



Trustees Annual Report 1 Aug 2024-31 Jul 2025

Reference and administration details

Name of Charity	Heckington Preschool
Registration number	1035549
Address	Heckington Preschool, Howell Road, Heckington, Sleaford NG34 9RX

Names and roles of Trustees who manage the charity

Kim McMillan	Chair
Steven Green	Treasurer
Andrew Howgate	Secretary
Susan Green	Setting Manager
Cheryl Sear	Committee member
Sarah Drayton	Committee member

Structure, Governance and Management

Type of governing document:

Constitution, adopted 13th September 2019

How the charity is constituted:

Unincorporated association

Trustee selection methods:

Trustees are appointed or reappointed annually at the Annual General Meeting, up to three further members can be co-opted throughout the year as required. The Committee shall be made up of a minimum number of 4 and maximum number of 12 members.

Additional governance information:

Membership of the management committee is open to those who are over 16 years of age and are qualified according to the Charities Acts. The trustees are responsible for the overall management of the preschool and are also charity trustees of the preschool. There is a child protection policy in place, all trustees must undergo a DBS check and complete an EY2 form prior to commencement of Trusteeship. All trustees give their time voluntarily and received no remuneration or other benefits.

Objectives and Activities

Heckington Preschool is an Ofsted rated 'Good' setting with a catchment area extending beyond the local villages towards the towns of Sleaford and Boston. We are a 'High-Scope' setting where active learning and independence are promoted.

Our aim is to ensure all our children can thrive during and after the transition to school, being resilient, confident and independent individuals.

The following objectives all contribute to achieving this aim.

- Providing a sustainable and natural environment for learning and care.
- Developing attitudes and behaviours that encourage children to become 'active learners' who can plan and carry out activities.
- Providing opportunities for children to decide what they want to do, allowing them to think through actions and as the child matures turn this into a plan with a defined sequence of steps.
- Encourage the personal, social and emotional development of the individual.
- Support communication and language development, providing additional one to one support or small group interventions for those with additional speech and language requirements.
- Ensuring all children understand the world, and the basics of literacy and mathematics.
- Providing education and signposting to parents to help them to continue to support their child's development away from the setting.
- To provide all children with the opportunity to express themselves through a variety of art forms.
- Ensuring that all children have equal opportunity to thrive by supporting vulnerable families, particularly those in receipt of the pupil premium and two-year-old funding.
- Maintain and nurture relationships with our feeder primary schools.
- In planning our activities for the year, we kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at our Trustee meetings. These activities benefit the children their self-confidence, social skills preparing them for school.

Achievements and Performance

The volunteer committee has continued with its work to modernise and ensure that the preschool has sound foundations moving forward in what are difficult operating conditions. The Chair has been supporting and mentored the Committee, the management team and staff to ensure modern administrative practices and changing Government guidelines have been adhered to. The Committee has prioritised the refurbishment and upgrading of the outside play area and to the strengthening of the school's contingency fund.

We must make our annual mention with the difficulty in recruiting committee members and are actively trying to recruit further Trustees.

Autumn

Over the August break the Committee and parent helper relocated the school's storage shed and recycled it into a large "Cosey Cabin" for the children to use in their outside play. This has proven to be an invaluable resource as it allows outside play in inclement and very sunny weather for staff and children alike.

The term concluded with our now annual Christmas singing, crafting event and raffle, with mince pies, refreshments and fun and was fantastically supported by parents/carers raising much needed funds.

Spring

Following on with our theme of the play area refurbishment we were kindly presented with a pallet built outdoor mud kitchen by an enterprising ex parent that is truly fantastic and has proven a real hit with the children.

The children planted tomatoes and flowers in our new wooden planters.

The Committee recycled our old outdoor kitchen and turned it into the talking bench, where the children can sit and talk to each other.

Summer

The Summer term continued and consolidated the work we had done throughout the year. The focus is very much on preparing the older children for starting school in September. This transition time is a collaborative approach where we host reception teachers for visits. The feedback from them has been very positive.

The Preschool wheel out library continues to be a great success promoting family reading time.

The staff continued to take the children out into the community with visits to the park, examining the wildlife, visiting the local café, exploring the local shops.

The children often prepare or bake their own food such as healthy pizza or bread.

The term concluded with the departure of one of our longest serving staff members and the arrival of a new member of the team.

We finished the school year with our summer event with crafting, stories and singing with our own resident bard.

The start of the summer break saw the Committee repair the soft playground floor edging to ensure safe play for the future.

Fundraising

We have continued with our two main events per year, based around the children presenting to their family along with family crafting and fun. We usually associate this with homemade crafting kits parents can purchase along with a raffle, though the emphasis is always on fun and interaction.

Financial review

Our main income stream is from Early Years Entitlement Funding; we also benefit from additional Pupil Premium and Inclusion Funding for specific individuals. Our main financial outgoings are staff wages, utilities and maintenance costs. Our biggest risks are our reserve fund levels, though with prudent financial management coupled with the use of Sage financial software they have shown signs of recovering. The living wage increases and changes to National Insurance have been tough, especially as funding has not kept pace. Staff retention is a constant worry, with wages in the sector are very poor for the work a modern preschool does within the essential Early Years sector.

This year has been another year of tight cost control and promoting the Preschool to increase child numbers with the aim to stabilise our financial reserves. We are aware of future changes to funding,

and we are putting the Preschool in the best possible shape to meet the future demands and ensure the children have the best possible experience.

Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees;

Signature Steven Green (Electronic Signature)

Full Name	Steven Green
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Position	Treasurer
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Date	07/09/2025
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Heckington Preschool

Balance Sheet as at 31 July 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
Current Assets		
Current Account	10919	6789
Deposit Account	20434	2868
Petty Cash	252	95
Debtors	223	-
	<hr/> 31828	<hr/> 9752
 Represented by		
Unrestricted fund	<hr/> 31828	<hr/> 9752

Heckington Preschool

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 Jul 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
Incoming Resources		
Donations	0	55
Additional Voluntary Income	880	622
	<hr/> 880	<hr/> 677
 Activities for Generating Funds		
Income from Parents Fees	9415	4367
Income from Local Authority	72009	48593
Fundraising Income	597	439
Other Income		
	<hr/> 82021	<hr/> 53399
 Investment Income		
Bank Interest	66	51
	<hr/> 82967	<hr/> 54127
 Resources Expended		
Preschool Running Costs	60891	56881
Deficit/Surplus for Year	22076	-2754
 Unrestricted Fund Balance	Aug-24 9752	Aug-23 12506
Total Unrestricted Funds	<hr/> 31828	<hr/> 9752

Heckington Preschool

Resources Expended to 31 Jul 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Employee Wages and Salaries	48989	47028
PAYE to HMRC	1802	2046
Employer Pension	1362	1637
Water Charges	132	21
Electricity Charges	1878	998
Waste Collection	101	0
Gas & Oil Charges	0	1
Teaching Resources	272	79
Entertainment	87	0
Printing	23	69
Office Stationery	64	0
Office Equipment and IT	7	0
Telephone	748	581
Internet Charges	290	270
Computer & Software	579	501
Accountancy Fees	468	444
Consultancy & Professional Fees	163	105
Business Insurance	703	836
Repairs & Maintenance	1039	782
Rent	2	2
Cleaning & Hygiene	369	252
Subscriptions	198	66
Refreshments	2	1
Childrens Snack	132	20
Support Grant Vouchers	1130	1035
Training	239	90
General Expenses	50	10
Travel Expenses	64	7
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	60891	56881



**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

HECKINGTON PRE-SCHOOL PLAYGROUP

**On accounts for the year
ended**

July 2025

**Charity no
(if any)**

1035549

Set out on pages

3 To 5

(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 DD / MM / YYYY.

**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 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.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

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:

Date:

13 May 2026

Name:

GLYN DEAKIN

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

Address:

40A, KYME ROAD, HECKINGTON,
SLEAFORD, Lincs, NG34 9RS

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

Report to the trustees members of		On accounts for the year ended		Set out on pages	
Charity no (if any)		1032249		3 to 5	
I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2017.					
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 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(2)(b) of the Act.					
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than those disclosed below) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:					
• the accounts do not accord with the accounting records • accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or					
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:		Date: 13 May 2018			
Name:		Gary Dearnley			
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):		ACCA			
Address:		100, Kilmac Road, Hockley, Essex, SSO 1 2SS			

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