

Acorns Childcare (Masham)
Trustees' report and financial statements for
the year ended 31 August 2024

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 2024. The Trustees who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out on page I.

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 2023/24 staffing remained consistent, enabling continuity and the team working together successfully. November saw a visit from Ofsted. This was a very positive day, resulting in Acorns being awarded a "Good" status. Numbers remained high for pre-school, breakfast club and holiday club.

Our mother and toddler group "Little Acorns" saw reduced attendance and increasing costs, as a result the group was moved into the pre-school room. Staffing concerns and challenging behaviors meant that the group was suspended for the late summer term.

Financial review

The statements shows a surplus of £4,245 (2023 - deficit £37). This increased the charity reserves at the year end to £44,896

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 £25,000 to cover the staff wages and running costs for 3 months.

Plans for future periods

The plans for the future are to:

- Increase our marketing of Acorns Pre-school (Masham) and Little Acorns, using social media.
- Re-introduce "Little Acorns" with different staff influence.
- Staff Training developed with the use of an online training platform "Noddle Now"
- Develop 2year old activities to reflect the younger age range currently on roll.
- Continue to develop "Outdoor learning " along the "Forest School Approach" Deputy to attend 3 day training course and feedback into setting.

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 November 2024

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 2024 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.

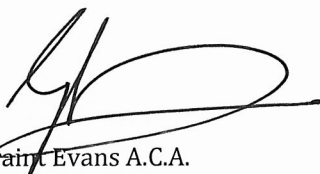
Basis of independent examiner's statement

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 November 2024

Acorns Childcare (Masham)

Statement of financial activities

For the year ended 31 August 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Income and Endowments	2	129,551	129,551	108,783
Charitable activities				
Investment income	3	421	421	220
Total income		129,972	129,972	109,003
Expenditure	4	125,727	127,727	119,040
Charitable activities				
Total expenditure		125,727	125,727	119,040
Net income/(expenditure) for the year		4,245	4,245	(37)
Total funds brought forward		40,651	40,651	40,688
Total funds carried forward		44,896	44,896	40,651

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

Acorns Childcare (Masham)

Balance sheet as at 31 August 2024

	Notes	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	6		7,581		10,800
Current assets					
Cash at bank and in hand		37,875		29,911	
				29,911	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7	(560)		(60)	
Net current assets			37,315		29,851
Net assets			44,896		40,651
Funds	8		44,896		40,651
Unrestricted income funds					
Total funds			44,896		40,651

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 17th October 2024 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 2024

2. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	2024	2023 Total £
Term fees	127,287	127,287	105,918
Holiday club	527	527	988
Grants and donations	-	-	564
Fund-raising	1,387	1,387	761
Milk and food refunds	350	350	332
Uniforms	-	-	220
	<u>129,551</u>	<u>129,551</u>	<u>108,783</u>

3. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	2024	2023 Total £
Bank interest receivable			
	<u>421</u>	<u>421</u>	<u>220</u>

4. Charitable activities expenses

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funding £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Wages		101,545	101,545	86,093
Training		781	781	665
Food and drink		4,380	4,380	3,842
Materials and equipment		5,965	5,965	3,921
Premises costs		1,765	1,765	2,417
Insurance		1,367	1,367	1,303
Telephone, heat and light		3,079	3,079	3,256
Depreciation & impairment		3,219	3,219	3,364
Uniforms		452	452	619
Professional fees		630	630	913
Accountancy		180	180	384
Sundry expenses		2,364	2,364	2,263
		<u>125,727</u>	<u>125,727</u>	<u>109,040</u>

Acorns Childcare (Masham)

Notes to financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2024

5. Employees

Employment costs	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	101,545	86,093
Staff training	781	665
	<u>102,326</u>	<u>86,758</u>

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:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
Trustees	6	6
Staff	7	7
	<u>15</u>	<u>15</u>

	Short Leasehold property £	Plant and machinery £	Fixture and fittings £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 September 2023	27,701	10,735	4,022	42,458
At 31 August 2024	27,701	10,735	4,022	42,458
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2023	18,780	9,063	3,815	31,658
Charge for the year	2,770	418	31	3,219
At 31 August 2024	21,550	9,481	3,846	34,877
Net book values				
At 31 August 2023	8,921	1,672	207	10,800
At 31 August 2024	<u>6,151</u>	<u>1,254</u>	<u>176</u>	<u>7,581</u>

Acorns Childcare (Masham)

Notes to financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2024

6. Creditors: amounts falling due within one-year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other taxes and social security		
Accruals and deferred income	560	60
	<u>560</u>	<u>60</u>

7. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Total funds
	£	£
Fund balances at 31 August 2023 as represented by:		
Tangible fixed	7,581	10,800
Assets Current	37,875	29,911
Liabilities Current	(560)	(60)
	<u>44,896</u>	<u>40,651</u>

8. Unrestricted funds

	At 1 September 2023	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	At 31 August 2024
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Fund	<u>40,651</u>	<u>129,972</u>	<u>(125,727)</u>	<u>44,896</u>

Purposes of unrestricted funds

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