

PLAYLANDERS PRE-SCHOOL

England & Wales · Charity number 1032287

Details

Other names PLAYLANDERS PLAYGROUP

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 1994-01-31

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 80 Ramsden Square
Cambridge
CB4 2BL

Phone 01223420954

Email playlanders@btinternet.com

Website playlanders.org.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 for children aged two and above, working in partnership with parents.

Classification

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

Geography

- Cambridgeshire

Finances

| Period end | Income | Expenditure | Assets | Employees |
|------------|---------|-------------|--------|-----------|
| 2024-08-31 | £62,320 | £59,795 | - | - |
| 2023-08-31 | £52,141 | £37,784 | - | - |
| 2022-08-31 | £47,347 | £47,975 | - | - |
| 2021-08-31 | £53,638 | £46,946 | - | - |
| 2020-08-31 | £51,433 | £48,803 | - | - |

Trustees

| Name | Role | Appointed |
|------------------------|-------|------------|
| Nicola Wallis | Chair | 2019-09-01 |
| Hannah Sharyn Robinson | | 2017-10-30 |
| Jennifer Fay Kirkham | | 2021-10-01 |
| SHARON HICKS | | 2011-06-09 |
| Vanessa Battaglia | | 2017-10-30 |

PLAYLANDERS PRE-SCHOOL

England & Wales - Charity number 1032287

Accounts

Playlanders accounts audit September 2023 to August 2024

Money in

Government funding £51559.55

Fees £9328.00

Fundraising income £950.42

Donations £483.00

Total Income £62320.97

Money out

Wages £45429.20

Rent £11752.00

Miscellaneous £165.00

Office supplies £700.72

Fundraising expenses £168.75

Training £275.00

Art supplies £52.00

Resources £159.00

Ofsted £50.00

PLA and insurance £684.99

DBS £40.00

Professional fees £30.00

CCVS membership £30.00

Publicity £259.00

Total Expenditure £59795.65

Closing balance £2,525.32 (annual profit)

PLAYLANDERS PRE-SCHOOL

England & Wales - Charity number 1032287

Accounts

Chair's Report – Playlanders 2022-23

It has been another thoroughly successful year at Playlanders. There have been some challenges over the last twelve months, but the community of families, staff, and volunteers who support the playgroup have all pulled together to maintain a happy, stimulating, and caring environment for the children.

Some key events from over the year include:-

We started back after the summer holidays with 15 children attending morning sessions, and 4 in the afternoon.

In October, the rent for the church hall increased by 60%. This was a steep rise in outgoings, but we have been able to meet it thanks to careful budgeting, successful fundraising efforts, and generous donations from families past and present. We ended 2022 with a Christmas lunch celebration, and a visit from Santa.

By February, the number of children attending in the mornings had gone up to 21, with 6 coming to the afternoon sessions. There were a number of exciting activities including a pottery session and celebrating World Book Day with a trip to a book shop. March was also busy with a party for the King's coronation, the Grand Draw raffle, and a trip to the Fitzwilliam Museum.

Over the summer the playgroup hosted a children's author and a violinist, and nurtured some caterpillars into butterflies. The trip to Shepreth Wildlife Park did not go as planned, thanks to some difficulties with the trains. However, the staff managed to turn what could have been a very stressful and disappointing experience into a positive one by taking the children to Milton Country Park where a great time was had by all

The term finished with an end of year picnic to say goodbye to our school risers, and the news that the funding received from the government for each child would be increasing from September.

The Playlanders Committee would like to thank the staff team for their commitment, flexibility and enthusiasm throughout the year. In particular, we are really grateful to everyone who has taken on extra shifts and been adaptable to cover for staff absences. The permanent staff team have all needed to work extra hard, and friends of Playlanders have also stepped in to help, which we really appreciate.

We'd also like to thank all the families for their support over the year. We recognise that this is a challenging time financially in which to be raising children, and were amazed by the generous donations received from families as and when they have been able to.

Playlanders is able to provide such a high quality, caring, educational, and safe environment for children thanks to great team work and support from the community and we send our thanks to everyone who has been involved.

Playlanders Annual Accounts 2022-23

Income:-

| | |
|--------------------|---------------|
| Fundraising income | 1,428.49 |
| Fees | 13,518.00 |
| Government funding | 36,276.54 |
| Donations | <u>918.90</u> |
| Total income | 52,141.93 |

Money out:-

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| Wages | 29,137.26 |
| Training | 130.00 |
| DBS checks | 10.00 |
| Fundraising expenses | 424.58 |
| Rent | 7,008.00 |
| Membership (Early Years Alliance) | 118.15 |
| Ofsted | 50.00 |
| Resources | 192.52 |
| Miscellaneous | 79.78 |
| Office | 37.93 |
| Art | 60.00 |
| Insurance | <u>536.03</u> |
| Total expenditure | 37,784.25 |

| | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Total income | 52,141.93 |
| Total expenditure | <u>37,784.25</u> |
| Annual profit | 14,357.68 |



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St George's Church Hall
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Reg charity no 1032287

Correspondence Address

80 Ramsden Square
Cambridge
CB4 2BL

25th September 2023

Independent Examiner: Emma Louise Corn
296 Hall Street
SOHAM
CB7 5BN

Bankers: Barclays Bank
Chesterton Road
CAMBRIDGE

The Trustees present their report and accounts for the period ending 31st August 2023. The details are set out on page 4 of the report.

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, this is an accurate record of the income and expenditure of the Charity for the financial year ending 31st August 2023

Signed for, and on behalf of, the Trustees,

Nicola Wallis
Chairperson

PLAYLANDERS PRE-SCHOOL

England & Wales - Charity number 1032287

Accounts

AGM report for Playlanders Playgroup and Preschool – 2021-2022

This year we started out with a lot of children returning. Our numbers overall were small, it was to grow to 14 by October half term, 18 by Feb 2022 and 20 by Easter.

Things to note over the past year;-

staff continued training, events included the annual visit from Santa and a Christmas picnic with parents invited for a bring and share lunch.

-Feb was a trip out for the older ones to choose their books and spend their book tokens, we also got books for the younger children who were not able to visit the bookshop.

-Chestertons Men's club held a fundraiser raising £1,000 for Playlanders. We sent them a Thank You poster made by the children.

-Museum visit replicating an art project after last year's very successful one, but with a new set of children, ending in a visit to the Fitzwilliam museum. Transport paid by the museum for all the children and teachers involved. Later Museum staff brought an art event to Playlanders, so that the younger children could also take part.

-April, finally after 2yrs we had all restrictions lifted from COVID though at Playlanders Susan and the staff along with the committee agreed to keep things as safe as possible by continuing with some of the changes.

-Grand raffle that raised over £200 pounds for Playlanders

-Celebrated the Queen's Jubilee with a picnic for children and parents, and food donated by local co-op

-Chesterton Festival was back on and though not busy we raised over £200 pounds.

-The decision was made to close for a week because of senior staff having COVID and not enough qualified staff to stay open. This was a good decision as it kept it from spreading all around the nursery.

-Summer picnic was bring and share with parents invited, and a book for a gift for all the children. We said goodbye to over half of the children, most of whom were going to school, a few to other places. The remaining 9 were returning in Sept with some new ones joining us.

We ended the year almost back to pre covid normal with some changes in how we do things in cleaning and keeping us and the families we work for as safe as possible while providing a high level of care and teaching to the diverse group of children attending Playlanders. The financial situation is more challenging with the minimum wage going up, a confirmed 20% rent increase from September, and the cost of things increasing. We are doing our best to keep prices low for our families but still pay all the expenses too. It has been a great year with a few great surprises and we could properly fundraise too which helped boost the budget considerably.

Hannah Robinson

Playlanders Secretary



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 playlanders@btinternet.com

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Accounts for the period Sept 2021 to August 2022

Receipts

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| Government Funding | 36537.09 |
| Fees | 7932.00 |
| Fundraising income | 2632.84 |
| Donations | 57.00 |
| Repayment of course fees | 75.00 |
| Outings Income | 69.50 |
| Miscellaneous | 44.25 |
| Training Bursaries | 0 |
| Transfer from Contingency Fund | <u>0</u> |
| Total receipts | 47347.68 |

Payments

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| Salaries | 36476.65 |
| Rent | 7357.00 |
| Miscellaneous | 324.53 |
| Office costs | 819.82 |
| Fundraising expenses | 642.38 |
| Training | 366.00 |
| Toys | 236.46 |
| Art materials | 71.73 |
| Resources and equipment | 570.96 |
| Cambridgeshire Early Years membership | 0 |
| Ofsted fees | 50.00 |
| PLA | 115.00 |
| Insurance | 520.66 |
| Outings expenses | 84.50 |
| Publicity | 289.00 |
| DBS costs | 20.00 |
| CCVS membership | <u>30.00</u> |
| Total payments | 47975.19 |

| | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Starting balance | 18410.71 |
| Plus income | 47347.68 |
| Less expenditure | <u>47975.19</u> |
| Closing balance | 17783.20* |

**please note that some of this will need to be transferred to our Contingency Fund as none was transferred last year.*



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Correspondence Address

80 Ramsden Square
Cambridge
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14th September 2021

Independent Examiner: Emma Louise Lumley
88 Nimbus Walk
NEWMARKET
CB8 7BW

Bankers: Barclays Bank
Chesterton Road
CAMBRIDGE

The Trustees present their report and accounts for the period ending 31st August 2021 . The details are set out on page 4 of the report.

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, this is an accurate record of the income and expenditure of the Charity for the financial year ending 31st August 2021

Signed for, and on behalf of, the Trustees,

Nicola Wallis
Chairperson

PLAYLANDERS PRE-SCHOOL

England & Wales - Charity number 1032287

Accounts

Playlanders Annual Report

Sept 2020 to July 2021

The last year has been a very challenging one because of the Covid pandemic, and has meant a great deal of thought and effort from staff to find a way to change many of our basic practices, to accommodate the necessary restrictions to avoid spreading infection yet still offer an open and friendly service to all our families.

We have remained open for the whole year, managed to welcome new families and their children in something close to our usual open and relaxed way, spent part of the year working in closed 'bubbles', cleaned endlessly, followed all the rules (and the constant changes to those rules) that came from Government, added a bit of our own common sense, had no cases of Covid, stayed sane, and yet still managed to offer a happy learning environment to all our children. I have to say that the children adapted quicker than a lot of the adults. They accept coming in alone, regular washing, and use of hand sanitiser as normal, and the 'magic machine' (the automatic hand sanitiser in the lobby) has become a regular - and much enjoyed - part of playgroup life!

One highlight of our year was our Art project with the older children. Because of the Covid restrictions we were not able to go out and visit places and do all our usual exciting things, but that didn't stop us. We worked closely (but remotely) with the Fitzwilliam Museum over the year, and one of the things that the Museum sent us were postcard reproductions of some of the paintings in their gallery. We used these as the basis of our project and the children chose the ones they liked the best to work with. We looked at the paintings in detail, made some huge representations of our favourite one on the floor of the Hall – so big that you had to go up a ladder to see it properly - and began to understand the process of background and details. The children then painted their own canvasses with their version of their favourite painting. Finally we had an Art Exhibition! We invited staff from the Museum to come and - safely – view our work. The children helped arrange their paintings around the walls, like in a real Art Gallery, and 2 staff came, suitably masked and staying distant, and viewed the Exhibition. The children were then given certificates for their art work. It was lovely to hear the children talking about themselves as 'artists'! Then, once the lockdown rules began to be relaxed, we took the children to see the 'real' paintings at the Fitzwilliam, and they were very excited when they found 'their' painting. We had been the Fitzwilliam Playgroup in Residence in 2019/20, but our Residency had been cut short by the pandemic, and we were in fact the last group of any kind to visit the Museum in March 2020. Apparently we were also the first group of any kind to visit after the rules were relaxed in 2021!

During the year we supported one child with extra needs and – unusually – only 4 children with English as an additional language. We even managed to have Transition meetings (virtual ones, or lengthy phone calls) with the schools that the children were moving on to at the end of the year. We said goodbye to 11 children moving on to school, some of whom had been with us for almost 3 years, and just one child moving to another nursery. We even managed to still have a visit from Father Christmas, who – of course – couldn't come in because he is old so very susceptible to the virus, but he left us a sack of toys and waved to the children through the lobby doors.

We would like to thank all the parents for understanding all the changes we had to make, and accepting them so readily, and my personal thanks too to all my staff, who found a way round every difficulty, took on extra cleaning and planning and zoom meetings and lots of other things, yet did it all just as cheerfully as ever.

2020/21 has been challenging and very busy, but as always has been rewarding too. We have even decided that some of the changes forced on us by the pandemic – such as the change to the days that we are open – are actually good ones, and we will be keeping them!



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Accounts for the period Sept 2020 to August 2021

Receipts

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| Government Funding | 43023.59 |
| Fees | 8657.00 |
| Fundraising income | 888.26 |
| Donations | 1040.00 |
| Repayment of course fees | 120.00 |
| Outings Income | 0 |
| Training Bursaries | 0 |
| Transfer from Contingency Fund | 0 |
| Milk refund | 0 |
| Total receipts | 53638.85 |

Payments

| | |
|--|----------|
| Salaries | 33686.51 |
| Rent | 7255.60 |
| Miscellaneous | 158.20 |
| Office costs | 220.98 |
| Fundraising expenses | 397.90 |
| Training | 106.50 |
| Toys | 81.64 |
| Art materials | 418.03 |
| Resources and equipment | 145.07 |
| Cambridgeshire Early Years membership | 0 |
| Milk expenditure | 0 |
| Ofsted fees (deferred by Ofsted to Sept) | 50.00 |
| PLA | 145.00 |
| Insurance | 507.86 |
| Outings expenses | 0 |
| Publicity | 305.00 |
| Exceptional: transfer to Contingency Fund | 3500.00 |
| fees refund | 18.00 |
| Total payments | 46946.79 |

| | |
|------------------|-----------|
| Starting balance | 11718.65 |
| Plus income | 53638.85 |
| Less expenditure | 46946.79 |
| Closing balance | 18410.71* |

**please note that some of this will need to be transferred to our Contingency Fund.*



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80 Ramsden Square
Cambridge
CB4 2BL

30th August 2021

**Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees of
Playlanders Playgroup and Preschool.**

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Examiner

As the Charity's Trustees you are responsible for the preparation of Accounts: you consider that the audit requirements of section 43(2) of the Charities Act does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43(7) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiners Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiners Statement

In connection with my examination, no other matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records
- to comply with the requirements of the Act

have not been met.

Emma Louise Lumley
Independent Examiner

PLAYLANDERS PRE-SCHOOL

England & Wales - Charity number 1032287

Accounts



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AGM report for Playlanders – 2019-2020

Reporting on activities at Playlanders is always a pleasure as each year there is so much which is good to talk about. Globally and nationally, the past few months have seen huge changes and with them, huge challenges, however, as we look back on the life of Playlanders over the academic year of 2019-2020 there is much to celebrate.

Back in September 2019, the new term started well, and so familiar. The majority of children were returning after the summer holiday supplemented with new faces at the start of the year and more after half term. We aim to provide a quality education for children of all backgrounds and the cohort reflected our diverse community with places for funded 2s, supplements for the area's level of deprivation and children attending for whom English is an additional language. Day to day, staff and children were busy learning and having fun, while out of hours, and behind the scenes, the staff continued their annual training through the county council and spent time on administration. Halloween was celebrated and Father Christmas made his annual visit in December. It appeared as though having to get to grips with the new framework from Ofsted was going to be the most only notable challenge and then that was far eclipsed by the excitement of being chosen as the Fitzwilliam Museum Nursery of the year.

Fitzlanders, the name of the project, was a fantastic opportunity for us as a pre school. Part of the University of Cambridge, the Fitzwilliam Museum is "a world renowned collection of over half a million beautiful works of art, masterpiece paintings and historical artefacts". Fitzlanders aimed to provide the twelve children who visited, with an exciting experience in the museum. The team wanted to help the children to develop their confidence and feel able to make their own decisions about how to enjoy the museum. While the children were exploring and absorbing the space around them, staff at the museum were observing them and engaging with them. Each of the visits included time for the children to create a piece and in between the fortnightly trips children reflected with the teachers at Playlanders, sharing details of what their experiences and extending their interests in their play and craft. The project was met with huge enthusiasm by the children and all the

adults benefited from it.

We were approaching the end of the series of visits to the museum when, in March, the nation was told “it is crucial that people understand tomorrow that the schools are closed.” Although we might have been told that we could not meet in person, in St George’s Hall, Playlanders would not be stopped. Susan sent an email out explaining that “we want to reassure you all that, even though we aren't at playgroup in body we are still there for you and your family”. With that began ‘Playlanders-at home’. Susan and her team promised to and indeed delivered small packs of activities at regular intervals. That way the children had something to look forward to, spreading the interest out, and they were able to make progress in the work activities. Over the next four months there were Zoom story times and Zoom sing-alongs. There was also an Instagram page where people shared images of the work they had done from the activity packs as well as craft, games and new things which they had discovered, especially in the natural world around them.

Playlanders’ ethos is ‘to be a caring setting, serving our local community and society.’ Our service ‘is holistic as it meets the needs of the children, as well as engaging with the parents.’ This was maintained throughout the lockdown with phone calls to parents, deliveries of well-being cards and the daily Goodnews Bulletins sent out by Susan who knew the importance of good mental health for the parents so that they could be the primary educators of their children. We want to acknowledge and congratulate all the parents for carrying out their multiple roles during the tough months of the last year. Thank you for your part in keeping Playlanders together.

An even bigger thank you must go to both Susan and Tim for their extraordinary work for the whole community of Playlanders. They usually work for Playlanders most days but during lockdown it literally took over their home with boxes and bags everywhere, and all their allowance of trips out for exercise involved the drop off of activity packs. We owe so much to their dedication in sharing their skills, experience and love. Thank you!

Although Covid dominated the year, it has not stopped us. Eventually once risk assessments had been carried out, soft toys removed and new bubbles formed Playlanders reopened to children, at St George’s in June. What was it like to return? As Susan said herself at the time “we had a great day...I hope the children came home happy and could explain what we did, and I hope you enjoyed your peace and quiet! The children were fantastic and adapted really well to the new normal.”

So we ended the year, almost where we began, providing a high level of care and teaching to the diverse group of children attending Playlanders. The financial situation is more challenging, the bubbling restricts how we can engage with families and the children aren’t learning how to tidy away anymore, but we are still enjoying smiles with the children, having fun while we learn together.



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Accounts for the period Sept 2019 to August 2020

Receipts

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| Government Funding | 44627.52 |
| Fees | 4216.40 |
| Fundraising income | 954.08 |
| Fitzlanders project | 660.00 |
| Donations | 975.00 |
| Outings Income | 0 |
| Training Bursaries | 0 |
| Transfer from Contingency Fund | 0 |
| Milk refund | 0 |
| Total receipts | 51433.00 |

Payments

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Salaries | 35,304.69 |
| Rent | 5,682.50 |
| Miscellaneous | 280.74 |
| Office costs | 705.99 |
| Fundraising expenses | 590.87 |
| Training | 165.00 |
| Toys | 133.06 |
| Art materials | 452.86 |
| Resources | 350.34 |
| Cambridgeshire Early Years membership | 114.00 |
| Milk expenditure | 0 |
| Ofsted fees (deferred by Ofsted to Sept) | 0 |
| PLA | 145.00 |
| Insurance | 507.86 |
| Outings expenses | 27.89 |
| Publicity | 185.00 |
| Exceptional: | |
| transfer to Contingency Fund | 3061.00 |
| Activity packs (Covid lockdown) | 497.04 |
| fees refund | 480.00 |
| Fitzlanders Project | 120.00 |
| Total payments | 48803.84 |

| | |
|------------------|----------|
| Starting balance | 9029.49 |
| Plus income | 51433.00 |
| Less expenditure | 48803.84 |
| Closing balance | 11718.65 |



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August 2019

30th

Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees of Playlanders Playgroup and Preschool.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Examiner

As the Charity's Trustees you are responsible for the preparation of Accounts: you consider that the audit requirements of section 43(2) of the Charities Act does not apply.

It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43(7) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiners Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiners Statement

In connection with my examination, no other matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records
- to comply with the requirements of the Act

have not been met.

Emma Louise Lumley
Independent Examiner