

Acorns Childcare (Masham)

Trustees' report and financial statements for
the year ended 31 August 2023

Charity number: 1035056

Acorns Childcare (Masham)

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Legal and administrative information

Charity number	1035056
Registered office	The Old Police House Little Market Place Masham, Ripon North Yorkshire HG44DY
Trustees	V Broadwith J Fuller L Jones H Metcalfe S Goodyear L Riddel D Sharp
Secretary	V Broadwith
Manager	Mrs V Horspool
Accountants	F E Metcalfe & Co Ltd 4 Old Market Place Ripon HG4 1EQ

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2023. The Trustees who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out on page 1.

Structure, governance and management

The Charity's objects and regulations are regulated by a written constitution dated 29 October 2014, registered number 1035056.

Trustees

The trustees are elected at the AGM. We speak to other parents in the run up to the meeting. One of the current members agrees to nominate them. At the AGM we note who nominated and who seconded the decision for them to join.

The trustees meet once a month usually on the 2nd Wednesday, however our constitution states we only need 3 meetings a year.

Objectives and activities

The charity's objectives 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 early years alliance.

The charity's activities are, in accordance with its objectives, it runs pre-school and holiday clubs as well as a wraparound care for children at school, give breakfast and afternoon snacks.

In planning the Charity's activities for the year the Trustees have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefits.

Achievements and performance

During 2022/23 there have been major staff changes, the Manager of 17 years left at the end of the summer with a new manager taking over the role from September. Unfortunately, this was not a successful appointment, resulting in her leaving at Christmas and the previous manager returning in January. Staff shortages remained until June, resulting in extra costs for advertising and recruitment. Most pre-school sessions were full by the beginning of the summer term and all holiday clubs were well attended. Sadly, due to the lack of staffing levels the committee had to make the hard decision to reduce the after and before school sessions to help with the long term effects this had caused the staff. The extended hours were reduced from January, Breakfast club ran as previous, however after school was limited to pre-school children and shortened to 4.30pm.

Financial review

The statements shows a deficit of £37 (2022 - deficit £734). This decreased the charity reserves at the year end to £40,725.

Reserves

All charities are recommended to have a reserves policy which takes into account immediate operational needs, has due regard for the composition of its asset base and earmarks funds which are necessary to carry out future plans.

The charity has chosen to hold £20,000 to cover the staff wages and running costs for 3 months.

Plans for future periods

The plans for the future are to:

- **Continue to promote pre-school and Little Acorns within our local area using free and local publications.**
- **Stabilising staffing levels and supporting them with training inclusive of EYFS framework.**
- **Provide an excellent learning environment for pre-school children.**
- **Build relationships with the community including local school, community Office, Wednesday welcome and local businesses**
- **Improve on IT resources**
- **Raising profile of pre-school curriculum using online platform**
- **Work towards reinstating a good judgement with Ofsted**

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

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

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales 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 year. 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 UK 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 operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which 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 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2015. They 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.

On behalf of the board



J Fuller

Chairman of the Board of Trustees

12 October 2023

Independent examiner's report to the trustees on the unaudited financial statements of Acorns Childcare (Masham).

I report on the accounts of Acorns Childcare (Masham) for the year ended 31 August 2023 set out on pages 5 to 10.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and independent examiner

As the charity's Trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts, you consider that the audit requirement of section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) does not apply and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (i) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep proper accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met; or
- (ii) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Geraint Evans A.C.A.
Managing Director
F E Metcalfe & Co Ltd
Chartered Accountants
4 Old Market Place
Ripon
North Yorkshire
HG4 1EQ

12 October 2023

Acorns Childcare (Masham)

Statement of financial activities

For the year ended 31 August 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Income and endowments				
Charitable activities	2	108,783	108,783	109,563
Investment income	3	220	220	8
Total income		109,003	109,003	109,571
Expenditure				
Charitable activities	4	109,040	109,040	110,305
Total expenditure		119,040	119,040	110,305
Net income/(expenditure) for the year		(37)	(37)	(734)
Total funds brought forward		40,688	40,688	41,422
Total funds carried forward		40,651	40,651	40,688

The notes on pages 7 to 10 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Acorns Childcare (Masham)

**Balance sheet
as at 31 August 2023**

		2023		2022	
	Note	£	£	£	£
	s				
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	6		10,800		14,164
Current assets					
Cash at bank and in hand		29,911		26,584	
		29,911		26,584	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7	(60)		(60)	
Net current assets		29,851			26,524
Net assets		40,651			40,688
Funds	8	40,651			
Unrestricted income funds					40,688
Total funds			40,651		40,688

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 12 October 2023 and signed on its behalf by



J Fuller
Chairman of the Board of Trustees

The notes on pages 7 to 10 form an integral part of these financial statements.

General information

Acorns Childcare (Masham) is a unincorporated charity registered in England and Wales. The principal address is The Old Police House, Little Market Place HG4 4DY.

1. Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies are summarised below. The accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the year and the preceding year.

1.1. Basis of accounting

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities; Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The accounts are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity.

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2. Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

Income from investments is included in the year in which it is receivable.

1.3. Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

1.4. Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Leasehold properties	-	10% straight line
Plant and machinery	-	25% reducing balance
Fixtures and fittings	-	15% reducing balance

1.5. Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

Acorns Childcare (Masham)

Notes to financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2023

2. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	2023	2022 Total £
Term fees	105,918	105,918	104,669
Holiday club	988	988	2,018
Grants and donations	564	564	793
Fund-raising	761	761	1,513
Milk and food refunds	332	332	529
Uniforms	220	220	41
	<u>108,783</u>	<u>108,783</u>	<u>109,563</u>

3. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	2022 Total £
Bank interest receivable		8
	<u>220</u>	<u>22086</u>
		<u>8</u>

4. Charitable activities expenses

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funding £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Wages	86,093		86,093	89,398
Training	665		665	1,124
Food and drink	3,842		3,842	3,967
Materials and equipment	3,921		3,921	3,350
Premises costs	2,417		2,417	2,063
Insurance	1,303		1,303	1,266
Telephone, heat and light	3,256		3,256	2,125
Depreciation & impairment	3,364		3,364	3,555
Uniforms	619		619	476
Professional fees	913		913	602
Accountancy	384		384	576
Sundry expenses	2,263		2,263	1,803
	<u>109,040</u>		<u>109,040</u>	<u>110,305</u>

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Notes to financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2023

5. Employees

Employment costs	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	86,093	89,398
Staff training	665	1,124
	86,758	90,522

Number of employees

The average monthly numbers of employees (including the trustees) during the year, calculated on the basis of full time equivalents, was as follows:

	2023	2022
	Number	Number
Trustees	6	8
Staff	7	8
	15	16

6. Tangible fixed assets

	Short leasehold property	Plant and machinery	Fixtures and fittings	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 September 2022	27,701	10,735	4,022	42,458
At 31 August 2023	27,701	10,735	4,022	42,458
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2022	16,010	8,505	3,779	28,294
Charge for the year	2,770	558	36	3,364
At 31 August 2023	18,780	9,063	3,815	31,658
Net book values				
At 31 August 2023	8,921	1,672	207	10,800
At 31 August 2022	11,691	2,230	243	14,164

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Notes to financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2023

7. Creditors: amounts falling due within one-year

	2023 £	2022 £
Other taxes and social security		
Accruals and deferred income	60	60
	<u>60</u>	<u>60</u>

8. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Total funds £
Fund balances at 31 August 2023 as represented by:		
Tangible fixed assets	10,800	14,164
Current assets	29,911	26,584
Current liabilities	(60)	(60)
	<u>40,651</u>	<u>40,688</u>

9. Unrestricted funds

	At 1 September 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	At 31 August 2023 £
Unrestricted Fund	<u>40,688</u>	<u>109,003</u>	<u>(109,040)</u>	<u>40,651</u>

Purposes of unrestricted funds

The unrestricted fund represents those funds which the Trustees are free to use in accordance with the charitable objectives.