled with games and laughter.

Food vouchers for £20 for for the half term and £40 food vouchers for the Easter closure period were issued again for EYPP and 2 year old funded children.

Over the financial year 2023 to 2024 donations, fundraising effort, and grants raised a total of £1,950. We are incredibly fortunate to be awarded, £500 from the Maidenhead Advertiser Louis Baylis Charitable Trust and £1,350 from Windsor & Maidenhead Christian Trust. We are extremely grateful for the generosity and support of our community, which enables us to continue enhancing the preschool experience for our children.

Regrettably, the year saw an overspend of £5,846. This was primarily due to rising costs, including increased insurance premiums, annual licensing and subscriptions, and higher utility bills. Wage costs also rose in line with the national minimum wage increase. Additional expenditure was incurred for essential premises maintenance, ongoing staff training, and CPD opportunities for both staff and trustees. A decrease in funded fees, resulting from lower attendance post-pandemic and recruitment challenges in the early years sector, further impacted upon our financial position. These challenges limited the number of children the preschool could admit.

Despite these financial pressures, we were fortunate to receive support from Countryside, the company overseeing local infrastructure projects. Their generosity funded two key maintenance projects to improve our facilities: upgrading the hot water supply to children's and adult washbasins and carrying out PAT annual safety testing. They also replaced the roof of the large sandpit and provided fresh play sand, significantly enhancing our outdoor play area.

We remain committed to overcoming these challenges and continuing to provide a nurturing and inspiring environment for all our children.

*Report compiled by Merib Gill, Trustee on Behalf of Beehive Pre-school Committee*

Signed: 

*Signed by: Merib Gill Trustee on behalf of Beehive Pre-school*  
22.01.2025

*Date:*



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Beehive Preschool

1029550

## Receipts and payments accounts

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For the period  
from

1st April 2023

To

31st March 2024

### 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 £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Income - Invoiced fees	3,094			3,094	5,112
Income - Funded fees	80,915			80,915	75,177
Income - Fundraising and Donations	1,950			1,950	2,726
Income - Uniform sales				-	-
Income - Grants				-	-
Miscellaneous Income	53			53	75
Bank interest received	733			733	135
Designated fund - Deposits for places				-	-
JRS Grant				-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>86,745</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>86,745</b>	<b>83,225</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>86,745</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>86,745</b>	<b>83,225</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Fundraising expenses/licences/subscriptions	547			547	1,472
Misc expenses	77			77	220
Learning resources and special activities	2,355			2,355	4,444
Staff Costs	75,695			75,695	73,270
Rent	4,200			4,200	4,200
Water rates	239			239	223
General rates	22			22	62
Insurance	1,021			1,021	981
Electricity	5,002			5,002	6,212
Building improvements/repairs/maintenance	346			346	2,045
Telephone	1,026			1,026	895
Stationery and postage	91			91	162
Bookkeeping and accounts	889			889	903
Independent examiner fee	840			840	840
Staff training	143			143	650
Refreshments	98			98	116
Reduction in deposits held				-	-
School uniform				-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>92,591</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>92,591</b>	<b>96,695</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
Equipment	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>92,591</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>92,591</b>	<b>96,695</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>- 5,846</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>- 5,846</b>	<b>- 13,470</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>95,528</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>95,528</b>	<b>108,998</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>89,682</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>89,682</b>	<b>95,528</b>

## 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 £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Lloyds Deposit Account	66,961	-	-
	Lloyds Current Account	22,720	-	-
	Petty Cash	-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>89,682</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>	Details	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
	Deposits held for places	Unrestricted	-	
	PAYE, NIC and Pensions Payable	Unrestricted	1,040	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	

### **Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Beehive Pre-School**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Beehive Pre-School for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024.

### **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 Trustee'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 2011 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.



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Date:... 17/01/2024.....