



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From **August 2022** To **August 2023**

Charity name: Helmdon Acorns Pre-School

Charity registration number: 1035898

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	To enhance the development and education of children under statutory school age by encouraging parents to understand and provide for the needs of their children through community groups
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	Creating an environment that is safe, nurturing and empowering for the children, enabling them to learn through play. Preparing pre-school children for their transition to primary school.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	
Other		

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Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>Successfully preparing another cohort of children for their transition to primary school.</p> <p>Creating an inclusive, warm and caring environment for children to learn and play in; developing an interest in the outside through Forest School, flower and vegetable beds and general outside play.</p>

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Total finds received is down £3.1 yr on yr however payments are also down by £10.9k therefore bank balances are stronger.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Reserves held in provision for emergency maintenance and staff costs.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£9,254.00
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	Financially the charity is in a stronger position vs 2022.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	PPA Playgroup Constitution 1992
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Unincorporated
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Elected for a period of 12 months at the annual general meeting. Retiring members are eligible for re-election. Co-opted members may join at any time on the invitation of the committee

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Helmdon Acorns Pre-school
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1035898
Charity's principal address	Hinton's Close, Helmdon, NN13 5QP

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Simon Allott	Chair		
2	Anna Saunders	Treasurer		
3	Jess Baseley			
4	Rachel Hurcombe			
5	Karla Meaton			
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Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

[illegible]

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

[illegible]

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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Other optional information

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Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		<i>ACSaunders</i>
Full name(s)		Anna Saunders
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)		Treasurer
Date	16/05/2024	

Finance Report August 2023

Total income for the year was £96.7k which is -£3.1k vs 2022. The fees have the largest decrease of £15.4k year on year. To help with the drop in numbers for this year the Chair worked hard with West Northants Council to secure a grant of £15k which has greatly helped with the financial security of the charity.

Fundraising and donations are down year on year, this reflects the time that the current committee is able to commit to the setting and is in discussions to bring additional members on board specifically focussed on fundraising in 2024 and onwards.

The building has need extensive Maintenance and this is reflected in the costs, these have increased by £1.8k vs last year. It was also discovered that the building's insurance wasn't appropriate so has been increased and therefore the costs have been raised by £1.5k.

Overall the bank balances are in a better position vs 2022. In August 2023 that was £10k in the bank vs £4k in 2022. In the savings account there was £9.2k vs £2.8k.

HELMDON ACORNS PRE-SCHOOL

Accounts for the Year ended 31st August 2023

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**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Helmdon Acorns Pre-School
Charity Number 1035898**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the pre-school for the year ending 31st August 2023, which are set out on pages 2-3.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Pre-School 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 Pre-School'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 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 Pre-School as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.
3. the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a " true and fair " view which is not a matter considered as part of an Independent examination.

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.

Signed



Name: Denise Balch

Qualification: A.C.A.

Address: 15 Towcester Rd
Old Stratford
Milton Keynes MK19 6AN

Date: 31st May 2024

HELMDON ACORNS PRE-SCHOOL**Receipts and Payments Account****Year ended 31 August 2023**

	2023	2022
	Total	Total
	Funds	Funds
	£	£
Receipts		
Fees	76,901	92,322
West Northants Council Grant	15,000	-
Registration	360	150
Donations	555	1,530
Fundraising	2,330	3,203
Feed in tariff	341	1,927
Uniform	343	426
Snacks and cooking	720	280
EYPP	197	-
Bank interest received	19	1
Total Receipts	96,766	99,839
Payments		
Rent	2,250	2,068
Wages & National Insurance	65,063	77,776
Pension contributions	1,866	2,179
Staff / Graduate Training costs	245	575
Payroll costs	870	720
Building and Grounds Maintenance	4,111	2,262
Replacement Heating System	4,671	-
Electricity & Water	2,692	3,234
Resources	1,468	2,061
Fundraising Costs	50	100
Office Costs	713	688
Toys & Equipment	460	1,207
Food & Consumables	1,167	1,202
Uniform	305	914
Insurance	2,848	1,398
Miscellaneous	171	198
Telephone & Internet	868	952
Subscriptions	332	188
Independent Examination of Accounts	240	-
HR & Recruitment costs	342	391
Bad debts written off	8	3,518
Total Payments	90,740	101,631
Surplus / (Deficit) for the Year	6,026	-1,792
Bank Balances 1st September 2022	4,046	5,838
Bank Balances 31st August 2023	10,072	4,046

HELMDON ACORNS PRE-SCHOOL**Statement of Assets as at 31 August 2023**

	2023	2022
	£	£
<u>Current Assets</u>		
Deposit Account	9,254	2,834
Current Account	818	1,212
	<u>10,072</u>	<u>4,046</u>
<u>Represented by:</u>		
Total Funds	<u>10,072</u>	<u>4,046</u>

Movement in Funds

	Balance 01.09.22	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Balance 31.08.23
General Fund	4,046	96,766	(90,740)	10,072
Total Funds	<u>4,046</u>	<u>96,766</u>	<u>(90,740)</u>	<u>10,072</u>

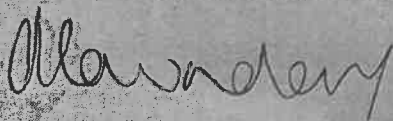
Notes to the Accounts**Assets Retained for the Charity's own use**

The Charity occupies a new purpose built building which has been funded by restricted donations. The total costs incurred at 31 August 2016 were £194,098.

Approval

I approve the Receipts and Payments Account set out on Page 2 and the above Statement of Assets, and confirm that all relevant records and information have been made available for their preparation.

Anna Saunders : Treasurer
On Behalf of Helmdon Acorns Pre-school



Date: 2024

01/06/2024