

SAPLINGS PRE-SCHOOL

England & Wales · Charity number 1038172

Details

Other names OLD SCHOOL PLAYGROUP

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 1994-05-27

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

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Activities

Objects: TO ENHANCE THE DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION OF CHILDREN UNDER STATUTORY SCHOOL AGE BY ENCOURAGING PARENTS TO UNDERSTAND AND PROVIDE FOR THE NEEDS OF THEIR CHILDREN THROUGH COMMUNITY GROUPS

Activities: PRE SCHOOL LEARNING We provide sessional care for up to 28 children aged between 2 and five years old, working within the framework of the EYFS and regulated by Ofsted

Classification

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

Geography

- Hertfordshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£52,464	£105,556	-	-
2024-08-31	£62,237	£66,755	-	-
2023-08-31	£59,622	£67,597	-	-
2022-08-31	£56,756	£67,920	-	-
2021-08-31	£59,651	£63,079	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Kirsty Masters		2025-05-06
Monika Cywoniuk		2025-05-10
Stephanie Jenkins		2025-05-10
TANYA WEST		2011-05-31
Wendy Hart		2014-09-01

SAPLINGS PRE-SCHOOL

England & Wales - Charity number 1038172

Accounts

Annual General Meeting of the Committee and Members of Saplings Pre School. 30th June 2025 8.00 p.m The Scout Hut, Birchwood Way

Chairs Report to the Committee and Members regarding the closure of Saplings Pre School

Saplings Pre School has served the Community of How Wood and Park Street for over forty years, we have experienced lots of ups and downs and when Alison took over as Manager 26 years ago, we had roughly £700.00 in the bank and owed half of that to the Scouts Committee in rent.

By virtue of very hard work, painstakingly raising our profile and working one day paid and one day free, we managed, over the course of three years, to turn things around. There have been lean times and times where we had 57 children on the register and had to run afternoon sessions just to accommodate them. We have survived cyclical downturns, the death of a much loved deputy manager, Covid and the cost of living crisis, but have been steadily losing money since 2016.

We find ourselves in the position where we have enough money to get to the end of the educational year and pay the statutory redundancy pay that the staff will be due, but the reserve left after that is tiny and will not be sufficient to carry on running. We are unable to make any further reductions or economies as we are now just about able to pay the statutory minimum.

There are many reasons that contribute to us not being the nursery of choice these days, quite apart from a falling birthrate in the area as parents think twice about another child because of financial uncertainty.

The state of the building

This has been allowed to slowly deteriorate as the Scouts have medium term plans to have the existing building knocked down and replaced by a portacabin, they are obviously reluctant to spend money on an old building that will delay the erection of the new one. While they have replaced the kitchen and toilets (donated by Wickes), these are not the parts of the building that prospective parents see.

The car park is a wreck, deep puddles form whenever it rains and turn the whole area into a quagmire, it is particularly difficult for families on foot to access., we have spoken to the scouts about this but any remedial work carried out has always been a temporary fix and now that the Scouts are themselves finding it difficult to raise a Committee, and struggle to get enough volunteer parents to keep the different packs running, very little gets sorted. The bushes are over-grown and thick with brambles and the once barked area has been allowed to run to weeds. We do what we can each year to make the area more appealing but no longer have money or energy for the overhaul the outside area needs.

Inside the building, we have ants all summer and mice in the storage cupboards all winter, again, we have dealt with the problem ourselves as the scouts lacked interest.

The heating is inadequate to the task, barely lifting the temperature at all, so we have to rely on additional oil filled radiators placed around the room which can be very off putting to visiting parents for obvious safety considerations, (which we have successfully mitigated).

In September 2023, we were unable to hold our sessions at the hut for a period of two weeks as the Scouts had discovered some damage to the asbestos wall board, the damage was not new and had been inspected on two prior occasions and deemed to be safe, but the Scouts in their wisdom sent out letters to the 47 families whose children attend their groups, telling them that they could not use the hut as the asbestos represented a health risk. In a village such as ours, the news passed round like wildfire, despite the fact that after all the necessary tests, the air in the building was found to be 100% clear. The boards in question were replaced, the building checked again and pronounced safe, the damage was done, (added to which a few weeks later there was an outcry in the national papers about public buildings containing asbestos). There were only two new applications between September and January, which was traditionally a busy time for new families to enrol for the Spring term

In January 2024, we returned to find that the playground was covered in water, toilet roll and faeces, we called in professionals several times and Thames Water a total of seven times, it took until the end of March for the problem to be identified and solved, during which time the situation grew worse and not only the playground but the whole of the grassed area to the front of the building was under several inches of sewer water and waste and in full view of anyone visiting.

The children had access to the garden at the rear which they enjoyed but once again we were unable to have visitors, so another term passed without us being able to enrol new children, we could not use the paved garden until April when the whole area had been professionally cleaned and most of our garden equipment disposed of.

During the wet weather in the Autumn and since, we now find the garden to the rear of the building now floods, water seeps in under the fire doors and we regularly find the floor in our storage cupboard under water, water has ruined the floor of the cupboard and over the half term despite us using heaters and dehumidifiers, mould grew on some of our toys so that they had to be disposed of.

Lack of Children

Quite apart from the state of the building, which would have been quite enough to deal with, the Government is now providing 15- 30 hours of free childcare for working families, these can be taken at any setting without fear of top-ups or extra charges which must be voluntary, so while working parents looking for affordable childcare would overlook the shortcomings of our physical space because of the lower per hour price we charge and the quality care we provide, they can now register at any number of 'Purpose built' nurseries, whose facilities are so far removed from ours that we cannot compete. I have visited several of these settings and have to admit, they are clean, warm, bright and beautiful, if I was a parent looking for a childcare place, I would choose any one of these over Saplins in its current state.

Local schools are taking children younger and younger, one nearby takes them as early as two and a half, they offer wraparound care and for parents with older children, the

opportunity to have just one drop off instead of two. We have recently been advised that local schools are also suffering from very low numbers for the September 2025 intake.

Difficulty in attracting good quality staff

We have in recent years, taken on other staff members with a view to meet any increased demand, not only did this demand not materialise, but the staff in question were either disappointing and left very quickly, or needed more hours than we were able to give them. (We cut down our afternoons as they were under attended and a drain on resources, but in a World where staff need full time employment more often than not, we cannot attract quality practitioners)

No Committee

Our Committee have served tirelessly and have been a massive source of support in good times and bad, however, finding new members is becoming increasingly difficult, parents have jobs and work long hours, speak English as a second language so that they do not understand what it is we are asking of them, or just plain do not wish to engage. With only two children left in September as it stands, and some of our current Committee stepping down, we will also be in want of a working Committee, the cost and effort required to get new members frankly feels wasted when we consider the rest of our situation.

As we approach the end of the educational year we find ourself in a position where there are two children registered for September, one possible new child and one enquiry for January, the income from these children will not sustain a setting that takes a minimum of £1700.00 per week to run, if we further reduce hours and staff, we will be even less attractive to parents looking for extended provision. Each week we hope that the phone will ring repeatedly with parents looking for childcare, the phone is eerily silent apart from applications from parents who want full day care for children too young for us to accept.

We have a choice of opening in September and hoping there will be a surge of interest, or closing at the end of term when only two/three children will have to find new nurseries, I feel that it would be unfair to open knowing how dire our situation is, leaving currently registered and any new parents to scramble for childcare places when the majority will have been filled. The staff too must be considered, they need their incomes and the six weeks holiday will afford them the time and space in which to find themselves new jobs.

Therefore, with regret, I am raising a motion to close Saplings Pre School on August 31st 2025, the staff will spend the summer clearing our equipment, selling some and donating the rest, there will be very little money left at the end of our financial year, (31st August 2025) and a small amount must be kept available to pay the accountant and a skip hire company, the rest will as the Charity Commission demands, be donated to another setting with similar aims and intentions to our own.

I welcome your thoughts and ideas on this proposal.

Katrina Seeneevassen
Chair of Committee

Income and Expenditure for the Financial Year September 1st 2024 to August 31st 2025

	Opening Balance	Credit Transfers	HCC	Total	Wages	
September	53,181.68	132.00		3118.09	3250.09	4143.50
October	50921.09	2064.00		2167.03	4231.03	4152.62
November	49,829.59	624.00		2130.63	2754.63	4155.43
December	46,912.81	456.00		2047.94	2503.94	4191.93
January	44,189.06	1087.00		3235.05	4322.05	4268.49
February	42,961.66	1210.15		5805.69	7015.84	4201.29
March	44,535.79	732.00		6083.07	6815.07	4189.22
April	46,434.29	756.00		2900.00	3656.00	4236.44
May	44,687.90	1527.45		3789.98	5317.43	4346.94
June	43,878.93	1195.00		2902.01	4097.01	4346.07
July	41,129.69	2403.15		5674.98	8078.13	9681.23
August	445.41	422.89		0.00	422.89	0.00
		12609.64		39854.47	52464.11	51913.16
				52464.11		58033.38

Opening Balance

53181.68

HMRC	Rent	Office	Resources	Other	Redundancy
	474.60	519.00	75.99	297.59	
	474.60	571.86	76.96	46.49	
	474.80	628.00	26.00	387.18	
	478.80	365.63	26.00	165.33	
	477.00	600.00	26.00	177.96	
	477.20	450.00	26.00	287.22	
	476.96	60.00	26.00	164.39	
	488.00	336.00	53.65	288.30	
	565.20	840.00	27.25	217.01	130.00
	518.60	600.00	53.65	563.45	764.48
	1214.46	500.00	165.25	631.47	240.00
	0.00	0.00	5.00	83.75	30830.00
	6120.22	5470.49	587.75	3310.14	1134.48
					30830.00
				Closing Balance	79.55

Any remaining alanThe balance will be transferred to The Crescent Pre School c

Donations	Total	Closing Balance
		5510.68
		50,921.09
		5322.53
		49,829.59
		5671.41
		46,912.81
		5227.69
		44,189.06
		5549.45
		42,961.66
		5441.71
		44,535.79
		4,916.57
		46,434.29
		5402.39
		44,687.90
		6126.40
		43,878.93
		6846.25
		41,129.69
5500.00	48762.41	445.41
700.00	788.75	79.55
6200.00	105566.24	
	105566.24	
	79.55	

on the closure of the Bank Account

Treasurers Report to the Chair of Committee – Saplings Pre School
Charity No. 1038172

Financial position at the end of the Fiscal Year September 1st 2024 – 31st August 2025

Opening Balance	£ 53,181.68	
Total Income for the year.	£ 52,464.11	
A total of	£105,645.79	
Total expenditure for the Year.	£ 68,526.24	
Redundancy Payments	£. 30,830.00	
Charitable donations on closure.	£. 6200.00	
Balance at Bank as of 31 st August 2024	£. 79.55	**

** The balance of the account after final charges, will be transferred to The Crescent Pre School on closure of the Bank Account

These figures were provided by Mrs Alison Mead, Mrs Wendy Hart and Miss Tina Seeneevassen and have been verified by our Independent Accounts Manager Mrs Jackie Nixon

Signed	Tina Seeneevassen.	Chair of Committee
	Mrs Alison Mead	Manager
	Mrs Wendy Hart	Treasurer
	Mrs Jackie Nixon.	Independent Accounts Manager

SAPLINGS PRE-SCHOOL

England & Wales - Charity number 1038172

Accounts

Chairs Report 23 to 24

September began well, with a larger cohort than we have had for the past few years. All of the children settled quickly and the mild weather meant that we could hold the sessions outside. However, at the end of the month the Scout Committee had to have remedial work carried out which meant we had to replan our days and have fewer children in for a week.

Repairs made, we returned to normal for the rest of the term and as usual the weeks before Christmas were filled with tinsel and glitter.

As there were very few children who required the afternoon sessions, we went ahead with the proposed cut in hours, continuing to offer Tuesday afternoons but closing earlier on Wednesdays and Thursdays. This reduced our outgoings but does make us less attractive to working mothers, in order to help with this, we have spoken to local childminders who are happy to pick up children from the setting and fill in the gaps our hours leave.

In January we experienced more problems with the Scout Hut, the drains backed up and rendered the garden unusable, the situation deteriorated despite several visits from a specialist drainage company and Thames Water, until the grassed area and the car park were flooded. Apart from the obvious expense and aggravation this caused, the unattractive state of the approach to and grounds of the Scout Hut meant that we were unable to invite new parents to view the setting in what is traditionally a busy month for new applications - they usually wish to view the playground and ours was awash with sewage!

Eventually, the problem was dealt with and after a very thorough clean up, the garden was back in use after the Easter Holidays, with new equipment where we could not face using anything that had sat in waste water

Numbers continue to be low, despite the new Government scheme for free childcare, the criteria for this offer is narrow and as most of our children have stay at home Mums, it does not apply to them. Local schools are offering 'wrap around care' from 8.00 am to 6.00 pm with which we cannot compete. Past and present mothers (with older children) are acting as 'Ambassadors' at the school gates and Toddler groups, to raise our profile within the area as past efforts at advertising have proved expensive and ineffective. We have recently been advised that one of the local schools is taking children as young as 30 months.

On a more positive note, the kitchen and cloakrooms were updated at the end of the Summer term, we now have a very modern kitchen with new appliances and new toilets, we found a gardener willing to cut the hedges back and mow the grass and a working party to paint the interior of the

hut is planned for the Summer holidays so have returned in September to an environment that looked quite a lot less like 'Steptoe's Yard'.

We hope that as the criteria for free childcare has been extended, there will be more interest from parents and with the 'New look' hut, we feel more confident about convincing them to choose us.

Income and Expenditure for the Financial Year September 2023
to August 2024

Opening Balance

	Opening Balance	Credit Transfers	HCC	Total	Wages	HMRC	Rent	Office	Resources	Other
September	57,700.41		3159.92	3159.92	3805.64	525.00	412.75	88.99	303.75	120
October	55,603.29	1907.32	4581.90	6489.22	3965.63	524.64	515.63	29.00	380.21	225
November	56,452.40	1298.00	3085.00	4383.00	3793.11	0.00	656.25	37.40	524.31	5
December	55,819.33	3027.00	3085.00	6112.00	3745.86	525.00	360.50	37.40	485.01	5
January	56,772.56	698.00	2158.84	2856.84	3782.05	502.00	600.00	37.40	244.59	5
February	54,458.36	2184.98	2296.35	4481.33	3820.50	502.00	190.00	37.40	718.00	415
March	53,256.79	1082.80	4517.76	5600.56	4020.50	502.00	550.00	37.40	318.06	200
April	53,229.39	1228.50	3071.81	4300.31	3948.04	1463.96	337.50	37.40	318.06	5
May	51,419.74	1142.16	5661.92	6804.08	4122.53	495.60	534.38	37.40	303.01	5
June	52,725.90	504.21	4743.92	5248.13	4054.03	473.00	600.00	37.40	794.56	130
July	51,885.04	1830.00	4743.92	6573.92	4033.61	478.00	484.50	37.40	1204.25	0
August	52,221.20	705.00	5522.89	6227.89	3997.18	473.20	0.00	42.40	754.63	
		15607.97	46629.23	62237.2	47088.68	6464.40	5241.51	496.99	6348.44	4054

Treasurers Report to the Annual General Meeting of Saplings Pre School
Friday 11th April at the Scout Hut,
Charity No. 1038172

Financial position at the end of the Fiscal Year September 1st 2023 - 31st
August 2024

Opening Balance	£ 57,700.41
Total Income for the year.	£ 62,237.20
A total of	£119,937.61

Total expenditure for the Year.	£66,755.93
Balance at Bank as of 31 st August 2024	£53,181.68
Representing a loss of	£ 4518.73

These figures were provided by Mrs Alison Mead, Mrs Wendy Hart and Miss Tina Seeneevassen and have been verified by our Independent Accounts Manager Mrs Jackie Nixon

Signed	Tina Seeneevassen.	Chair of Committee
	Mrs Alison Mead	Manager
	Mrs Wendy Hart	Treasurer
	Mrs Jackie Nixon.	Independent Accounts Manager

SAPLINGS PRE-SCHOOL

England & Wales - Charity number 1038172

Accounts

Chairs Report to the Trustees of Saplings Pre School
For the Financial Year 1st September 2022 to 31st August 2023
Charity Number: 1038172

Autumn Term

As most of our children transitioned to Nursery School at the end of the Summer Term, we re-opened in September with depleted numbers and in a departure from previous years, only two children remaining with us for Nursery, this was a disappointing start to the year, but we put our efforts into resettling the remaining children who were missing their friends. Over the Summer the garden had become neglected, and we involved the children in the cleaning of the playground and replanting of the flower beds to enhance the area.

Finance

We were lucky enough to attract several more children to the setting, so things were bustling and we broke even for the term, sadly one of the local schools continues to contact parents and invite them to enrol their three year olds for January and we lost two full time children, which was a blow, but we remained hand hopeful for the rest of the year.

Inspection

Ofsted arrived on a cold December day, all was going well until one of the children was taken ill, despite the arrival of distraught family members and paramedics we were awarded a 'Strong good' and the team were able to show just how well they cope in a crisis and how well they know the policies and procedures of the setting.

Spring Term

The afternoon sessions continued to be very quiet and while this was challenging from the point of view of income, it allowed the opportunity to offer activities that would not have been possible with a larger group of children. This included a trip off site to the local woods, where the children acted out the focus book, 'We're going on a Bear Hunt' with a trip to the local bakery for a drink and a gingerbread biscuit afterwards. The learning that took place was amazing and not something that could have been achieved by simply reading the book in the setting.

Once again, the chimney of our Tree House was chosen by a family of blue tits, as the nesting place for their new arrivals, with the help of a tiny camera, the children were able to watch the progress of the fledglings and make sure there was a plentiful food supply for the hardworking parents.

Summer Term

Despite the fact that the weather did not live up to that of the previous year, we were able to hold, 'Bring your pets to school' days and were visited by 'Steve' the tortoise, 'Gizmo' the Gecko as well as Ferrets, chickens, rabbits and puppies galore!

The vegetable garden was a great success, the green beans we planted spread along the fence and the spring onions and tomatoes were delicious, all provided the children with the opportunity to experience where their food comes from and even the fussy eaters tried them for lunch.

Finally

The rush of children we expected did not materialise, we operate in an area where most children have stay-at-home Mums, so, as the cost-of-living increases and bills take up more and more of the family income, it is understandable that parents have delayed their children starting until their funding kicks in. We ended another year on a loss and after much deliberation, decided to roll up two of the afternoon sessions from September as there were no children booked in for them. We also decided that having the meals prepared off-site was an expense we could not justify and going forward, the lunches will be prepared by a member of staff.

There is much in the news about the Government's new childcare funding plans, but the criteria for acceptance on this scheme seems quite narrow, we do not anticipate a huge uptake in this area particularly since we will now offer less hours per week and the working parents the new scheme is aimed at need more than we can

provide. We find ourselves in a catch 22 situation where we either expand our hours with no children attending and hope to attract more, while increasing our predicted loss for the year or, keep to the shorter hours to conserve funds and hope that there will be sufficient parents who are just looking for good old fashion 'Pre School' for their children, to make-up the shortfall.

Katrina Seeneevassen

Chair of Committee

Treasurers Report to the Committee of Saplings Pre School,

Financial position at the end of the Fiscal Year September 1st 2022 – 31st August 2023

Balance Brought Forward	65,675.63
Total Income for the year.	59,621.92
A total of	125,297.55
Total expenditure for the Year.	67,597.14
Balance at Bank as of 31 st August 2022	57,700.41
Representing a loss of	7,975.22

These figures were provided by Mrs Alison Mead and Mrs Wendy Hart and have been verified by our Independent Accounts Manager Mrs Jackie Nixon

Signed Miss Tina Seeneevassen Chair of Committee

 Mrs Alison Mead Manager

 Mrs Wendy Hart Treasurer

 Mrs Jackie Nixon. Independent Accounts Manager

Credits

Debits

	Opening Balance	Credit Transfer	HCC	Total	Wages	HMRC	Rent	Office	Resources	Other
September	65,675.63	297.50	3147.93	3445.43	4053.12	441.45	0	159.04	225.00	255.00
October	63,987.45	1809.50	3051.00	4860.50	4008.73	441.17	1073.00	87.00	835.52	319.40
November	62,083.13	2042.6	157.14	2199.74	3638.35	477.14	669.00	11.00	388.85	138.00
December	58,960.53	1836.00	3051.00	4887.00	1668.40		357.50	11.00	472.37	223.00
January	61,115.26		6137.25	6137.25	6347.09	887.32	529.00	29.00	428.76	180.00
February	58,851.34	2238.50	3220.00	5458.50	3848.66	443.12	450.00	11.00	498.36	73.00
March	58,985.70	2308.00	4021.36	6329.36	4545.80	0	0.00	191.00	416.68	113.00
April	60,048.58	1206.50	4011.85	5218.35	3977.04	0	974.50	11.00	612.53	173.00
May	59,518.86	1332.00	8266.90	9598.90	3894.99	443.20	600.00	11.00	604.2	263.00
June	63,301.37	1894.89	2057.00	3951.89	4117.17	468.24	600.00	16.07	704.78	385.89
July	60,961.11	3177.50	2057.00	5234.50	4077.94	481.48	450.00	11.66	445.05	796.69
August	59,932.79	243.50	2057.00	2300.50	3558.17	462.00	0.00	11.00	303.75	197.96

Accountants Report on Income and Expenditure for Saplins Pre School

SAPLINGS PRE-SCHOOL

England & Wales - Charity number 1038172

Accounts

Chairs Report to the Trustees of Saplings Pre School
For the Financial Year 1st September 2021 to 31st August 2022
Charity Number: 1038172

Autumn Term

[Covid](#)

Returning to a situation where most of the Covid restrictions we had lived with for so long had been relaxed was disconcerting and staff were reluctant to let go of some of the familiar safeguards. For them the 'Personal Responsibility' mentioned by the Education Minister, in his July press release, suggested that the protocols put in place to protect the staff and children remained relevant. As a result, we were slow to let down our guard and this attitude served us well as despite our caution and being doubly vaccinated all staff members succumbed to the virus at some point during the educational year.

Thankfully, the infections were mild and contained to one person at a time, so we were able to maintain staff to children, ratios and the children's experience of Pre School was uninterrupted.

[Finance](#)

Following the trend of recent years, the numbers were low for the winter term and once again we were faced with a financial loss that we knew we would not be able to clawback. It became necessary for us to look at our sustainability in the long term and the Committee came to the sad conclusion that at the current rate of loss, the Nursery would be able to operate for another three years, relying on the contingency fund that we have husbanded for so long to subsidise the costs of running the setting.

We raised our prices slightly but did not want to increase the burden on parents more than we had to as historically we have learned that this results in them signing up for less days and does not alleviate the problem which is in fact, low funding levels from Central Government and parental insecurity about the risks of Covid in Educational settings.

Spring Term

[Language Lessons](#)

We decided to broaden the children's horizons with some Spanish lessons provided by 'KidsLingo, these sessions were offered to all children and the cost subsidised by Pre School. The take up was good and the children were surprisingly engaged by the idea of counting and singing in another language.

[Caterers](#)

We engaged the services of an outside catering company to provide cooked lunches for the children. While this appears to be an extravagance it has proved to be a worthwhile use of funds as we do not require a member of staff to be in the kitchen preparing and clearing up each meal and the children benefit from the extra adult attention.

Summer Term

[Amazing Weather](#)

The unusually hot, sunny weather when we returned from the Easter holidays meant that we spent the whole term in the garden, gazebos provided welcome shade and when it became too much to bear, the air conditioning inside gave some relief. The children had their lunch and snack outside and were treated to quite a few ice lollies to ensure they were hydrated.

[Visitors](#)

We discovered some Blue Tits had made their home in the chimney of the tree house, the children spent many hours watching the parent birds fly back and forth with food for their

babies, they witnessed the fledglings learning to fly and we were extraordinarily lucky to find that one of the birds was so tame, she would fly down to us to receive food. The children were photographed with the bird perched on their hands and shoulders, which was a wonderful way to interact with nature and provided some incredible learning opportunities.

Finally

A slightly less pleasant end to the term was in the form of a 'Heads Up' that we were at the top of the Ofsted hit list, while the team are well trained and experienced, there continues to be an element of fear attached to the inspection process and the staff will not fully relax again until we have been inspected, which could be considered a good thing as it keeps them working at the top of their game!

Samantha Springle

Chair of Committee

Totals of income and Expenditure for Saplings Pre School for the year September 2021

Deposits Month	Cash	Cheque	Credit Tranfe HCC	Totals	
September			522.58	3039.74	3562.32
October			2552.71	2955.00	5507.71
November			1381.05	670.26	2051.31
December			2590.15	2955.00	5545.15
January			2614.33	4873.01	7487.34
February			796.29	3119.00	3915.29
March			2493.86	3119.00	5612.86
April			1422.16	4039.71	5461.87
May			1027.93	7143.11	8171.04
June			189.25	2035.00	2224.25
July			3381.19	2035.00	5416.19
August			171.00	1629.25	1800.25
			19142.50	37613.08	56755.58

to August 2022

Balance brought forw 76,840.53

Debits			Visa		Total
Wages	Rent	Office	Resources	Other	
4385.52	600.00	14.84	259.30	324.25	5583.91
4413.22	450.00	136.20	466.23	1305.00	6770.65
4465.85	660.00	14.20	178.38	168.00	5486.43
4345.39	426.50	14.20	375.37	90.00	5251.46
4291.09	540.50	14.20	595.44	353.80	5795.03
4229.11	450.00	14.20	1094.95	235.00	6023.26
4414.12		14.20	398.19	59.00	4885.51
4514.65	277.00	14.20	559.15	263.00	5628.00
4527.67	600.00	15.95	335.12	63.00	5541.74
4521.95	0.00	15.30	642.57	1151.36	6331.18
4407.93	989.00	15.30	363.37	23.00	5798.6
4346.74	0.00	15.30	339.67	123.000	4824.71
52863.24	4993.00	298.09	5607.74	4158.41	67920.48

65,675.63

Balance at Year End agreed at Bank

Signed by

Jackie Nixon

Treasurers Report to the Annual General Meeting of Saplings Pre School
Friday 8th April 2022 at the Scout Hut,

Financial position at the end of the Fiscal Year September 1st 2021 - 31st
August 2022

Balance Brought Forward	76,840.53
Total Income for the year.	56,755.58
A total of	133,596.11

Total expenditure for the Year.	67,920.48
Balance at Bank as of 31 st August 2022	65,675.63
Representing a loss of	11,165.00

These figures were provided by Mrs Alison Mead and Mrs Wendy Hart and have
been verified by our Independent Accounts Manager Mrs Jackie Nixon

Signed	Mrs Samantha Springle.	Chair of Committee
	Mrs Alison Mead	Manager
	Mrs Wendy Hart	Treasurer
	Mrs Jackie Nixon.	Independent Accounts Manager

SAPLINGS PRE-SCHOOL

England & Wales - Charity number 1038172

Accounts

Chairs Report to the Trustees of Saplings Pre School
For the Financial Year September 1st 2020 to 31st August 2021
Charity Number 1038172

As it was for everyone, this was a tough year for Saplings with the Management Team constantly having to cover shifts where staff had come into close contact with a case of Covid-19, and staff on edge about possible infection risks within the setting. As a result, numbers of children on roll were kept low to reduce the risks and given the high number of children with SEN or behavioural difficulties, we did not feel able to take advantage of the slight relaxation in rules regarding safe ratio rules.

Even if we had felt able to increase our capacity, applications were at an all time low, with parents reporting lack of confidence in sending their children out of the home environment to mix with others.

Obviously, our income was negatively affected and our loss this year was considerable, daily numbers continued to be low throughout the year and the outlook for next year continues to be bleak.

Despite a punishing daily cleaning regime, staff barely leaving their homes other than for work and working closely with parents to ensure that sick children were not sent into Pre-school, we devastated in December to find that all but one member of staff had contracted the Covid virus. The only positives in the situation were that as the outbreak coincided with the end of term, the disruption for the parents and children was minimal and the stringent testing routine undertaken by the staff meant that the virus did not spread further than the staff.

We returned to Pre-School in January with trepidation as the Spring term is normally the one where coughs and colds abound, however, with even more rigorous protocols in place we were able to finish the year without further disruption, again, parents worked with us to ensure that testing took place where necessary and as soon as the weather was warm enough, we moved the sessions outside where the infection risk was lower.

During the Summer term, the Department of Education notified us that our percentage of children with Special Education Needs was twice the national average, which came as no surprise since three other settings in the area closed permanently during the first wave of Covid-19 leaving parents in the area with a hugely reduced choice of Pre School. We as a setting have always striven to find a place for any child who applies, regardless of their needs or situation and as a result we found ourselves with eleven out of 21 children requiring some form of extra support, which meant that the Summer term continued to offer the already stressed staff plenty of challenges.

All in all a year we were glad to see the back of.

Samantha Springle

Chair of Committee

Income and Expenditure for financial Year September 1st 2020 to August 31st 2021

Month	Opening Balance	Cheques	Credit Transfers	Cash	HCC
September	80,268.24		360.00	5.00	2032.62
October	76,761.72		1878.61		7977.72
November	81,387.40		237.12	7.00	1858.00
December	78,157.77		2211.52		1858.00
January	77,584.34		638.61		7428.20
February	80,808.62		1602.84	103.00	1962.00
March	79,690.46	274.50	2041.08	15.00	1962.00
April	79,434.43		2364.60		4103.87
May	80,540.63		872.24	348.00	7023.55
June	81,927.72		2353.13		1970.00
July	80,040.84		2685.07	18.00	1970.00
August	79,495.54		20.00		1965.25
		274.50		496.00	42111.21
				*	
				Held for PC	

Total Income	Total without cash	Wages	HMRC	Rent	Barclaycard
2397.62	2392.62	3959.06	464.68	655.50	800.90
9856.33	9856.33	3556.73	436.88	529.00	517.84
2102.12	2095.12	3707.04	436.88	621.00	345.83
4069.52	4069.52	3545.29	397.12	0.00	681.54
8066.81	8066.81	3480.19	373.24	678.50	291.60
3667.84	3564.84	3411.61	375.04	345.00	532.35
4292.58	4277.58	3542.37	371.62	460.00	81.66
6468.47	6468.47	3742.97	377.56	450.00	772.20
8243.79	7895.79	4524.75	542.48	577.00	249.31
4323.13	4323.13	4379.33	520.68	540.50	707.24
4673.07	4655.07	4021.83	430.38	455.00	273.96
1985.25	1985.25	3886.66	444.32	0.00	290.12
60146.53	59650.53	45757.83	5170.88	5311.50	5544.55

Balance on statement at 1.9.21 76,840.53

Difference of +3 pence

Figures agreed by Mrs Jackie Nixon

Internet	Other	Total	Statement Balance
14.00	5.00	5899.14	76,761.72
14.00	176.20	5230.65	81,387.40
14.00	200.00	5324.75	78,157.77
14.00	5.00	4642.95	77,584.34
14.00	5.00	4842.53	80,808.62
14.00	5.00	4683.00	79,690.46
14.00	63.96	4533.61	79,434.43
14.54	5.00	5362.27	80,540.63
14.20	600.96	6508.70	81,927.72
14.20	48.08	6210.01	80,040.84
14.20	5.00	5200.37	79,495.54
14.20	5.00	4640.30	76,840.49
169.34	1124.20	63079.00	

Treasurers Report to the Annual General Meeting of Saplings Pre School

Friday 27th March 2021 at the Scout Hut, Birchwood Way, AL2 2SF

Financial Position at the end of the Fiscal Year September 1st 2020 – 31st August 2021

Balance Brought Forward	£ 80,268.24
Total Income for the Year	£ 59650.53
A total of	£139,918.77
Total expenditure for the Year	£ 63,078.78
Balance at Bank as of 31 st August 2021	£ 76,840.53
Petty cash held for the year September 2020	
To August 2021	496.00

These figures were provided by our Book Keeper Carolyn Izard and the accounts verified by our Independent Accounts Manager Mrs Jackie Nixon

Signed	Mrs Samantha Springle	Chair of Committee
	Mrs Carolyn Izard	Book Keeper
Manager	Mrs Jackie Nixon	Independent Accounts
	Mrs Alison Mead	Setting Manager

