GRINDLEFORD AND EYAM PLAYGROUP

England & Wales · Charity number 1036608

Details

Other names	GRINDLEFORD BRIDGE PLAYGROUP, GRINDLEFORD BRIDGEN GRINDLEFORD BRIDGE PLAYGROUP, GRINDLEFORD PLAYGROUP, GRINDLEFORD PRE-SCHOOL
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	1994-04-19
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Bishop Pavilion Bridge Playing Field Grindleford Hope Valley Derbyshire S32 2JN
Phone	07842095402
Email	grindlefordandeyamplaygroup@gmail.com
Website	grindlefordandeyamplaygroup.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: Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup aims to provide good quality pre-school education to children under five in the local community and surrounding area. We work in partnership with parents and carers to enable children to achieve their full potential.

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Classification

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

Geography

- Derbyshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£86,127	£83,068	-	-
2024-08-31	£86,080	£79,732	-	-
2023-08-31	£70,171	£69,852	-	-
2022-08-31	£72,308	£71,938	-	-
2021-08-31	£74,935	£67,042	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Helen Wakerley		2019-05-14
Laura Darwin		2023-07-18
Liz Tiplady		2012-09-02
Ruth Deborah Nuttall		2020-09-02

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GRINDLEFORD AND EYAM PLAYGROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1036608

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Annual Report 2025

Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup

Annual Report

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Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup is registered with Ofsted (URN206778), is a registered charity in England and Wales (1036608) and a member of the Early Years Alliance (33927).

Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup

Welcome!

Welcome to Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup's 2025 Annual Report

About our Annual Report

2024-25 has been another exciting year for us and we look forward to sharing this with you. Our Annual Report provides you with information about GEP's activities for the 2024-25 academic year through the Supervisor's, Trustee's and Treasurer's reports including our financial statements.

Thanks for reading, thanks for being part of

Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup

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Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup

Supervisor's Report 2024-25

As we returned from the Summer break we were greeted by a new kitchen! The Playing Field committee had been planning and designing it for a few months and it had been installed over the holidays, ready in full working order for us. Initially it took a little bit of rearranging and readjusting as it was a different layout. We found new homes for our craft and snack supplies, and all was well.

Autumn is one of my favourite months as there's lots of opportunities for seasonal craft and baking. This term we used produce from our allotment to make our own jam and garlic bread (not at the same time) The children love the journey from growing in the allotment, picking produce and then using it to bake with. We're very lucky.

Before Christmas we were contacted by our new EYIO who introduced herself and arranged a visit. We invited her over to meet us and see the setting for the first time. She was a lovely lady who spent time speaking to myself and Pauline and having a good look around to see what we're about. She bought some fresh eyes and new ideas which was refreshing to hear. She also signposted us to some helpful links and training which we investigated as the year went on.

The run up to Christmas is always busy and exciting in equal measure! We were invited by Grindleford School to watch the dress rehearsal of their Nativity which was really lovely. Our group loved seeing the costumes and dancing along to the songs.

We also held our annual Christmas raffle to win a Chatsworth hamper which was generously donated. This is always a great fundraiser, well worth doing. This year Grindleford Community Shop agreed to sell tickets on our behalf and the winning ticket was purchased there by a local resident!

As fundraising is so important to us, we made the decision in the New Year to purchase a card machine. We've noticed that cash is harder to come by so hopefully this gives us more flexibility at events and gives people another, easier way of supporting us.

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Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup

Supervisor's Report 2024-25

During the Spring term we were informed of plans within Eyam School to open a nursery for 3 to 4 year olds. As you can imagine a worrying thought given the proximity to us and the potential impact. We attended a consultation meeting to receive the information and seek clarity. We hope to continue communication and monitor how this may affect us going forward.

We held our AGM in March which was really well attended by current parents. Liz bought up the big topic of changing our charity status which we discussed and agreed on. A huge step for Playgroup but one we felt would benefit us. Liz was keen to get the ball rolling with intentions of the change happening in September. Lots of admin to get sorted but Playgroup 2.0 is on its way!

The Summer term brings the build up to holidays, school transitions and lots of sunshine (hopefully)

This year the excitement was raised even higher as we were nominated by a parent to High Peak Comps and won some goodies including bubbles, hot chocolate and paint. They paid us a visit and advertised us on their page which was very exciting and gave a real boost to our social media pages.

We may have then broken up for six weeks but the fun did not stop there. We ran an incredibly successful holiday club during the break. It was really well attended by families, siblings, cousins and friends. We had made the decision earlier in the year to enrol on the Childcare Register. Meaning we were able to take children up to the age of 8 which made a real difference to our numbers. Families found it beneficial to have childcare for both children and it was lovely to see some familiar, grown up faces!

For the second year running we also held some summer settling in sessions for our new starters, giving them chance to see the room and meet staff before officially joining us. These were also well attended and parents complimented the idea to aid September's transition.

As always, I'm giving the highlights of a year full of adventures, friendship and a lot of mud! None of it possible without our amazing staff. We're incredibly lucky to have the team we do who provide so much to each child. Thank you also goes to our committee, parents and wider community for everything they give to the group. It's a team effort.

Sophie and Pauline

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Report of the trustees for the year ending 31 August 2025

Chair's report
Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup (GEP) is a registered charity, No. 1036608.
Our trustees for the year were:

Helen Wakerley	Chair
Elizabeth Tiplady	Treasurer
Clare Harley	
Ruth Nuttall	
Laura Darwin	

At our AGM held on 4th March 2025 Clare Harley resigned from her role as trustee, we would like to thank her for her support and wish her well in her new role as school governor.

Structure, governance, and management
The pre-school operates under the Pre-school Learning Alliance Model Constitution 2011 which was approved by the Charity Commission on 29th October 2014.

Membership of the Pre-school is divided into two kinds:
(a) Family Membership - Parents or guardians of all children who attend the group.
(b) Affiliate Membership - Affiliate Membership is open to those individuals, organisations or other bodies interested in supporting the aims of the Pre-school.

The overall management and control of the Pre-school rests with the Pre-school's management committee ("the committee"). As well as being responsible for the management of the Pre-school the Committee members are also the charity trustees of the Preschool. Committee member are elected for one year at the Annual General Meeting.

The Committee consists of:
A Chair, a Treasurer, and a Secretary ("the Officers"); and
Not less than 2 nor more than 9 other elected Members; and
If the Committee decides it can co-opt up to 3 further Members onto the Committee at any time after the AGM.

Together, the committee are the 'registered person' with Ofsted and have overall responsibility for ensuring the childcare provision meets the terms of Ofsted registration and the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage framework.

To comply with safeguarding requirements all new Committee members are required to complete a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check online before they can be added to an Ofsted registration.

We have a trustee induction programme and support new committee members during this process.

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The day-to-day running of the pre-school is delegated to our Supervisors and the team:

Sophie Grant	Supervisor (Monday/Tuesday), Deputy Supervisor (Wednesday/Friday)
Pauline Bowman	Supervisor (Wednesday/Friday), Deputy Supervisor (Monday/Tuesday)
Donna Booth	SENCO
Kirsty Fish	Assistant
Paula Greenhalgh	Assistant
Libby Eaton	FS assistant
Julia Pritchard	FS assistant (Supply cover)

The high number of staff reflects our commitment to offering outdoor opportunities such as forest school and woodland adventure. We meet or exceed the ratio and qualification requirements as set out in the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework.

Our aims

The aims of the pre-school are to enhance the development and education of children primarily under statutory school age by offering appropriate play, education, and care.

We provide an environment where each child can develop and fulfil their potential; build their self-confidence and gain the skills and experience they need to make the most of their early years in school.

Our ethos

GEP is a rural Peak District pre-school which provides a forward thinking, unhurried and playful approach to early learning. We have eight core principles that we apply every day:

We believe that children learn best through play
We prepare children for school, but we don't mimic school
We promote child-led play as an essential part of children's learning
We balance free play with focussed, adult led group learning
We believe that children should be engaged, not occupied, at pre-school
We provide experiences which are meaningful to our children
We manage behaviour positively
We value outdoor play as a valuable childhood experience

"Play is essential for children's development, building their confidence as they learn to explore, relate to others, set their own goals, and solve problems. Children learn by leading their own play, and by taking part in play and learning that is guided by adults."

Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage

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Pupil numbers and fees
In 2024-25 we had 28 children from 25 families accessing our pre-school.

Our fees for children aged two to three years (up to the term of their 3rd birthday) were £7.00 per hour. In June 2025, the Committee agreed to keep the rate at £7.00 per hour for September 2025.

Fees for children in receipt of the Early Years Funding are determined by Derbyshire County Council.
For 3-4 year olds the year started with a rate of £5.00 per hour which increased to £5.22 per hour with effect from the Summer term. The rate charged for hours taken in addition to the free entitlement was set at £7.50 per hour, the Committee agreed to keep the rate at £7.50 per hour for September 2025.

The rate for funded two-year olds started the year at £7.21 which increased to £7.42 per hour with effect from the Summer term. Both rates had a deprivation supplement of 32p. Charges for additional hours would be the same as our fees for two to three year olds.

Staffing
Our focus was statutory training with staff attending 1st aid, Safeguarding, Food Saefty and Health and Safety courses.

Volunteers
We had two volunteers this year. A special mention to the parent who repaired our allotment beds; cleaned and maintained our balance bikes; repaired our outdoor equipment storage box and carried out various jobs at the forest school site including building a new den and digging out the fire pit.
Thanks also to the volunteer who helped run our mud kitchen toddler group during the year; this popular drop-in session is a good fundraiser and enables parents and children to visit the setting helping with settling in the future.
We would also like to thank the trustee who regularly volunteered during the year which enabled us to increase our child numbers.

Planning for the future
At our AGM held on 4th March 2025 we agreed to change our charitable status to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Unfortunately, the process has been brought to a halt while we wait on the outcome of discussions between the Early Years Alliance and Ofsted.

We have been very fortunate to have been able to build up our reserves; these protect us from the type of fluctuations in child numbers we are seeing this year. We will continue to look at how we can further grow our reserves through grant applications and our own fundraising efforts.

I would like to thank our local community for their ongoing support; including the GPFA, Grindleford Goat, Grindleford PTA/Gallop and Queen Anne Inn. I would also like to thank our local Co-op for support throughout the year.

Finally, I would like to thank our trustees and staff team for their continued hard work and dedication – your enthusiasm for providing high quality early years education remains our greatest strength.

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Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup

Treasurer's Report 2024-25

Our finances
We ended the year with a surplus of funds thanks to several generous donations received during the year as well as running some successful fundraising events. This has enabled us to start the 2025-26 academic year with a budget shortfall knowing we have sufficient funds to cover our costs.

Our total income for the year was £86,127, a small increase of £67. Our expenditure also increased to £83,068 from £79,731, an increase of £3,337.

Our fee income for the year was £75,311 69% of our fee income came from the Early Year's Funding, a total of £52,241. Our fees from self-funded children totalled £23,069. Once again we were fortunate to start the year at near capacity and a regular volunteer enabled us to increase our numbers during the year.

Our fundraising total increased this year as well as running a successful holiday club. We also received a number of generous donations. We would like to thank our local community and families for their support. The events held this year included:

£439 was raised by our Christmas Hamper raffle. Our thanks to Chatsworth for the donation of the hamper.
£459 was raised by a cream tea held in Eyam. This event was made possible by the donation of jam and cream from The Cream Tea Society. We would also like to thank everyone who donated prizes for the tombola stall and everyone who helped on the day.
£245 was raised by our quiz night and raffle. Many thanks to everyone who supported the event.
£185 was raised by the sale of printed tote bags, thanks to everyone who purchased a bag.
£328 was raised by our regular mud kitchen group.
£123 was raised by a clothes collection scheme, many thanks to everyone who has contributed.
£158 was raised by our collection tins. This year our tins have been placed in The Miners Arms, Eyam Post Office, Eyam Club and Grindleford Community shop.

Our fundraising total for the year was £2,132 (£1,833 net of expenses) a wonderful achievement for the group.

We ran two holiday clubs this year in the Easter and Summer breaks. We raised £1,266 (£328.26 net of wages and sundry expenses) compared with £372 (£31 net of wages and sundry expenses). The decision to join the Childcare register which enabled us to take children aged up to 8 years improved attendance significantly.

Donations and grants received during the year totalled £5,772; of which £1,000 were restricted funds.

We received the following donations and grants this year:
£1,000 was received from the Grindleford Goat (restricted)
£2,792 was received from Rotary Club of Hope Valley
£600 was received from Grindleford PTA/Gallop
£104 was received in individual donations including £65 via Benevity, a scheme which enables employees to support charities through their employer.

£1,276 in snack donations – a very generous contribution which covered our snack and hygiene costs; thank you so much to our parents for embracing this voluntary donation.

In addition, we received £31 Gift Aid on donations made during 2023-24.

Cont./

The following grants were restricted to a specific purpose.
In our application to the Grindleford Goat we specified that the grant would be used to replenish and renew furniture and resources, purchase new materials, pay bills and training costs and provide exciting opportunities for the children. During the year we used £700 to employ an additional staff member which enabled the team to maintain and improve the forest school site with new dens and repairs to the fire circle. We also used £165 money to purchase new books; new woodland resources and lightweight tarp. The final expenditure £160 covered the cost of Outdoor 1st aid training.

We were fortunate enough to have been selected as a Co-op charity again with funds raised supporting our aim of helping the children learn how to grow their own produce and to prepare, cook and provide a healthy diet. We spent the outstanding amount this year; £150 covered baking costs; £35 was spent on new equipment for cooking at forest school; £186 was spent on repairs of the raised beds at the allotment and seeds; £85 was spent on a new watering can and replacing buckets and trowels.

A huge debt of gratitude is owed to everyone who contributes by donating or volunteering; our pre-school is very special, and we thank everyone who helps to protect it's future.

Sundry income totalled £900. A 2023-24 SEN payment of £663 was received in this year; Gift aid £31; refunded items £25 and an Early Years Rollout Payment of £180. This final payment was paid as we participated in the government's early year expansion programme.

Our costs this year were £83,068.

Our staff costs of £70,073 account for 84% of our total costs.

Our rental costs of £7,651 accounts for 9% of our cost. Our hourly rate increased from £10 to £10.75 with affect from April 2025.

We spent £798 on equipment during the year. This included items purchased with grants, details above. Other purchases included a replacement sand/water tray £204; wooden tools £46; replacement wheels for cloakrooms and dressing up trolley £97; basket for home corner £17; rug for small world corner £15; lightweight balls for outside play £15 and replacement plates for snack £10. The parish council have agreed to contribute to the cost of the sand/water tray.

Our training costs for the year were £240. Our focus was statutory training with our forest school leader attending Outdoor 1st aid training; our safeguarding lead refreshed their training; and both food and H&S training was updated.

Fundraising costs increased from £95 to £299. We paid £180 for the hand print tote bags; £40 to rent the room used for the cream tea; renewed our lottery license for £20 and spent £37 on raffle tickets. We also purchased a card reader for use at fundraising events. All expenditure on fundraising has seen a good return on the expenditure with events raising much needed funds.

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Our sundry costs are £2,176; a significant reduction on last year's expenditure. Our largest outgoings were snacks (£465); hygiene products (£270); payroll package (£221) and baking (£150). Other costs included membership of the Early Years Alliance (£124); Ofsted registration (£50); National Trust site licence (£63); website (£72) and mobile phone top-up (£20). In addition, we purchased a toolkit to support our application to become a CIO (£66) and advertised at both the Grindleford show (£25) and Eyam Carnival (£80). We contributed £70 to end of year staff celebration. Items returned for refund totalled £25.

Our costs on materials have increased to £546. Stationery costs remained high (£198). Playdough materials such as flour, salt and food colouring totalled £58. Craft materials such as paint, clay and glue sticks totalled £56. Using money from our Co-op grant we were able to purchase seeds and other materials to support the children's understanding of growth and preparing food as well as the timber needed to repair the allotment beds (£186).

We end the year with a closing cash balance of £44,066, an increase of £3,060.

Analysis of the figures shows that without the income brought in by donations and fundraising our closing balance would have shown a deficit of £4,629.

Planning for the future

This year has been a good year for our finances as we started with high numbers and the help of our volunteer enabled us to take extra children on our popular days. Next year does not look as positive with places still available on most days as the year starts. However, the funds we added to our reserves brings us some assurance that we can manage our budget for another year.

At the end of each year we look back and recognise how fortunate we are to have the support of our families and the local community. We see the good work we are doing and are motivated to continue.

We would like to thank the staff for their outstanding contribution to our success; they are a great team who provide such wonderful opportunities and loving care to the children.

The trustees will continue to search out ways to support the group and to bring in grants. We also hope that fundraising continues to provide much needed additional income.

It is important we continue these efforts to maintain our reserve fund and protect the playgroup's future.

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Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup

Thank you!

We want to take this opportunity to thank our many volunteers and supporters for their wonderful dedication and hard work.

Whether it was updating our website, looking after our accounts or helping out at one of our fundraisers – we could not have done any of this without you and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

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Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup
Financial Statements
1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025

Analysis of receipts and payments for the year ending 31 August 2025

	Notes	2025	2024
Receipts			
Fees		75,311	73,811
Fundraising		2,132	1,814
Milk Grant		268	259
Grants / Donations - Restricted		1,000	1,324
Grants / Donations - Unrestricted		4,772	5,726
Holiday club		1,266	372
Sundries	A	900	2,381
Bank Interest		478	393
Total Receipts		86,127	86,080
Payments			
Wages		70,073	64,694
Forest School Leaders		0	720
Rent		7,651	7,405
Milk		268	259
Equipment		798	1,409
Materials		546	478
Fundraising		299	95
Training		240	326
Sundries	B	2,176	3,482
Insurance		834	778
Holiday club	C	182	85
Total Payments		83,068	79,731
Increase in cash		**3,060**	**6,348**
Cash balance			
Opening cash balance		41,006	34,658
Closing cash balance		44,066	41,006
Increase in cash		**3,060**	**6,348**

Notes

A - this figure includes SEN funding owed from 2023-24, EY rollout payment, gift aid on donations received 2023-24 and refunded items

B - this figure includes gifts, payroll, website, EYA membership, NT site license, Ofsted fee and advertising through local events

C -this figure does not include staff wages estimated at £752

Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup
Financial Statements
1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025

Analysis of receipts and payments for the year ending 31 August 2025

	Notes	2025	2024
Assets			
Cash			
Petty cash		619	385
Reserve account		32,478	32,000
Current account		10,969	8,621
Total cash		44,066	41,006

Notes

Receivables

We are also due the following receipts / incurred expenses:

HMRC - Gift Aid (estimated)		320	30
SEN final payment			663
Unpaid fees		250	
Total receivables		570	693

We also hold assets in the form of play equipment that is insured for £15,000.

Liabilities

2 x bouquet gifts (not invoiced)		0	0

Payables

The following payments are outstanding:			
Sundry creditors	A	507	371
Total payables		507	371

Notes

A - HMRC £507

Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup
Financial Statements
1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025

Analysis of receipts and payments for the year ending 31 August 2025

	Notes	2025	2024
Receipts - Fundraising			
Easy Fundraising/Amazon Smile		25	0
Carnival Stall / Grindleford Show		170	0
Mud Kitchen		328	295
Collection tins		158	177
Clothes collection		123	230
Xmas raffle		439	654
Quiz night		245	0
Cream tea		459	458
Tote bag sales		185	0
Total		2,132	1,814
Payments - Sundries			
Snacks		465	690
Gifts	A	278	278
Hygiene		270	465
Baking		150	228
DBS		0	101
Payroll		221	190
Fire		57	77
Annual ofsted fee		50	50
Pre-school learning alliance membership		124	122
Recruitment		0	0
Other sundries	B	560	1,121
Staff uniforms		0	161
Total		2,176	3,482

Notes

A - Gifts includes children's gifts £26; thank you gift £7; staff gifts £226; volunteers gift £9

B - NT site licence £63; mobile phone top-up £20; website £72; Grindleford show advert £25; Eyam carnival advert £80; CIO toolkit £66; staff celebration £70

Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup
Financial Statements
1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025

Analysis of receipts and payments for the year ending 31 August 2025

	Notes	2025	2024
Grants / Donations - Restricted			
Eyam Book Barn		0	159
Co-op Community Fund		0	1,165
Grindleford Goat		1000	0
Total Restricted Grants / Donations		1,000	1,324
Grants / Donations - Unrestricted			
Queen Anne/Pigeon club		0	1000
Grindleford school PTA/Gallop		600	1,800
Donations to GEP		104	1,054
Snack Donations		1276	972
Eyam Half marathon		0	500
Eyam Youth Club		0	400
Rotary club	A	2792	0
Total Unrestricted Grants / Donations		4,772	5,726

Notes

A - Donation from Hope Valley Rotary club which was closing down

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: GRINSHLEFORD END EVAN PLAYGROUP

On accounts for the year ended: 31st August 2025 | **Charity no (if any)**: 1036608

Set out on pages: (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 .

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: [signature] **Date:** 28 February 2026

Name: ANTHONY JAMES DALY

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

Address: DEVON HOUSE, BELSHAW LANE
BELTON DN9 1PF

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.

GRINDLEFORD AND EYAM PLAYGROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1036608

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Welcome!

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Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup

Supervisor's Report 2023-24

September 2023 feels like a long time ago! I'm sitting to write this and using it as an excuse to look back over photos from the year and recall the adventures we had. Having 31 children join us over 4 days means there's never a dull moment.

The Autumn term proved eventful with winter storms bringing torrential rain and the risk of flooding. But we still ventured out and the children have observed the seasonal changes as we worked at the allotment; we especially enjoyed seeing the pumpkins grow.

Autumn crafts are a particular favourite, conker necklaces, leaf hedgehogs and natural bird feeders. So many different processes to be proud of.

We encourage the children to care for the mini beasts and birds; filling our bird feeders and making lovely treats to hang in their gardens.

Our forest school team were kept busy this term protecting the site from the worst of the weather. But still had time to build this lovely den for the children which proved very popular.

As the festive season approached it was time to decorate the Christmas tree and make mince pies.
The term finished with our Woodland Nativities. Families braved the very muddy conditions to join us at forest school for a hot drink and mince pie.

Cont./

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In the Spring, the hard work at the allotment begins! Lots of weeding and planting to keep us busy. We also had Caterpillars come to stay. We loved watching them grow and change over the weeks and finally being able to release beautiful butterflies was amazing.

In the Summer we are pretty much always outside, making the most of the nice weather on the patio with chalkboards, dens and obstacle courses. We are gearing up fully for the transition to school and all the excitement that the end of year brings especially our knighting ceremony.

We are so fortunate to have a great staff team who have worked with us for many years. This helps provide a solid foundation for Playgroup and is a real positive of ours as a group.

Each member of staff brings something different to the team. Donna with her crafty skills means children get to take home beautiful masterpieces each week. Kirsty leads baking and ensures delicious treats are made and enjoyed. Paula's caring nature means she provides the perfect support in the SENCO role and Libby brings her wealth of forest school experience to the group. Julia and Paula P provide extra support when we need it - we really are very lucky.

I couldn't not include this photo as it makes me smile a lot and sums us up perfectly. Whilst I apologise to this family's washing machine, what fun was had!

Sophie and Pauline

Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup is registered with Ofsted (URN206778), is a registered charity in England and Wales (1036608) and a member of the Early Years Alliance (33927).

Report of the trustees for the year ending 31 August 2024

Chair's report
Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup (GEP) is a registered charity, No. 1036608.
Our trustees for the year were:

Helen Wakerley	Chair
Elizabeth Tiplady	Treasurer
Clare Harley	
Ruth Nuttall	
Laura Darwin	

The role of Secretary was shared during the year.

Structure, governance, and management
The pre-school operates under the Pre-school Learning Alliance Model Constitution 2011 which was approved by the Charity Commission on 29th October 2014.

Membership of the Pre-school is divided into two kinds:
(a) Family Membership - Parents or guardians of all children who attend the group.
(b) Affiliate Membership - Affiliate Membership is open to those individuals, organisations or other bodies interested in supporting the aims of the Pre-school.

The overall management and control of the Pre-school rests with the Pre-school's management committee ("the committee"). As well as being responsible for the management of the Pre-school the Committee members are also the charity trustees of the Preschool. Committee member are elected for one year at the Annual General Meeting.

The Committee consists of:
A Chair, a Treasurer, and a Secretary ("the Officers"); and
Not less than 2 nor more than 9 other elected Members; and
If the Committee decides it can co-opt up to 3 further Members onto the Committee at any time after the AGM.

Together, the committee are the 'registered person' with Ofsted and have overall responsibility for ensuring the childcare provision meets the terms of Ofsted registration and the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage framework. To comply with safeguarding requirements all new Committee members are required to complete a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check online before they can be added to an Ofsted registration. We have a trustee induction programme and support new committee members during this process.

One trustee who regularly volunteered during the year received a contribution towards petrol expenses. The additional member of staff enabled us to maintain our child numbers while supporting a child with SEN.

Cont./

The day-to-day running of the pre-school is delegated to our Supervisors and the team:

Sophie Grant	Supervisor (Monday/Tuesday), Deputy Supervisor (Wednesday/Friday)
Pauline Bowman	Supervisor (Wednesday/Friday), Deputy Supervisor (Monday/Tuesday)
Donna Booth	SENCO
Rachel Wright	Forest school leader (Wednesday)
Kirsty Fish	Assistant
Paula Greenhalgh	Assistant
Libby Eaton	FS assistant
Julia Pritchard	FS assistant (Supply cover)
Paula Pawson	FS assistant (Supply cover)

We were sad to say goodbye to Rachel who had been our forest school leader for many years; we wish her well in her new role. Fortunately, Pauline, Libby and Julia all have a wealth of experience and have taken on the role with great success. The high number of staff reflects our commitment to offering outdoor opportunities such as forest school and woodland adventure. We meet or exceed the ratio and qualification requirements as set out in the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework.

Our aims

The aims of the pre-school are to enhance the development and education of children primarily under statutory school age by offering appropriate play, education, and care.

We provide an environment where each child can develop and fulfil their potential; build their self-confidence and gain the skills and experience they need to make the most of their early years in school.

Our ethos

GEP is a rural Peak District pre-school which provides a forward thinking, unhurried and playful approach to early learning. We have eight core principles that we apply every day:

We believe that children learn best through play
We prepare children for school, but we don't mimic school
We promote child-led play as an essential part of children's learning
We balance free play with focussed, adult led group learning
We believe that children should be engaged, not occupied, at pre-school
We provide experiences which are meaningful to our children
We manage behaviour positively
We value outdoor play as a valuable childhood experience

"Play is essential for children's development, building their confidence as they learn to explore, relate to others, set their own goals and solve problems. Children learn by leading their own play, and by taking part in play which is guided by adults."

Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage

Cont./

Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup is registered with Ofsted (URN206778), is a registered charity in England and Wales (1036608) and a member of the Early Years Alliance (33927).

Pupil numbers and fees
In 2023-24 we had 31 children from 29 families accessing our pre-school.

Our fees for children aged two to three years (up to the term of their 3rd birthday) were set at £6.00 per hour. In July 2024, the Committee agreed to increase the rate to £7.00 per hour with effect from September 2024.

Fees for children in receipt of the Early Years Funding are determined by Derbyshire County Council. For 3-4 year olds the year started with a rate of £4.80 per hour which increased to £5.00 per hour with effect from the Summer term. The rate charged for hours taken in addition to the free entitlement was set at £7.00 per hour, the Committee agreed to increase this figure to £7.50 per hour with effect from September 2024.

From April 2024 working parents were able to claim 15 hours funded childcare for two year olds. The rate for funded two-year olds was set at £7.21 with a deprivation supplement of 32p. Charges for additional hours would be the same as our fees for two to three year olds.

Staffing
Our focus was statutory training with staff attending 1st aid, Safeguarding and Health and safety courses. In addition, staff attended training in Communication skills, Supporting children with ASD and Bushcraft.

Volunteers
Our thanks to the volunteer who ran our mud kitchen toddler group during the year. This popular drop-in session is a good fundraiser and also enables parents and children to visit the setting which helps with settling in the future.

Planning for the future
A child's early years are the foundation for his or her future development, providing a strong base for lifelong learning and learning abilities, including cognitive and social development. Well-established research continues to emphasize the importance of early childhood education as an essential building block of a child's future success. So, we are committed to safeguarding the future of our group as we believe that what we offer is special and worth protecting

It was a wonderful achievement to finish the year with a surplus as this has enabled us to add to our reserves. Our reserves protect us from fluctuations in child numbers in the future and puts us in a strong position to plan for the future.

Next year we will continue to look at how we can maintain our support through grant applications and our own fundraising efforts.

I would like to thank our local community for their ongoing support; including the GPFA, Eyam Half Marathon committee, Queen Anne Inn, Eyam Youth Club and Grindleford PTA/Gallop. I would also like to thank our local Co-op for support throughout the year.

Finally, I would like to thank our trustees and staff team for their continued hard work and dedication – your enthusiasm for providing high quality early years education remains our greatest strength.

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Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup

Treasurer's Report 2023-24

Our finances

We ended the year in a good place financially as we had a surplus of funds which allowed us to top up our reserves. The surplus came from our fundraising and donations during the year. Our reserve is now set to a value which would allow us to meet our statutory requirements for final salary and redundancy payments.

Our total income for the year was £86,080, an increase of £15,909. Our expenditure also increased to £79,732 from £69,852, an increase of £9,880.

Our fee income for the year was £73,811. 68% of our fee income came from the Early Year's Funding, a total of £50,489. Our fees from self-funded children totalled £23,322. We were fortunate to start the year at near capacity and a regular volunteer enabled us to increase our numbers during the year.

Our fundraising total was down on last year but we saw a rise in donations. We would like to thank our local community and families for their support. The events held this year included:

£357 was raised by our Christmas Hamper raffle. Our thanks to Chatsworth for the donation of the hamper.
£458 was raised by a cream tea held in Eyam. This event was made possible by the donation of jam and cream from The Cream Tea Society. We would also like to thank everyone who donated prizes for the tombola stall and everyone who helped on the day.
£297 was raised by our quiz night and raffle. Many thanks to everyone who supported the event.
£295 was raised by our regular mud kitchen group.
£230 was raised by the clothes and ink cartridge collection schemes, many thanks to everyone who has contributed.
£177 was raised by our collection tins. This year our tins have been placed in The Barrel Inn, The Miners Arms, The Queen Ann, Eyam Post Office and Grindleford Community shop.

Our fundraising total for the year was £1,814 (£1,719 net of expenses) a wonderful achievement for the group.

Once again, we ran a holiday club in the Summer break which raised £372 (£31 net of wages and sundry expenses) compared with £740 (£290 net of wages and sundry expenses). Income raised was reduced by two factors this year; we did not fill either session and we used our Early Years Pupil Premium to support two places.

Donations and grants received during the year totalled £7,050; of which £1,324 were restricted funds.

We received the following donations and grants this year:
£1,000 was received from the Pigeon Club/Queen Anne Pub
£1,800 was received from Grindleford PTA/Gallop
£500 was received from Eyam Half Marathon
£400 was received from Eyam Youth Club
£972 in snack donations – a very generous contribution which covered our snack and hygiene costs; thank you so much to our parents for embracing this voluntary donation.
£1,054 was received in individual donations including £54 via Benevity, a scheme which enables employees to support charities through their employer.

In addition, we received £100 Gift Aid on donations made during 2022-23.

Cont./

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The following grants were restricted to a specific purpose.
We used the last of the Kinder Kids donation to purchase a new laptop, £189.
We received £159 from the Eyam Book Barn to purchase a waterproof camera.
We were fortunate enough to have been selected as a Co-op charity again in 2022-23 with funds raised supporting our aim of helping the children learn how to grow their own produce and to prepare, cook and provide a healthy diet. £1,165 has been paid in the 23-24 accounting period of which £672 has been spent, including £163 on tools, buckets and a compost bin.

A huge debt of gratitude is owed to everyone who contributes by donating or volunteering; our pre-school is very special, and we thank everyone who helps to protect it's future.

Sundry income totalled £2,381. SEN funding accounts for £2,117; Gift aid £100; Duplicate bank payments £78 and refunded items £86. A final SEN payment of £663 was received after the year end.

Our costs this year were £79,732.

Our combined staff and forest school leader costs of £65,414 account for 82% of our total costs.

Our rental costs of £7,405 accounts for 9% of our cost. Our hourly rate is due to increase in February with regular increases planned by the GPFA.

We spent £1,409 on equipment during the year. This included items purchased with grants, details above. Other purchases included £167 to replace our roadside board and banner; £148 for small world animals and tractors; £180 for a new pram; £85 for replacement cloakroom; £83 improving home corner; £22 replacing plates and £27 for new outdoor hoops.

Our training costs for the year were £326. Our focus was statutory training with staff attending 1st aid, safeguarding and Health and safety courses. In addition, staff attended training in communication skills, Supporting children with ASD and Bushcraft.

Fundraising costs decreased slightly from £116 to £95. We paid £40 to rent the room used for the cream tea; renewed our lottery license for £20; and spent £35 on raffle tickets. All expenditure on fundraising has seen a good return on the expenditure with events raising much needed funds.

Our sundry costs are £3,482; an increase on last year's expenditure. Our largest outgoings are snacks (£690); hygiene products (£465); volunteer petrol expense (£454) and baking (£228). Other costs included our payroll package (£190); membership of the Early Years Alliance (£122); Ofsted registration (£50); National Trust site licence (£63); website (£43) and mobile phone top-ups (£30). Items returned for refund totalled £67; the bank made three duplicate payments totalling £78 which were refunded; one card payment of £19 made in error has been refunded.

The volunteer petrol expenses were paid to a regular volunteer who formed part of the staff team allowing the group to admit additional children which increased our fee income. The volunteer also covered staff absences which helped reduce staffing costs.

Cont./

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Our costs on materials have increased to £478. Stationery costs remained high (£202). Playdough materials such as flour, salt and food colouring totalled £48. Craft materials such as paint, clay and glue sticks totalled £96. Using money from our Co-op grant we were able to purchase seeds and other materials to support the children's understanding of growth and preparing food (£107); we also bought seed to feed the birds at the allotment (£22).

We end the year with a closing cash balance of £41,006, an increase of £6,348 of which £492 are restricted funds.

Analysis of the figures shows that without the income brought in by donations and fundraising our closing balance would have shown a deficit of £2,807.

The committee agreed to transfer £5,607 to our reserve this will ensure we have sufficient funds to cover costs such as redundancy and final salary payments. A portion of our reserves is allocated to cover any budget shortfall during the year.

Planning for the future

This year has been a good year for our finances as we started with high numbers and the help of our volunteer enabled us to take extra children on our popular days. Next year does not look as positive with places still available on most days as the year starts. However, the funds we added to our reserves brings us some assurance that we can manage our budget for another year.

At the end of each year we look back and recognise how fortunate we are to have the support of our families and the local community. We see the good work we are doing and are motivated to continue.

We would like to thank the staff for their outstanding contribution to our success; they are a great team who provide such wonderful opportunities and loving care to the children.

The trustees will continue to search out ways to support the group and to bring in grants. We also hope that fundraising continues to provide much needed additional income.

It is important we continue these efforts to maintain our reserve fund and protect the playgroup's future.

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Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup

Thank you!

We want to take this opportunity to thank our many volunteers and supporters for their wonderful dedication and hard work.

Whether it was updating our website, looking after our accounts or helping out at one of our fundraisers – we could not have done any of this without you and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

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Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup
Financial Statements
1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024

Analysis of receipts and payments for the year ending 31 August 2024

	Notes	2024	2023
Receipts			
Fees		73,811	57,634
Fundraising		1,814	2,261
Milk Grant		259	274
Grants / Donations - Restricted		1,324	500
Grants / Donations - Unrestricted		5,726	3,643
Holiday club		372	904
Sundries	A	2,381	4,818
Bank Interest		393	136
Total Receipts		86,080	70,171
Payments			
Wages		64,694	55,931
Forest School Leaders		720	1,285
Rent		7,405	6,573
Milk		259	278
Equipment		1,409	1,540
Materials		478	316
Fundraising		95	116
Training		326	229
Sundries	B	3,482	2,673
Insurance		778	741
Holiday club	C	85	172
Total Payments		79,732	69,852
Increase in cash		**6,348**	**318**
Cash balance			
Opening cash balance		34,658	34,340
Closing cash balance		41,006	34,658
Increase in cash		**6,348**	**318**

Notes

A- this figure includes SEN funding £2,117; gift aid 2022-23 £100; refunds for items returned £86 and duplicate bank payments £78

B - this figure includes petrol expenses for volunteer, Early Years Alliance membership, gifts, staff uniform, website, Ofsted, mobile phone top-up and payroll package

C -this figure does not include staff wages estimated at £257

Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup
Financial Statements
1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024

Statement of assets and liabilities as at 31 August 2024

	Notes	2024	2023
Assets			
Cash			
Petty cash		385	461
Reserve account		32,000	26,000
Current account		8,621	8,197
Total cash		41,006	34,658

Notes

Receivables

We are also due the following receipts / incurred expenses:

HMRC - Gift Aid (estimated)		30	100
SEN final payment		663	0
Total receivables		693	100

We also hold assets in the form of play equipment that is insured for £10,000.

Liabilities

Training costs		0	0

Payables

The following payments are outstanding:			
Sundry creditors	A	371	407
Total payables		371	407

Notes

A - HMRC £371

Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup
Financial Statements
1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024

Additional analysis for the year ending 31 August 2024

	Notes	2024	2023
Receipts - Fundraising			
Easy Fundraising/Amazon Smile		0	58
Carnival Stall / Grindleford Show		0	120
Mud Kitchen		295	426
Sale of goods		0	144
Collection tins		177	145
Clothes/ink cartridge collection		230	100
Raffles held during year		654	910
Cream tea		458	338
Football cards		0	20
Total		1,814	2,261
Payments - *Sundries*			
Snacks		690	649
Gifts	A	278	230
Hygiene		465	344
Baking		228	154
DBS		101	0
Payroll		190	175
Fire		77	69
Annual ofsted fee		50	50
Pre-school learning alliance membership		122	118
Recruitment		0	0
Other sundries	B	1,121	776
Staff uniforms		161	108
Total		3,482	2,673

Notes

A - Gifts includes children's gifts £37; leaving gift £6; thank you gift £5; staff and volunteers gifts £230

B - Trustee expenses £454; duplicate bank debits £78; refunded purchases £86; Laptop maintenance agreement £55; Staff events £121; National Trust site licence £63; mobile phone top-up £30; website plan £43; Grindleford show advert £25; Flowers for knighting ceremony £18

Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup
Financial Statements
1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024

Additional analysis for the year ending 31 August 2024

	Notes	2024	2023
Grants / Donations - Restricted			
Co-op Community Fund	A	1165	0
Kinder Kids	B	0	0
Eyam Half Marathon		0	500
Growing Golden		0	0
Eyam Book Barn	C	159	0
GPFA (1st aid equipment)		0	0
Total Restricted Grants / Donations		1,324	500
Grants / Donations - Unrestricted			
Queen Anne/Pigeon club		1000	1500
Grindleford School PTA/Gallop		1,800	0
Donations to GEP		1,054	70
Snack Donations		972	1073
Eyam half marathon		500	500
Eyam & district dart league		0	500
Eyam Youth Club		400	0
Total Unrestricted Grants / Donations		5726	3,643

Notes

A - payment of monies raised through Co-op Community Fund to be used to cover baking and allotment costs. £672 spent to date provider has agreed that o/s funds can be spent next year

B - final funds spent this year on new laptop

C - Book Barn donation to purchase camera, fund spent in full

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees (charity name): GRINDLEFORD + EYAM PLAYGROUP

On accounts for the year ended: 31/8/24 **Charity no (if any)**: 1036608

Set out on pages: 1-4 (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 [redacted].

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, 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 all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

~~[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]].~~ *Delete [✓] if not applicable.*

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (~~other than that disclosed below *~~) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- 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.

* *Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed: SLCrooke **Date:** 12/6/25

Name: S L CROOKE

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body: ACCOUNTANT

(if any):	
Address:	FORESTERS COTTAGE WATER LANE ETAM, HOPE VALLEY

Section B Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material 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.

GRINDLEFORD AND EYAM PLAYGROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1036608

Accounts

Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup

Annual Report 2023

Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup

Annual Report

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Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup is registered with Ofsted (URN206778), is a registered charity in England and Wales (1036608) and a member of the Early Years Alliance (33927).

Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup

Welcome!

Welcome to Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup's 2023 Annual Report

About our Annual Report

2022-23 has been another exciting year for us and we look forward to sharing this with you. Our Annual Report provides you with information about GEP's activities for the 2022-23 academic year through the Supervisor's, Trustee's and Treasurer's reports including our financial statements.

Thanks for reading, thanks for being part of

Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup

Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup is registered with Ofsted (URN206778), is a registered charity in England and Wales (1036608) and a member of the Early Years Alliance (33927).

September saw a staggered start with our new recruits joining us over the first few weeks to allow everyone time to settle. We were also joined by the first of two Ukrainian families to attend this year which was a real privilege, we learnt a lot about their language and culture and it was such a joy to have them join our team.

The end of the Autumn term saw the start of a recruitment process, always a fun time! We had a number of candidates visit and interview and in January we were joined by Paula G who started working Tuesday and Wednesdays. She bought a wealth of experience, warmth and general loveliness with her.

The build up to Christmas is one of my personal favourite times of the year, we go big! We absolutely make the most of it from baking mince pies and gingerbread to including carols and classics in our song time. Christmas crafts and festive jumpers top off a really special end to the year.

This year we got involved in a local initiative led by Toll Bar Chip Shop, they put out a call for artists and we answered! The children got busy decorating chip boxes which were returned and built into an alternate Christmas tree in Stoney Middleton Church.

Of course we also held our Woodland Nativities which is always a highlight. Parents join us and are always shocked at the walk up to the site, realising just what the children manage every week! Pauline's laid back take on the Nativity engages everyone and marshmallow toasting tops off a lovely morning.

We put together and sold our second Recipe Book to raise money and share our baking recipes with the world. Families supported it really well and we raised £120 We owe a massive thank you to Great Hucklow Primary School and Sophie Bell for their help and printing.

We began the new year full of joy and optimism, only to receive the dreaded call… Ofsted!! Our inspection took place on a Wednesday with our inspector visiting both forest school and woodland adventure before spending the afternoon with us at base. She provided lots of positive feedback on the things she had seen and some pointers to work on. We were awarded an overall 'Good' outcome which we were more than happy with.

The Spring term then flies really quickly for me personally as I was absent for the rest of it through an operation and recovery. We were incredibly lucky that Julia agreed to come back and volunteer to help cover my absence, and we haven't let her go since! Liz also agreed to cover hours and we were helped massively by parents taking over the running of mud kitchen. Thank you everyone!

We held our now annual Cream Tea fundraiser in April; scones, tea and tombola. What's not to like!? Unfortunately, attendance was slightly down on the previous year due to a date clash but it was well worth doing, bringing in £338. We owe a big thank you to Co-op Baslow for their generosity and Village Green Eyam for their delicious scone donation.

Cont./

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As the summer term started we had some visitors come to stay in the shape of caterpillars! We loved checking in on them every day and watching their journey through cocoon and chrysalis before we let beautiful butterflies free.

The nation was gifted as extra bank holiday in the summer to celebrate the King's Coronation, we followed instruction and celebrated appropriately. A very exciting time.

Unfortunately, on our return we were greeted with the unpleasant surprise of vandalism at our forest school site. Visitors had popped in and caused damage to our structures, left litter and general chaos. Luckily, we have an amazing group of family and friends who gave up their time one weekend to refresh and repair. The children were surprised the following week to arrive to new dens and fire circle and have been busy enjoying it ever since.

As the year started racing towards a close we still had a lot to fit in. School transitions began with children leaving for visits at their new schools. We held two knighting ceremonies in the woods to send them off in style. Unfortunately, the weather didn't allow a sports day but we managed to arrange a leavers ceremony inside to say good luck to those leaving and wish everyone a lovely summer.

The fun doesn't stop there! We may have broken up for the holidays but we kept busy with holiday clubs and open mornings. Holiday clubs in the forest, complete with berry bashing, treasure hunts and clay models. Open mornings for our September starters to meet us and become familiar with the room. Both were really well supported and hopefully helpful to our new families.

Another busy year! As I'm sure you can tell, GEP is a huge team effort. We are so lucky to have so many incredible people in our community who give their time, skills and love to us. We simply couldn't carry on without it. Thank you, thank you.

Sophie and Pauline x

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Chair's report
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Our trustees for the year were:

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Laura Darwin	

The role of Secretary was shared during the year.

Structure, governance, and management
The pre-school operates under the Pre-school Learning Alliance Model Constitution 2011 which was approved by the Charity Commission on 29th October 2014.

Membership of the Pre-school is divided into two kinds:
(a) Family Membership - Parents or guardians of all children who attend the group.
(b) Affiliate Membership - Affiliate Membership is open to those individuals, organisations or other bodies interested in supporting the aims of the Pre-school.

The overall management and control of the Pre-school rests with the Pre-school's management committee ("the committee"). As well as being responsible for the management of the Pre-school the Committee members are also the charity trustees of the Preschool. Committee member are elected for one year at the Annual General Meeting.

The Committee consists of:
A Chair, a Treasurer, and a Secretary ("the Officers"); and
Not less than 2 nor more than 9 other elected Members; and
If the Committee decides it can co-opt up to 3 further Members onto the Committee at any time after the AGM.

Together, the committee are the 'registered person' with Ofsted and have overall responsibility for ensuring the childcare provision meets the terms of Ofsted registration and the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage framework. To comply with safeguarding requirements all new Committee members are required to complete a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check online before they can be added to an Ofsted registration. We have a trustee induction programme and support new committee members during this process.

One trustee who regularly volunteered during the year received a contribution towards petrol expenses. The additional member of staff enabled us to maintain our child numbers while supporting a child with SEN.

Cont./

The day-to-day running of the pre-school is delegated to our Supervisors and the team:

Sophie Grant	Supervisor (Monday/Tuesday), Deputy Supervisor (Wednesday/Friday)
Pauline Bowman	Supervisor (Wednesday/Friday), Deputy Supervisor (Monday/Tuesday)
Donna Booth	SENCO
Rachel Wright	Forest school leader (Wednesday)
Kirsty Fish	Assistant
Paula Greenhalgh	Assistant
Libby Eaton	FS assistant
Julia Pritchard	FS assistant (Supply cover)
Paula Pawson	FS assistant (Supply cover)

The high number of staff reflects our commitment to offering outdoor opportunities such as forest school and woodland adventure. We meet or exceed the ratio and qualification requirements as set out in the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework.

Our aims
The aims of the pre-school are to enhance the development and education of children primarily under statutory school age by offering appropriate play, education, and care.

We provide an environment where each child can develop and fulfil their potential; build their self-confidence and gain the skills and experience they need to make the most of their early years in school.

Our ethos
GEP is a rural Peak District pre-school which provides a forward thinking, unhurried and playful approach to early learning. We have eight core principles that we apply every day:

We believe that children learn best through play
We prepare children for school, but we don't mimic school
We promote child-led play as an essential part of children's learning
We balance free play with focussed, adult led group learning
We believe that children should be engaged, not occupied, at pre-school
We provide experiences which are meaningful to our children
We manage behaviour positively
We value outdoor play as a valuable childhood experience

"Play is essential for children's development, building their confidence as they learn to explore, relate to others, set their own goals and solve problems. Children learn by leading their own play, and by taking part in play which is guided by adults."

Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage

Cont./

Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup is registered with Ofsted (URN206778), is a registered charity in England and Wales (1036608) and a member of the Early Years Alliance (33927).

Pupil numbers and fees
In 2021-22 we had 33 children from 33 families accessing our pre-school.

A recent survey of families who left at the end of this year has brought in some wonderful feedback about the setting and the staff:

"It is an excellent play group and we were sad to leave! Both children thrived there and grew in confidence. They were known as individuals and well cared for. The outdoors ethos is brilliant for children and enabled them to explore and love family walks too."

"Playgroup is a wonderful place to be. My daughter was so happy there. The staff were the best ever and cared so much about the children and their learning."

"They have been amazing, my son was always excited to be going, he loved all the staff there and always ran off happy and ready to get stuck in."

"Going out in all weathers. Forest school. Simple routines, rituals, calmness. Singing. Long serving staff."

Our fees for children aged two to three years (up to the term of their 3rd birthday) were set at £5.00 per hour. In May 2022, the Committee agreed to increase the rate to £5.50 per hour with effect from September 2022.

Fees for children in receipt of the Early Years Free Entitlement are determined by Derbyshire County Council. The year started with a rate of £4.16 per hour which increased to £4.30 per hour with effect from the Summer term. The rate for funded two-year olds increased to £5.57 in April 2022. The rate charged for hours taken in addition to the 15-hour free entitlement was set at £5.00 per hour, the Committee agreed to increase this figure to £6.00 per hour with effect from September 2022.

Staffing
We invested in staff training courses throughout the year demonstrating our commitment to meeting our statutory requirements and supporting our staff's professional development. Subjects covered included Safeguarding, 1st aid, SENCO training, Exploring & developing each child's cultural capital, Behaviour – strategies that work, Child Development, Supporting Children with SEN and Assessment.

At the end of the year we said goodbye to Karen, we wish her well in her new role training the early years practitioners of the future.

Volunteers
We had three volunteers during the year who helped to run our mud kitchen toddler group. This popular drop-in session is a good fundraiser and also enables parents and children to visit the setting which helps with settling in the future. We would like to thank the parents who shared the task throughout the year.

Cont./

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Planning for the future

A child's early years are the foundation for his or her future development, providing a strong base for lifelong learning and learning abilities, including cognitive and social development. Well-established research continues to emphasize the importance of early childhood education as an essential building block of a child's future success. So, it is imperative we safeguard the future of our group as we believe that what we offer is special and worth protecting.

We are committed to continue to offer these wonderful opportunities, but we recognize they come at a cost with the high staff levels required to create the caring environment that makes the group so special. The trustees will continue to support the group and find ways to supplement our income.

Next year we need to look at how we can maintain our support through grant applications and our own fundraising efforts.

I would like to thank our local community for their ongoing support; including the GPFA, Eyam Half Marathon committee and the Queen Anne Inn.

Finally, I would like to thank our trustees and staff team for their continued hard work and dedication – your enthusiasm for providing high quality early years education remains our greatest strength.

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Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup

Treasurer's Report 2022-23

Our finances
This was a better year as income matched expenditure, with the total changing little from last year. We continue to rely on fundraising and donations to cover our outgoings.

Our fee income for the year was £57,634, an increase from last year of 7.5%. 60% of our fee income comes from the Early Year's Free Entitlement, a total of £35,009. Our fees from self-funded children totalled £22,625.

Our fundraising was very successful thanks to the support of our local community and families. The events relied on their generosity and willingness to help run events.

£536 was raised by our Autumn term raffle. Our thanks to local businesses and parents for donating prizes.
£338 was raised by a cream tea held in Eyam. This event was made possible by the donation of jam and cream from The Cream Tea Society. We would also like to thank everyone who donated prizes for the tombola stall and everyone who helped on the day.
£374 was raised by our quiz night and raffle. Many thanks to everyone who supported the event.
£426 was raised by our regular mud kitchen group, our thanks to the team of volunteers who kept it running throughout the year.
£100 was raised by the clothes collection scheme, many thanks to everyone who has contributed.
£94 was raised by our water or wine stall at the Grindleford Show. Our thanks to everyone who donated wine for the stall.
£26 was raised by our game at Eyam Carnival.
£145 was raised by our collection tins. This year our tins have been placed in the Miners Arms, Eyam Post Office, Stoney Middleton Chip Shop and Grindleford Community shop.
£41 was raised through Amazon Smile before the scheme closed. Easyfundraising raised £17.
£20 was raised through football card games.
£120 was raised by selling recipe books. A further £24 from selling donated goods.

Our fundraising total for the year was £2,261 (£2,134 net of expenses) a wonderful achievement for the group.

Once again, we ran a holiday club in the Summer break which raised £904 (£197 net of wages and sundry expenses) compared with £740 (£290 net of wages and sundry expenses). While the holiday club was popular we were not full on all sessions which explains the reduced profit.

Donations and grants received during the year totalled £4,143; a further grant of £2,000 for use in 2022-23 was received in 21-22.

We received the following donations and grants this year:
£1,500 was received from the Pigeon Club/Queen Anne Pub
£500 was received from Eyam Half Marathon
£500 was received from Eyam & District Darts League
£1,073 in snack donations – a very generous contribution which covered our snack and hygiene costs; thank you so much to our parents for embracing this voluntary donation.
£60 via Benevity, a scheme which enables employees to support charities through their employer.
In addition, we received £275 Gift Aid on donations made during 2021-22.

Cont./

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Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup

Treasurer's Report 2022-23

The following grants were restricted to a specific purpose.
We received £500 from the Eyam Half Marathon to purchase play equipment. This has been used to purchase new soft bodied dolls £86; stepping stones for patio play £54; small world figures including sets representing differing abilities and cultures £232; boats for water play £36; tactile ball set £35 and a set of wooden triangles £20. The remaining £37 has been carried forward to next year.
We were fortunate enough to have been selected as a Co-op charity again in 2022-23 with funds raised supporting our aim of helping the children learn how to grow their own produce and to prepare, cook and provide a healthy diet. This money has been paid into our 23-24 accounting period.

A grant of £2,000 to cover the cost of employing a forest school assistant during 2022-23 was received from the Growing Golden Opportunity Award. This grant has been spent in full.

An update on restricted grants received in previous years.
Funds received from Kinder Kids preschool to enhance the playgroup has been used this year to purchase replacement tables £341; a gazebo for summer events £170; a new outdoor cloakroom £85 and a step ladder for the store room £48. The remaining £181 was carried forward to 2023-24 and used to purchase a new laptop.
Funds received from Eyam Half marathon received in 21-22 to purchase play equipment has been used in full. A new unit for storing play activities £115 and a basket for the story corner £19 was purchased.

A huge debt of gratitude is owed to everyone who contributes by donating or volunteering; our pre-school is very special, and we thank everyone who helps to protect it's future.

Our costs this year were £69,852.

Our combined staff and forest school leader costs of £57,216 account for 82% of our total costs.

Our rental costs of £6,573 accounts for 9% of our cost. Our hourly rate increased from £8.50 to £10.00 per hours an increase of 18%; rising costs will result in regular rent increases.

We spent £1,540 on equipment during the year. Items purchased with grants amounted to £1,241 details above. Other purchases included £52 for wooden shape activity; £36 for animal jigsaw set; £31 for a new rug; £16 for a paper making frame; £32 improving home corner; £29 improving the book corner; £16 replacing cups; £13 for dance ribbons; £10 for new items to include in sensory bottles and £8 for new dustpan and brush.

Our training costs for the year were £229. Our focus was statutory training with staff attending 1st aid, safeguarding and Health and safety courses.

Fundraising costs have increased slightly from £93 to £116. We paid £40 to rent the room used for the cream tea; renewed our lottery license for £20; spent £33 on printing raffle tickets and £22 was spent producing the recipe books.

All expenditure on fundraising has seen a good return on the expenditure with events raising much needed funds.

Cont./

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Our sundry costs are £2,673; a small increase on last year's expenditure. Our largest outgoings are snacks (£649); hygiene products (£344); volunteer petrol expense (£480) and baking (£154). Other costs included our payroll package (£175); membership of the Early Years Alliance (£118); Ofsted registration (£50); website (£72) and mobile phone top-ups (£30). Two card payments totalling £10 made in error have been refunded.

The volunteer petrol expenses were paid to a regular volunteer who formed part of the staff team allowing the group to admit additional children which increased our fee income. The volunteer also covered staff absences which helped reduce staffing costs.

Our costs on materials have decreased to £316. Printer ink is a major part of this at £106.

We end the year with a closing cash balance of £34,658, an increase of £318 of which £218 are restricted funds.

Analysis of the figures shows that without the income brought in by donations and fundraising our closing balance would have shown a deficit of £5,470. This deficit has been offset by the following funds Growing Golden donation (£2,000), Kinder Kids donation (£644), Eyam Half Marathon donation 21-22 (£134), DCC discretionary grant (£410), Snack donation (£1,073) and Fundraising (£1,209).

The remaining income from fundraising and donations will be added to our reserve. We monitor the level of our reserve to ensure we keep sufficient funds to cover costs such as redundancy and final salary payments and top up as necessary. A portion of our reserves is allocated to cover any budget shortfall during the year.

Planning for the future

We are cautiously optimistic following the recent government promise that funding rates will match rising costs.

We welcome the introduction of funded childcare for two year olds which offers support to working families. We will monitor how these changes impact the group. The current hourly rate providing hope that our finances may take an upturn.

The trustees will continue to search out opportunities to support the group and to bring in grants. We also hope that fundraising continues to provide further opportunities to increase our income.

It is important we continue these efforts to maintain our reserve fund and protect the playgroup's future.

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Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup

Thank you!

We want to take this opportunity to thank our many volunteers and supporters for their wonderful dedication and hard work.

Whether it was updating our website, looking after our accounts or helping out at one of our fundraisers – we could not have done any of this without you and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

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Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup
Financial Statements
1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023

Analysis of receipts and payments for the year ending 31 August 2023

	Notes	2023	2022
Receipts			
Fees		57,634	53,604
Fundraising		2,261	2,929
Milk Grant		274	236
Grants / Donations - Restricted		500	2,986
Grants / Donations - Unrestricted		3,643	3,494
Holiday club		904	800
Sundries	A	4,818	8,253
Bank Interest		136	6
Total Receipts		70,171	72,308
Payments			
Wages		55,931	57,058
Forest School Leaders		1,285	1,520
Rent		6,573	6,239
Milk		278	236
Equipment		1,540	2,629
Materials		316	381
Fundraising		116	93
Training		229	685
Sundries	B	2,673	2,266
Insurance		741	719
Holiday club	C	172	113
Total Payments		69,852	71,938
Increase in cash		**318**	**371**
Cash balance			
Opening cash balance		34,340	33,970
Closing cash balance		34,658	34,340
Increase in cash		**318**	**371**

Notes

A - SEN funding, gift aid on donations received 2021-22 and refunds for items

B - this figure includes petrol expenses for volunteer, Early Years Alliance membership, gifts, staff uniform, website, Ofsted, mobile phone top-up and payroll package

C -this figure does not include staff wages estimated at £536

Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup
Financial Statements
1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023

Statement of assets and liabilities as at 31 August 2023

	Notes	2023	2022
Assets			
Cash			
Petty cash		461	451
Reserve account		26,000	24,004
Current account		8,197	9,885
Total cash		34,658	34,340

Notes

Receivables

We are also due the following receipts / incurred expenses:

HMRC - Gift Aid (estimated)		100	270
Total receivables		100	270

We also hold assets in the form of play equipment that is insured for £10,000.

Liabilities

Training costs		0	0

Payables

The following payments are outstanding:			
Sundry creditors	A	407	317
Total payables		407	317

Notes

A - HMRC £286, Pension contributions £121

Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup
Financial Statements
1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023

Additional analysis for the year ending 31 August 2023

	Notes	2023	2022
Receipts - Fundraising			
Easy Fundraising/Amazon Smile		58	27
Carnival Stall / Grindleford Show		120	221
Mud Kitchen		426	353
Sale of goods inc cookbooks		144	107
Collection tins		145	183
Clothes collection		100	341
Raffles/quiz nights		910	1,184
Cream tea		338	473
Football cards		20	40
Total		2,261	2,929
Payments - Sundries			
Snacks		649	545
Gifts	A	230	170
Hygiene		344	286
Baking		154	171
DBS		0	0
Payroll		175	173
Fire		69	61
Annual ofsted fee		50	50
Pre-school learning alliance membership		118	115
Recruitment		0	0
Other sundries	B	776	567
Staff uniforms		108	129
Total		2,673	2,266

Notes

A - Gifts includes children's gifts £22; thank you gift £20; staff gifts £188

B - this includes volunteer petrol expenses £480; website hosting £72; mobile phone top-ups £30; lunch for staff £22; Grindleford show advert £20

Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup
Financial Statements
1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023

Additional analysis for the year ending 31 August 2023

	Notes	2023	2022
Grants / Donations - Restricted			
Local projects fund		0	0
Community Leadership Scheme		0	0
Foundation Derbyshire		0	0
Co-op Community Fund		0	486
Kinder Kids	A	0	0
Eyam Half Marathon	B	500	500
Growing Golden Opportunity	C	0	2000
Total Restricted Grants / Donations		500	2,986
Grants / Donations - Unrestricted			
Queen Anne/Pigeon club		1500	1,000
Grindleford School PTA		0	500
Donations to GEP		70	503
Snack Donations		1073	992
Parish council		0	500
Eyam half marathon		500	
Eyam & district dart league		500	
Total Unrestricted Grants / Donations		3,643	3,495

Notes

A - monies donated by Kinder Kids to be used for benefit of playgroup. £644 spent this year leaving £181 to spend

B - Eyam half marathon donation received in 2021-22 spent in full. Donation receved in 2022-23 to be used to purchase play equipment £37 carried forward

C - Growing Golden donation received at end of 2021-22 year but to be spent in 2022-23 to fund forest school assistant, spent in full

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name: GRINDLEFORD + EYAM PLAYGROUP

On accounts for the year ended: 31 AUGUST 2023

Charity no (if any): 1036608

Set out on pages: 1-4 (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's trustees, 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 all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

~~[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. *Delete [ ] if not applicable.*~~

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material *respect*:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- 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.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed: SLCrooker **Date:** 3/4/24

Name: S L CROOKES

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body: ACCA MAAT

(if any):	
Address:	FORESTERS COTTAGE
	WATER LANE
	ELHAM 532 5[illegible]

Section B	Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material 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.

GRINDLEFORD AND EYAM PLAYGROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1036608

Accounts

Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup

Annual Report 2022

Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup

Happy times

Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup is registered with Ofsted (URN206778), is a registered charity in England and Wales (1036608) and a member of the Early Years Alliance (33927).

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Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup is registered with Ofsted (URN206778), is a registered charity in England and Wales (1036608) and a member of the Early Years Alliance (33927).

Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup

Welcome!

Welcome to Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup's 2022 Annual Report

About our Annual Report

2021-22 has been another exciting year for us and we look forward to sharing this with you. Our Annual Report provides you with information about GEP's activities for the 2021-22 academic year through the Supervisor's, Trustee's and Treasurer's reports including our financial statements.

Thanks for reading, thanks for being part of

Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup

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Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup

Supervisor's Report 2021-22

The cloud of Covid still very much hung over us as our new year started but we were excited to be back and able to welcome friends old and new into Playgroup. Precautionary measures remained in place meaning we had to continue with our drop off policy at the door. It was tough but the children were super resilient, and all settled in so well.

Karen started her Early Years teacher training which took her off to different placements during the year but it was interesting to hear about her experiences and examples of good practice. We also benefitted from her time at Hallam University where she had the opportunity to develop her knowledge and skills which could be shared with the whole team.

We were able to restart mud kitchen in the October which bought a slice of normality to proceedings. It provided a chance for local families to meet and children to socialise and play which was much needed. Unfortunately, rising cases of Covid meant the group had to be paused in December, re-opening in March. We would like to thank the parent volunteers who ran the group this year.

The weather played a part in our year with a one-day closure in November due to snow - the children were excited by the snowman that appeared on the field – it was even taller than Pauline. Flooding in February brought temporary disruption as equipment was rescued from the understore. New racking has allowed us to bring much of our equipment upstairs which will help reduce the impact of any future floods.

This was our first full year at our new forest school site which was really exciting. Pauline, Rachel and the team worked hard throughout the year to introduce structures such as a fire circle, dens and tree train for children to enjoy. Memories were made, masterpieces created and lots of fun had up there over the course of the year.

Cont./

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We were really pleased to start our Monday baking session again. It is wonderful to see the enjoyment and enthusiasm the children bring to each new recipe. Often linked to a seasonal theme or story the children made bread; fruit skewers and vegetable crips – healthy and fun.

One of the highlights of the year was being able to invite Hope Valley Honey in to visit the children. Of course, they didn't come alone! They bought the bees with them! They explained to us all about hives, honeycomb and honey. The children absolutely loved learning new things and watching as the bees got busy. We followed up the visit with lots of activities, from honeycomb candles to bee spotting at the allotment. We would love to continue this initiative and invite other local groups in to talk to the children.

One of our favourite activities is story telling; snuggled up in our cosy book corner the children enjoy much-loved classics such as Room on the Broom, The Hungry Caterpillar, and The Gruffalo. Inspired by stories such as The Little Red Hen and the Enormous Turnip the Autumn term saw the children using pestles and mortars to grind grain and helping to make delicious soup using the vegetables from the allotment. Our story at the end of the session is also a very special time. The children are invited to join us in storyland with a song and treated to a snack and drink as the staff member tells the story. These traditional fairy tales and nature stories often have a simple moral encouraging kindness, generosity, fairness and respect for others.

In preparation for the end of year the children made the wooden sword which would be used in the Knighting Ceremony. This event and our Sport's Day are really special occasions and we treasure the times when parents join us to celebrate the end of the year and the children leaving us for school. The sun shone making them special days for everyone.

The end of the year also meant we had to say goodbye to Karen. She had been with us for 4 years, bringing enthusiasm every day and some ambitious new recipes to our baking sessions. She had a new chapter to begin and we wish her all the best.

As always, fundraising was a huge part of our year. We held the soggiest ball race in history, a hugely successful cream tea morning, as well as a quiz night and raffle, clothing collections, football cards and many more. We are extremely grateful for all of the support and generosity of our families and local community. We are so lucky to have the community we do. Friends, family, neighbours, committee, staff and children. Thank you.

Sophie and Pauline

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Report of the trustees for the year ending 31 August 2022

Chair's report
Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup (GEP) is a registered charity, No. 1036608.
Our trustees for the year were:

Helen Wakerley	Chair
Elizabeth Tiplady	Treasurer
Clare Harley	
Ruth Nuttall	

The role of Secretary was shared during the year.

Structure, governance, and management
The pre-school operates under the Pre-school Learning Alliance Model Constitution 2011 which was approved by the Charity Commission on 29th October 2014.

Membership of the Pre-school is divided into two kinds:
(a) Family Membership - Parents or guardians of all children who attend the group.
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The overall management and control of the Pre-school rests with the Pre-school's management committee ("the committee"). As well as being responsible for the management of the Pre-school the Committee members are also the charity trustees of the Preschool. Committee member are elected for one year at the Annual General Meeting.

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All trustees give their time freely and no remuneration or expenses were paid in the year.

Cont./

The day-to-day running of the pre-school is delegated to our Supervisors and the team:

Sophie Grant	Supervisor (Monday/Tuesday), Deputy Supervisor (Wednesday/Friday)
Pauline Bowman	Supervisor (Wednesday/Friday), Deputy Supervisor (Monday/Tuesday)
Donna Booth	SENCO
Rachel Wright	Forest school leader (Wednesday)
Karen Entwisle	Assistant
Kirsty Fish	Assistant
Libby Eaton	FS assistant
Paula Pawson	FS assistant (Supply cover)

The high number of staff reflects our commitment to offering outdoor opportunities such as forest school and woodland adventure. We meet or exceed the ratio and qualification requirements as set out in the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework.

Our aims
The aims of the pre-school are to enhance the development and education of children primarily under statutory school age by offering appropriate play, education, and care.

We provide an environment where each child can develop and fulfil their potential; build their self-confidence and gain the skills and experience they need to make the most of their early years in school.

Our ethos
GEP is a rural Peak District pre-school which provides a forward thinking, unhurried and playful approach to early learning. We have eight core principles that we apply every day:

We believe that children learn best through play
We prepare children for school, but we don't mimic school
We promote child-led play as an essential part of children's learning
We balance free play with focussed, adult led group learning
We believe that children should be engaged, not occupied, at pre-school
We provide experiences which are meaningful to our children
We manage behaviour positively
We value outdoor play as a valuable childhood experience

"Play is essential for children's development, building their confidence as they learn to explore, relate to others, set their own goals and solve problems. Children learn by leading their own play, and by taking part in play which is guided by adults."

Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage

Cont./

Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup is registered with Ofsted (URN206778), is a registered charity in England and Wales (1036608) and a member of the Early Years Alliance (33927).

Pupil numbers and fees
In 2021-22 we had 33 children from 33 families accessing our pre-school.

A recent survey of families who left at the end of this year has brought in some wonderful feedback about the setting and the staff:

"It is an excellent play group and we were sad to leave! Both children thrived there and grew in confidence. They were known as individuals and well cared for. The outdoors ethos is brilliant for children and enabled them to explore and love family walks too."

"Playgroup is a wonderful place to be. My daughter was so happy there. The staff were the best ever and cared so much about the children and their learning."

"They have been amazing, my son was always excited to be going, he loved all the staff there and always ran off happy and ready to get stuck in."

"Going out in all weathers. Forest school. Simple routines, rituals, calmness. Singing. Long serving staff."

Our fees for children aged two to three years (up to the term of their 3rd birthday) were set at £5.00 per hour. In May 2022, the Committee agreed to increase the rate to £5.50 per hour with effect from September 2022.

Fees for children in receipt of the Early Years Free Entitlement are determined by Derbyshire County Council. The year started with a rate of £4.16 per hour which increased to £4.30 per hour with effect from the Summer term. The rate for funded two-year olds increased to £5.57 in April 2022. The rate charged for hours taken in addition to the 15-hour free entitlement was set at £5.00 per hour, the Committee agreed to increase this figure to £6.00 per hour with effect from September 2022.

Staffing
We invested in staff training courses throughout the year demonstrating our commitment to meeting our statutory requirements and supporting our staff's professional development. Subjects covered included Safeguarding, 1st aid, SENCO training, Exploring & developing each child's cultural capital, Behaviour – strategies that work, Child Development, Supporting Children with SEN and Assessment.

At the end of the year we said goodbye to Karen, we wish her well in her new role training the early years practitioners of the future.

Volunteers
We had four volunteers during the year who helped to run our mud kitchen toddler group. This popular drop-in session is a good fundraiser and also enables parents and children to visit the setting which helps with settling in the future. We would like to thank the parents who shared the task throughout the year.

Cont./

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Planning for the future

A child's early years are the foundation for his or her future development, providing a strong base for lifelong learning and learning abilities, including cognitive and social development. Well-established research continues to emphasize the importance of early childhood education as an essential building block of a child's future success. So, it is imperative we safeguard the future of our group as we believe that what we offer is special and worth protecting.

We are committed to continue to offer these wonderful opportunities, but we recognize they come at a cost with the high staff levels required to create the caring environment that makes the group so special. The trustees will continue to support the group and find ways to supplement our income.

Next year we need to look at how we can maintain our support through grant applications and our own fundraising efforts.

I would like to thank our local community for their ongoing support; including the GPFA, the Parish Council, Grindleford PTA and Eyam Half Marathon committee.

Finally, I would like to thank our trustees and staff team for their continued hard work and dedication – your enthusiasm for providing high quality early years education remains our greatest strength.

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Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup

Treasurer's Report 2021-22

Our finances

This was a particularly challenging year as income from fees dropped by £7,548. Once again income from donations, fundraising and an employers incentive payment from Sheffield Hallam was needed to cover the significant shortfall in our budget.

Our fee income for the year was £53,604, a decrease from last year of 12.3%. The decrease is in part due to delayed uptake of places throughout the year and the high number of children attending half days. It is difficult to find the correct balance between filling places versus meeting the needs of our families. 56.5% of our fee income comes from the Early Year's Free Entitlement, a total of £30,283. Our fees from self-funded children totalled £23,321.

Our fundraising was very successful thanks to the support of our local community and families. The events relied on their generosity and willingness to help run events.

£739 was raised by our Ball Race. Our thanks to Castlegate Farm for the use of the equipment and to local businesses and parents for donating prizes.
£473 was raised by a cream tea held in Eyam. This event was made possible by the donation of jam and cream from The Cream Tea Society. We would also like to thank everyone who donated prizes for the tombola stall and everyone who helped on the day.
£445 was raised by our quiz night and raffle. Many thanks to everyone who supported the event.
£353 was raised by our regular mud kitchen group, our thanks to the team of volunteers who kept it running throughout the year.
£341 was raised by the clothes/ink cartridge collection scheme, many thanks to everyone who has contributed.
£166 was raised by our water or wine stall at the Grindleford Show. Our thanks to everyone who donated wine for the stall.
£55 was raised by our coconut shy at Grindleford Carnival.
£183 was raised by our collection tins. This year our tins have been placed in the Miners Arms, Eyam Post Office, Stoney Middleton Chip Shop and The Queen Anne pub.
£27 was raised through Amazon Smile. This scheme has now closed so we should encourage parents to sign up to Easyfundraising.
£40 was raised through football card games.
£79 was raised by selling quiz sheets, £20 from selling reindeer food and £8 from the sale of Hill Climb T-shirts.

Our fundraising total for the year was £2,929 (£2,817 net of expenses) a great improvement on last years figure.

This year we ran one holiday club in the Summer break which raised £740 (£290 net of wages and sundry expenses) compared with £890 (£154 net of wages and sundry expenses). The holiday club was very popular and we were full on all three sessions; a volunteer helper at each session kept our wage bill low.

Donations and grants received during the year totalled £6,481; this figure includes a grant of £2,000 held for use in 2022-23 so this is significantly lower than last year's total £7,757.

Cont./

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Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup

Treasurer's Report 2021-22

We received the following donations and grants this year:
£1,000 was received from the Pigeon Club/Queen Anne Pub
£500 was received from Grindleford Parish Council
£500 was received from Grindleford PTA
£992 in snack donations – a very generous contribution which covered our snack and hygiene costs; thank you so much to our parents for embracing this voluntary donation.
£500 was donated by preschool families
£3 via Benevity, a scheme which enables employees to support charities through their employer.
In addition, we received £324 Gift Aid on donations made during 2020-21.

The following grants were restricted to a specific purpose.
We received £500 from the Eyam Half Marathon to purchase play equipment including a new dressing up trolley. The trolley cost £368 leaving £132 to be spent in 2022-23.
We received our second payment of £468 from the Co-op community fund. The total amount £843 was spent supporting our forest school costs over the year as well as purchasing equipment to improve the provision. We are fortunate enough to have been selected as a Co-op charity again in 2022-23 with funds raised supporting our aim of helping the children learn how to grow their own produce and to prepare, cook and provide a healthy diet.
Funds received from Kinder Kids preschool to enhance the playgroup has been used this year to purchase and install racking in the storeroom, a storage box for outdoor equipment and a new outdoor cloakroom; a total of £1,889. The remaining £826 has carried forward to 2022-23.

A grant of £2,000 to cover the cost of employing a forest school assistant during 2022-23 was received from the Growing Golden Opportunity Award.

We received an incentive payment of £7,000 to contribute towards costs incurred by the playgroup in supporting and employing a trainee during their training.

A huge debt of gratitude is owed to everyone who contributes by donating or volunteering; our pre-school is very special, and we thank everyone who helps to protect it's future.

Our costs this year were £71,938.

Our combined staff and forest school leader costs of £58,578 account for 81% of our total costs.

Our rental costs of £6,239 accounts for 9% of our costs; our hourly rate remained the same throughout the year.

We spent £2,629 on equipment during the year. Items purchased with grants amounted to £2,389 including £1,056 for outdoor storage; £616 for racking in store room; £368 for a new dressing up trolley; £248 for Forest school and £101 for a new outdoor cloakroom. Other purchases included new fencing for patio (£47); replacement wooden vehicles (£40); wooden rainbows (£34) ; bird feeder for the allotment (£24) and a new toaster (£21).

Cont./

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Our training costs for the year were £685. £429 was spent on refreshing statutory training in 1st aid, including outdoor; food hygiene and safeguarding. A further £75 was spent on SENCO training; £50 to send two staff on Exploring & developing each child's cultural capital, £50 to send two staff on an Assessment training course; £ 25 on Behaviour – strategies that work; £28 on Child Development and £28 on Supporting Children with SEN.

Fundraising costs have decreased from £252 to £93. We paid £40 to rent the room used for the cream tea; renewed our lottery license for £20 and spent £19 on printing raffle tickets. Prizes for Carnival Day cost £10. All expenditure on fundraising has seen a good return on the expenditure with events raising much needed funds.

Our sundry costs are £1,886; down on last year's expenditure. Our largest outgoings are snacks (£545); hygiene products (£286); baking (£171) and new staff uniform (£129). Other costs included our membership of the Early Years Alliance (£115); National Trust site licence (£72); Ofsted registration (£50); Wordpress renewal (£36) and mobile phone top-ups (£40). A card payment made to Amazon Prime in error has been refunded.

Our costs on materials have increased to £381. Printer ink is a major part of this at £156.

We end the year with a closing cash balance of £34,340, of which £2,958 are restricted funds. We will monitor the level of our reserve where we keep sufficient funds to cover costs such as redundancy and final salary payments and top up as necessary. In addition, we assign a portion of our reserves to cover any budget shortfall during the year this additional money puts us in a strong position for the coming year.

Planning for the future

If we compare our business income and expenditure less the purchases made using our restricted grants we see that the group was facing a loss of £6,687. We are fortunate enough to have funds to cover this loss including the discretionary grant from Derbyshire County Council; donations from parents and local organisations and our fundraising.

We can attribute some of this shortfall to the spaces we had during the Autumn term as well as the number of children attending half days. When we are completing admissions for a school year it is a difficult balance between meeting parents needs and budgets. Often families want to wait to take up a place until they are eligible for the free entitlement but this can leave the playgroup with an empty space for a term. There is also the balance of supporting local families or filling spaces with families from further afield; I hope we get the balance right but the underlying problem of underfunding of the early years sector will keep budgets at the forefront of our thinking.

In the current climate of rising costs putting a strain on individuals budgets fundraising may be a challenge and we will need to find new and innovative ways to bring in extra money as well as seeking out grants and donations to make up the difference. I believe we are in a strong position for next year thanks to the efforts of the trustees to bring in funding through local grants but we must continue these efforts to maintain our reserve fund and protect the playgroup's future.

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Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup

Thank you!

We want to take this opportunity to thank our many volunteers and supporters for their wonderful dedication and hard work.

Whether it was updating our website, looking after our accounts or helping out at one of our fundraisers – we could not have done any of this without you and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Thank you for lending a hand!

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Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup
Financial Statements
1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022

Analysis of receipts and payments for the year ending 31 August 2022

	Notes	2022	2021
Receipts			
Fees		53,604	61,152
Fundraising		2,929	1,811
Milk Grant		236	246
Grants / Donations - Restricted		2,986	5,045
Grants / Donations - Unrestricted		3,494	2,712
Holiday club	A	800	830
Sundries	B	8,253	3,137
Bank Interest		6	2
Total Receipts		72,308	74,935
Payments			
Wages		57,058	53,300
Forest School Leaders		1,520	1,520
Rent		6,239	6,698
Milk		236	246
Equipment		2,629	824
Materials		381	298
Fundraising		93	252
Training		685	334
Sundries	C	2,266	2,681
Insurance		719	711
Holiday club	D	113	178
Total Payments		71,938	67,042
Increase in cash		**371**	**7,894**
Cash balance			
Opening cash balance		33,970	26,076
Closing cash balance		34,340	33,970
Increase in cash		**371**	**7,894**

Notes

A - this figure includes £60 owed from 2020-21

B - figure includes employer incentive payment, SEN funding, gift aid and SSP

C- figure includes racking installation cost, staff/children's gifts, new uniform, Early Years Alliance membership, Ofsted fee, Payroll package

D -this figure does not include staff wages estimated at £336

M Bell 12/6/23

Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup
Financial Statements
1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022

Statement of assets and liabilities as at 31 August 2022

	Notes	2022	2021
Assets			
Cash			
Petty cash		451	215
Reserve account		24,004	21,001
Current account		9,885	12,753
Total cash		34,340	33,970

Notes

Receivables

We are also due the following receipts / incurred expenses:

HMRC - Gift Aid (estimated)		270	320
Total receivables		270	320

We also hold assets in the form of play equipment that is insured for £10,000.

Liabilities

Training costs		0	0

Payables

The following payments are outstanding:			
Sundry creditors	A	317	338
Total payables		317	338

Notes

A - HMRC £207, Pension contributions £110

12/6/23

Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup
Financial Statements
1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022

Additional analysis for the year ending 31 August 2022

	Notes	2022	2021
Receipts - Fundraising			
Easy Fundraising/Amazon Smile		27	43
Carnival Stall / Grindleford Show		221	55
Mud Kitchen		353	0
Sale of goods		107	25
Collection tins		183	56
Clothes/ink collection		341	436
Tea towel sales		0	360
Ball race/raffle		1,184	836
Cream tea		473	0
Football cards		40	0
Total		2,929	1,811
Payments - *Sundries*			
Snacks		545	584
Gifts	A	170	238
Hygiene		286	564
Baking		171	29
DBS		0	145
Payroll		173	173
Fire		61	7
Annual ofsted fee		50	50
Pre-school learning alliance membership		115	108
Recruitment		0	0
Other sundries	B	567	696
Staff uniforms		129	86
Total		2,266	2,681

Notes

A - Gifts includes children's gifts £12; leaving gift £20; thank you gift £6; staff gifts

B - racking installation £178; National Trust site licence £72; sports day medals £23; mobile phone top-up £40; website plan £36; university course resources £37; Grindleford show advert £30

12/6/23

Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup
Financial Statements
1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022

Additional analysis for the year ending 31 August 2022

	Notes	2022	2021
Grants / Donations - Restricted			
Local projects fund		0	126
Community Leadership Scheme	A	0	0
Foundation Derbyshire		0	1,500
Co-op Community Fund	B	486	357
Kinder Kids	C	0	3,062
Eyam Half Marathon	D	500	0
Growing Golden Opportunity	E	2000	0
Total Restricted Grants / Donations		2,986	5,045
Grants / Donations - Unrestricted			
Queen Anne/Pigeon club		1000	0
Grindleford School PTA		500	0
Donations to GEP		503	630
HMRC - Gift Aid			589
Snack Donations		992	1082
Parish council		500	0
Tesco bags for life community grant		0	1,000
Total Unrestricted Grants / Donations		3,495	3,301

Notes

A - the £200 carried forward from 2019-20 has been spent in full

B - second payment of monies raised through Co-op Community Fund to be used to improve our forest school, spent in full

C - monies donated by Kinder Kids to be used for benefit of playgroup. £1,889 spent this year leaving £826 to spend

D - money donated to purchase replacement dressing up trolley, £132 to spend

E - Growing Golden Opportunity grant to be spent in 2022-23 academic year

12/6/23

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: GRINDLEFORD & EYAM PLAYGROUP

On accounts for the year ended 31 AUGUST 2022 **Charity no (if any)** 1036608

Set out on pages 1 - 4 (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 .

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: [signature] **Date:** 12/6/23

Name: MARK BELL BA FCA

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any): FCA ICAEW

Address: GORSE RIDGE
OVER LANE
BASLOW DE45 1RT

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.

NONE

GRINDLEFORD AND EYAM PLAYGROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1036608

Accounts

Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup

Annual Report 2021

Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup

Happy times

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Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup is registered with Ofsted (URN206778), is a registered charity in England and Wales (1036608) and a member of the Early Years Alliance (33927).

Welcome!

Welcome to Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup's 2021 Annual Report

About our Annual Report

2020-21 has been another exciting year for us and we look forward to sharing this with you. Our Annual Report provides you with information about GEP's activities for the 2020-21 academic year through the Supervisor's, Trustee's and Treasurer's reports including our financial statements.

Thanks for reading, thanks for being part of

Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup

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Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup

Supervisor's Report 2020-21

We were so excited to return in September, after almost six months off for some children it was lovely to be reunited as a group. A new start beckoned. Government guidance meant that we had to make a few tweaks to our routine and set up but it was all worth it to be open. We welcomed new faces who all settled in seamlessly, familiar friends returned and it was like nothing had changed.

Unfortunately, one of our biggest losses was that a lot of our regular events could not go ahead. Our Christmas woodland nativities were the biggest miss. It's always a lovely way to celebrate the festive season and a welcome excuse to invite families along for a morning in the woods. Hopefully we will be able to hold them this year and make up for the last couple of years.

Luckily restrictions had relaxed enough to allow us to go ahead with our Knighting Ceremonies and Sports Day at the end of the year. The weather delivered warmth and sunshine as temperatures soared and ice lollies were needed! A great time was had as we celebrated our leavers and set them off onto their new adventure.

One of our biggest projects over the year was our display board. We wanted something to brighten up the room and put a smile on everyone's face as they arrived.
We decided to link in with a National theme and produce a rainbow. Week by week families collected different coloured materials to contribute and children got busy collaging. I'm sure you'll appreciate the end product is amazing!!

Cont./

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Staffing wise it was a pretty stable year. We welcomed Libby in as a forest school assistant who bought a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to our woodland sessions. Additional funding also allowed us to employ Paula to provide some extra help on Fridays. We are incredibly lucky to have the staffing team that we do; a diverse mix of age, experience and knowledge. I'm sure you'll agree it is one of our strengths as a setting.

Another big change was in Forest school. We said goodbye to our beloved site of many years, it had served us well and helped us make wonderful memories over the last few years. With National Trust rangers on furlough we spent some time in the Autumn term exploring local woodland. The children embraced the new challenge of crossing streams and navigating the new terrain.

We stayed in close contact with the National Trust who suggested we merge with Grindleford School and share their site. We knew this would mean a little bit of work but thank you to Team Bowman we have settled in there beautifully.

As always, there are SO many people to thank for their support, time and guidance throughout the year. Being part of such a close knit community is an important contribution to our success. Local businesses and people play a massive part in helping Playgroup continue to thrive. We are well aware how lucky we are to have all of this. To our committee, families, friends and children; thank you.

Sophie and Pauline

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Report of the trustees for the year ending 31 August 2021

Chair's report
Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup (GEP) is a registered charity, No. 1036608.
Our trustees for the year were:

Helen Wakerley	Chair
Elizabeth Tiplady	Treasurer
Lizzy Latimer	
Clare Harley	
Ruth Nuttall	

The role of Secretary was shared during the year.

Structure, governance, and management
The pre-school operates under the Pre-school Learning Alliance Model Constitution 2011 which was approved by the Charity Commission on 29th October 2014.

Membership of the Pre-school is divided into two kinds:
(a) Family Membership - Parents or guardians of all children who attend the group.
(b) Affiliate Membership - Affiliate Membership is open to those individuals, organisations or other bodies interested in supporting the aims of the Pre-school.

The overall management and control of the Pre-school rests with the Pre-school's management committee ("the committee"). As well as being responsible for the management of the Pre-school the Committee members are also the charity trustees of the Preschool. Committee member are elected for one year at the Annual General Meeting.

The Committee consists of:
A Chair, a Treasurer, and a Secretary ("the Officers"); and
Not less than 2 nor more than 9 other elected Members; and
If the Committee decides it can co-opt up to 3 further Members onto the Committee at any time after the AGM.

Together, the committee are the 'registered person' with Ofsted and have overall responsibility for ensuring the childcare provision meets the terms of Ofsted registration and the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage framework. To comply with safeguarding requirements all new Committee members are required to complete a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check online before they can be added to an Ofsted registration. We have a trustee induction programme and support new committee members during this process.

All trustees give their time freely and no remuneration or expenses were paid in the year.

Cont./

The day-to-day running of the pre-school is delegated to our Supervisors and the team:

Sophie Grant	Supervisor (Monday/Tuesday), Deputy Supervisor (Wednesday/Friday)
Pauline Bowman	Supervisor (Wednesday/Friday), Deputy Supervisor (Monday/Tuesday)
Donna Booth	SENCO
Rachel Wright	Forest school leader (Wednesday)
Caroline Greenwood	On maternity leave
Karen Entwisle	Assistant
Kirsty Fish	Assistant
Libby Eaton	FS assistant (maternity cover for Caroline Greenwood)
Hannah Mansell	FS assistant (Friday)
Paula Pawson	FS assistant (Friday)

The high number of staff reflects our commitment to offering outdoor opportunities such as forest school and woodland adventure. We meet or exceed the ratio and qualification requirements as set out in the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework.

Our aims
The aims of the pre-school are to enhance the development and education of children primarily under statutory school age by offering appropriate play, education, and care.

We provide an environment where each child can develop and fulfil their potential; build their self-confidence and gain the skills and experience they need to make the most of their early years in school.

Our ethos
GEP is a rural Peak District pre-school which provides a forward thinking, unhurried and playful approach to early learning. We have eight core principles that we apply every day:

We believe that children learn best through play
We prepare children for school, but we don't mimic school
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We provide experiences which are meaningful to our children
We manage behaviour positively
We value outdoor play as a valuable childhood experience

"Play is essential for children's development, building their confidence as they learn to explore, relate to others, set their own goals and solve problems. Children learn by leading their own play, and by taking part in play which is guided by adults."

Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage

Cont./

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Pupil numbers and fees
In 2020-21 we had 29 children from 27 families accessing our pre-school. One child left the setting during the Autumn term and some families delayed starting as concerns about the spread of Covid-19 continued.

A recent survey of families who left at the end of this year has brought in some wonderful feedback about the setting and the staff:

"Their kindness, empathy and understanding. Teaching and taking the time that ALL the children need. No matter how great or small that need is. I know I leave my children there and they are safe and within a family. Their treatment of the children is perfect, they seem to gently guide them, but have consistent boundaries and the children know what is expected of them."

"Experiences given to the children; the allotment, the forest. Having fires. Getting dirty. Going out in all weather; the nurturing experiences given to each child form such important foundations. No other playgroup locally offers anything like that level of 'value'."

"The people who run it are the nicest people ever. So welcoming and accommodating. My child loved everyone there and misses them still."

"I've had two children attend the setting and the staff have always been brilliant. They knew my child well and appeared to care about them personally and their happiness."

Our fees for children aged two to three years (up to the term of their 3rd birthday) were set at £4.45 per hour. In March 2021, the Committee agreed to increase the rate to £5.00 per hour with effect from September 2021.

Fees for children in receipt of the Early Years Free Entitlement are determined by Derbyshire County Council. The year started with a rate of £4.11 per hour which increased to £4.16 per hour with effect from the Summer term. The rate for funded two-year olds increased to £5.36 in April 2021. The rate charged for hours taken in addition to the 15-hour free entitlement was set at £4.95 per hour, the Committee agreed to increase this figure to £5.00 per hour with effect from September 2021.

Staffing
We invested in staff training courses throughout the year demonstrating our commitment to meeting our statutory requirements and supporting our staff's professional development. Subjects covered included H&S; food hygiene; safeguarding; creating a curriculum and training in behaviour and attitudes. We also booked a place on the EYFS conference which considered the changes to be brought in by the new statutory framework in September 2021.

During the year we said goodbye to Hannah and Caroline; we wish them success in their future endeavours.

Volunteers
We did not have any additional volunteers in setting because of concerns about spreading Covid-19 within the community. Our regular volunteer/trustee helped out as required throughout the year.

Cont./

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Impact of the Covid-19 lockdown

We were happy to welcome children back to the setting when we opened in September 2020. There were changes in our routines and operating practices as we worked to keep everyone safe. Our parents have embraced the one-way drop off and pick up system and we thank them for their patience.

We were unable to run mud kitchen and this has had an impact on admissions as families have been unable to visit the setting. Once again community events such as the woodland nativities were cancelled.

The ongoing impact on children's development and well-being has been well documented and we were fortunate to receive a donation from Foundation Derbyshire which enabled us to rent the extension room at the pavilion. This extra space allowed us to do small group work with children transitioning to school this year.

I believe special mention should be made about our staff this year and recognize the impact on their well-being. We should not underestimate the stress they experienced as they kept the playgroup running throughout the year, coping with positive tests and isolating. Plus, there was the increased workload as additional cleaning was required at the start and end of sessions. It was an extraordinary situation and they should be recognized for their efforts.

Planning for the future

The importance of children's education has been highlighted throughout the pandemic and the impact it has on their future life chances. So, it is imperative we safeguard the future of our group as we believe that what we offer is special and worth protecting

We are committed to continue to offer these wonderful opportunities but we recognize they come at a cost with the high staff levels required to keep the children safe. The trustees will continue to support the group and find ways to supplement our income.

Next year we need to look at how we can continue our fundraising efforts whilst remaining safe with any restrictions that may be in place.

I would like to thank our local community for their ongoing support, in particular the GPFA for their support while we were the sole users of the pavilion.

Finally, I would like to thank our trustees and staff team for their continued hard work and dedication – your enthusiasm for providing high quality early years education remains our greatest strength.

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Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup

Treasurer's Report 2020-21

Our finances

Our income and expenditure for the year has once again been affected by Covid-19. Child numbers were impacted as families cancelled or delayed taking up places as they balanced their childcare needs with keeping their family safe; and once again many of our regular fundraising events could not go ahead as restrictions remained in place for much of the year.

Our fee income for the year was £61,152, an increase from last year of 21%. The increase is in part due to good attendance throughout the year and remaining open for the majority of the year. 74% of our fee income comes from the Early Year's Free Entitlement, a total of £45,998. Our fees from self-funded children totalled £15,154. We closed twice during the year as a result of a positive test within the group.

Our fundraising year looked very different with events such as the Hill Climb, quiz night and comedy night cancelled once again. Despite this setback we devised new activities and events which have been well supported by families and the local community.

£436 was raised by the clothes collection scheme, many thanks to everyone who has contributed.
£369 was raised by our November raffle. Prizes were donated by local businesses and parents.
£467 was raised by our July raffle. Many thanks to Jonathan Fish for donating the fabulous Chatsworth hamper.
£360 was raised by tea-towel sales.
£56 was raised by our collection tins. This year our tins have been placed in the Grindleford Community shop, the Miners Arms, Sickleholme golf club and Eyam Post Office.
£55 was raised by our water or wine stall at the Grindleford show. It was lovely to be out and about within the community again and we thank everyone who donated wine for the stall.
£15 was raised through the EasyFundraising Scheme and £28 was raised through Amazon Smile. These figures are an improvement on last year but we need to increase parental participation.
A further £25 was raised through the sale of small items.

Our fundraising total for the year was £1,811 (£1,560 net of expenses) a further drop on last year's figure of £2,375 (£2,142 net of expenses). We have done well to find new sources of income when our usual events are unavailable.

Easter and summer holiday clubs raised £890 (£154 net of wages and sundry expenses) compared with £1,040 (£210 net of wages and sundry expenses). The profitability of the holiday club sessions has been reduced since we limited attendance to pre-school age children.

Donations and grants received during the year totalled £7,757; lower than last year's figure of £12,201 but still a very good amount.

We received the following donations and grants this year:
£1,000 was received from the Tesco Bags for Life scheme.
£1,082 in snack donations – a very generous contribution which covered our snack and hygiene costs; thank you so much to our parents for embracing this voluntary donation.
£600 from preschool families.
£30 via Benevity, a scheme which enables employees to support charities through their employer.

Cont./

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The following grants were restricted to a specific purpose.

£1,500 from Foundation Derbyshire to help with rental costs. This money has proved very useful as it allowed us to hire the extension room on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.
We received £3,062 from Kinder Kids preschool to enhance the playgroup for our children and the staff. Kinder Kids was a local group based in Hayfield which was forced to close down due to falling numbers, as a member of the Early Years Alliance they were required to donate toys, resources and any remaining money to a charitable Early Years Provider. A major part of this grant will be used to improve our storage as we have to find a solution to the ongoing possibility of flooding in our main storage space. We are working with the GPFA to look at raising the height of shelving in the undercroft as well as installing racking in our store room to hold more of our equipment and materials inside. We have spent £180 on new storage boxes to ensure items are protected from mice and damp; and £131 on a new filing cabinet and £36 on suspension files to provide secure storage for our records. £2,715 will be carried forward to next year.

We were delighted when the Co-op took us on as one of their local charities. They have supported us throughout the year with donations of snack and baking items as well as being part of their local community fund. We received £357 this year which will be carried forward to support our forest school sessions.

£126 was received to reward our staff for their hard work throughout the year.

We received an incentive payment of £1,500 to switch our bank account from Natwest to Co-operative and £589 gift aid on donations made during 2019-2020. We were able to recover £697 of SSP paid to staff during Covid related absence.

The £1,000 donated by the Duke of Devonshire Trust (received in 2019-20 financial year) has helped to pay staff for additional PPA time and for the open days held in the Summer to allow new parents to visit the setting.

A huge debt of gratitude is owed to everyone who contributes by donating or volunteering; our pre-school is very special, and we thank everyone who helps to protect it's future.

Our costs this year were £67,042.

Our combined staff and forest school leader costs of £54,820 account for 82% of our total costs.

Our rental costs of £6,698 accounts for 10% of our costs; the increase in this figure is due to the extension rental.

We spent £824 on equipment during the year. The two items purchased with the donation from Kinder Kids accounted for £311 of this. We had previously purchased storage boxes of various sizes at a cost of £97. In October we purchased sand timers, electronic timers and a set of different sized pestle and mortars for a total of £164. We purchased new sets of wooden cars, diggers and tractors with trailers at a cost of £42. We bought replacement cups and plates for snack/lunch costing £35. We purchased copies of the new EYFS, Development matters and Birth to 5 for the staff at a cost of £54. Smaller items purchased throughout the year such as bug magnifiers, yard broom and yoga cards make up the rest of the expense.

Cont./

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Our training costs for the year were £334. £179 was spent on refreshing statutory training in food hygiene, H&S and safeguarding. A further £75 was spent attending the EYFS conference, £40 on Creating a curriculum in the early years training and £40 on training in behaviour and attitudes.

Fundraising costs have increased from £176 to £252. The majority of this was the £202 to purchase the tea-towels sold at Christmas. We renewed our lottery license for £20 and spent £30 on printing raffle tickets. All expenditure on fundraising has seen a good return on the expenditure with events raising much needed funds.

Our sundry costs are £2,681; £2331 with the £350 grant refund deducted. Our outgoings are similar to last year with snacks (£584) and hygiene products (£564) our largest outgoings. Expenditure on hygiene products has increased again this year, in part due to an increased use of items such as paper towels and disposable gloves but also due to an increase in prices as products were in short supply. £145 was spent on DBS checks for 3 staff members.

Our costs on materials have increased slightly to £298. Once again stationery is a major part of this at £150.

We end the year with a closing cash balance of £33,970, of which £3,243 are restricted funds. We will add to our reserve where we keep sufficient funds to cover costs such as redundancy and final salary payments. In addition, we assign a portion of our reserves to cover any budget shortfall during the year this additional money puts us in a strong position for the coming year.

Impact of Covid-19 and planning for the future

If we compare our business income and expenditure we see that the group was facing a shortfall of £4,877. While we can attribute some of this to the ongoing impact of the pandemic the underlying problem is the underfunding of the early years sector.

We have already seen that our wages bill represents over 80% of our expenditure as the playgroup employs a high number of staff in order to offer our outdoor, play based curriculum. As a result, any rise in the minimum wage has a greater impact on our budget. While 2021 saw a smaller increase in minimum wage (2.2%), a recognition of the hardship many small employers were experiencing, 2022 will see an increase of 6.6%. We welcome any increase which rewards the hard work of our staff but would argue that the Early Years National Funding rate needs to keep pace.

In the coming year we face another significant budget shortfall which has been exacerbated by starting the year with low child numbers Our belief in our outdoor based curriculum and the wonderful opportunities it presents to our children means we are committed to maintaining our brilliant staff team and we must face up to finding the funds to meet the shortfall.

Fundraising will continue to be a challenge and we will need to find new and innovative ways to bring in extra money as well as seeking out grants and donations to make up the difference.

I believe we are in a strong position for next year thanks to the efforts of the trustees to bring in funding through local grants but we must continue these efforts to maintain our reserve fund and protect the playgroup's future.

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Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup

Thank you!

We want to take this opportunity to thank our many volunteers and supporters for their wonderful dedication and hard work.

Whether it was updating our website, looking after our accounts or helping out at one of our fundraisers – we could not have done any of this without you and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Thank you for lending a hand!

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Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup
Financial Statements
1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021

Analysis of receipts and payments for the year ending 31 August 2021

	Notes	2021	2020
Receipts			
Fees		61,152	50,556
Fundraising		1,811	2,375
Milk Grant		246	140
Grants / Donations - Restricted		5,045	816
Grants / Donations - Unrestricted		2,712	11,386
Holiday club	A	830	1,040
Sundries	B	3,137	160
Bank Interest		2	22
Total Receipts		74,935	66,494
Payments			
Wages		53,300	47,986
Forest School Leaders		1,520	1,433
Rent		6,698	4,072
Milk		246	139
Equipment		824	1,484
Materials		298	239
Fundraising		252	176
Training		334	514
Sundries	C	2,681	2,256
Insurance		711	710
Holiday club	D	178	191
Total Payments		67,042	59,200
Increase in cash		**7,894**	**7,294**
Cash balance			
Opening cash balance		26,076	18,782
Closing cash balance		33,970	26,076
Increase in cash		**7,894**	**7,294**

Notes

A - £60 received after year end

B - Gift aid on donations received 2019-20, reclaimed SSP, bank switch incentive payment, grant paid in error to playgroup

C - this figure includes a grant paid in error to the playgroup which was refunded to donor

D -this figure does not include staff wages estimated at £560

25/4/22

Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup
Financial Statements
1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021

Statement of assets and liabilities as at 31 August 2021

		2021	2020
Assets			
Cash			
Petty cash		215	306
Reserve account		21,001	16,008
Current account		12,753	9,762
Total cash		33,970	26,076

Notes

Receivables

We are also due the following receipts / incurred expenses:

Holiday club fees		60	0
HMRC - Gift Aid (estimated)		320	580
Total receivables		380	580

We also hold assets in the form of play equipment that is insured for £10,000.

Liabilities

Training costs		0	0

Payables

The following payments are outstanding:			
Sundry creditors	A	338	305
Total payables		338	305

Notes

A - HMRC £240, Pension contributions £98

MWell 25/4/22

Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup
Financial Statements
1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021

Additional analysis for the year ending 31 August 2021

	Notes	2021	2020
Receipts - Fundraising			
Easy Fundraising/Amazon Smile		43	22
Family Forest School/Party		0	0
Carnival Stall / Grindleford Show		55	0
Comedy Night		0	0
Mud Kitchen		0	255
Sir William Hill Climb		0	776
Xmas fair		0	0
Sale of goods		25	0
Party in pavilion		0	0
Smartie tube collection		0	0
Sir William cream tea		0	0
Maynard fun day		0	0
Curry night and raffle		0	1,055
Cook books		0	95
Collection tins		56	172
Clothes collection		436	
Tea towel sales		360	
Raffles held in November and July		836	
Total		1,811	2,375
Payments - Sundries			
Snacks		584	468
Gifts	A	238	270
Hygiene		564	407
Baking		29	56
DBS		145	48
Payroll		173	166
Fire		7	60
Annual ofsted fee		50	50
Pre-school learning alliance membership		108	108
Recruitment		0	0
Other sundries	B	696	565
Staff uniforms		86	60
Total		2,681	2,256

Notes

A - Gifts includes children's gifts £32; thank you gifts £20; staff gifts £186

B - other sundries include refund of grant paid in error £350; team building events £127; sports day medals £31; mobile phone top-up £40; website plan £36, domain name renewal £25

25/4/22

Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup
Financial Statements
1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021

Additional analysis for the year ending 31 August 2021

	Notes	2021	2020
Grants / Donations - Restricted			
Local projects fund		126	126
Eyam Book Barn		0	200
Active Derbyshire		0	240
Blakemore foundation		0	50
Community Leadership Scheme	A	0	200
GPFA (1st aid equipment)		0	25
Foundation Derbyshire		1500	0
Co-op Community Fund		357	0
Kinder Kids	B	3062	0
Total Restricted Grants / Donations		5,045	841
Grants / Donations - Unrestricted			
Grindleford School PTA		0	0
Donations to GEP		630	510
HMRC - Gift Aid		589	135
Snack Donations		1082	656
Derbyshire Dales - Covid-19 discretionary grant		0	7,500
Duke of Devonshire Charitable Trust		0	1,000
Crowdfunding page		0	1,720
Tesco bags for life community grant		1000	0
Total Unrestricted Grants / Donations		3,301	11,521

Notes

A - Ongoing Covid-19 restrictions have meant we were unable to spend all of this funding for baking activitites. The donor has agreed that the fund may be carried forward to the 2021-22 financial year.

B - first payment of monies raised through Co-op Community Fund to be used to improve our forest school facilities. Fund carried forward to 2021-22.

C - monies donated by Kinder Kids to be used for benefit of playgroup. Negotiations with landlord and contractor for purpose built storage and wall racking has delayed expenditure until 21-22.

25/4/22

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	GRINDLEFORD & EYAM PLAYGROUP		
On accounts for the year ended	31 AUGUST 2022	**Charity no (if any)**	1036608
Set out on pages	1 – 4 (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:	M Bell	**Date:**	25/4/22
Name:	MARK BELL BA FCA		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	FCA ICAEW		
Address:	GORSE RIDGE OVER LANE BASLOW DE45 1RT.		

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*.

N/A