



Ofsted no: 127646

Charity no: 1038393

Lynsted Little Hall

Lynsted Lane

Sittingbourne

Kent

Me9 0rl

Telephone: 01795 522 736

Email: office@steppingstoneslynsted.org.uk

Annual Report Apr 2021-Mar 2022

Our staff team remained consistent with the same core staff still in place-manager; deputy manager; lead teacher; 2 level 3 members of full-time staff, administrator & 2 volunteers.

Our numbers levelled out but were still lower than other years.

Covid was still impacting on staffing/costs/ratios/fundraising events & parent meetings & the AGM had to be postponed several times due to Covid. As a setting, we continued to monitor the situation and adjusted our working to meet changes in the guidelines. We continued daily, deep cleaning, sanitizing all hands on entering the building, staff were doing lateral testing twice a week & we asked visitors if they had tested too.

We were still awaiting a full Ofsted inspection. Training had been brought in & planned for. We were still using our independent SALT (Speech & Language Teacher) to support staff and aid the setting with our focus on speech & language, ensuring we supported all our children to a high level.

As we sit on the grounds of a primary school & to safeguard all children on site, we worked in collaboration with the school to update the Lockdown procedure. It was decided the entry system needed upgrading & the works were carried out.

During May, we had 2 local bee keepers visit the setting to support our topic of 'The Natural World' & 'Life cycles'. Both children & staff gained a lot of knowledge & enjoyment from this.

During June & July, we offered parents evening by telephone, on an individual basis.

We continued to have a high level of SEND children, 3 of which were supported at a high level and 1 successfully gained an EHCP (Education, Health & Care Plan)

In June, our 2 Designated Safeguard Leads updated their training.

In early July, we held a sponsored Sports Week, documenting & sharing the event with parents via Tapestry.

All staff supported their key children with transitions to school by sharing social stories featuring their school environment & uniform, meeting with teachers in person at the setting or over the phone, to pass on end of year reports & any relevant information.

Graduation was held outside in the garden at the end of term. It was a lovely day to celebrate our children's achievements with parents, after such challenging times.





Ofsted no: 127646

Charity no: 1038393

Lynsted Little Hall

Lynsted Lane

Sittingbourne

Kent

Me9 0rl

Telephone: 01795 522 736

Email: office@steppingstoneslynsted.org.uk

At the end of July, the lead teacher Millie, handed in her notice. During the summer, the committee & manager had meetings to consider her replacement.

After looking at low numbers & staff levels, it was decided that we would not replace her but return to practitioner-led teaching.

In November, we held a joint 'Welly Walk' fundraiser with Lynsted & Norton School and December saw the children perform their Christmas production without an audience, but online-staff filmed all children over the week and shared the performances with parents on Tapestry.

On 20th January, a full Ofsted inspection was carried out under the new inspection framework with the outcome of 'Good' in all areas. Although we had dropped from 'Outstanding', due to the challenging times faced by the early sector through Covid over the last year, we were happy with the report. The manager, staff & committee have put plans in place to look at necessary areas of development following the inspection.

Over the year, staff also attended training on counselling, emotional regulation, ASD & 1st Aid.

During March, Spring photos were taken outside, raising funds for pre-school.

At the end of term, another member of staff handed in their notice, due to family pressures.

To conclude, it has been challenging to keep the setting operating this year safely & with a return to more normality, fundraising being one of our biggest difficulties-our main source is parent attended events, such as Christmas production, Sports Day, Welly Walk.

But we were able to fundraise **£640.33** by thinking outside the box to keep our charity in the black!



STEPPING STONES PRE SCHOOL

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

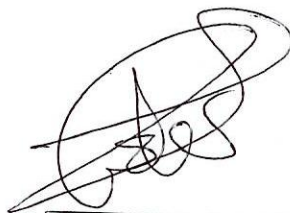
**FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 5TH
APRIL 2022**

J & S ACCOUNTANCY LTD

16 West Street
Sittingbourne
Kent
ME10 1AW

ACCOUNTANTS REPORT

In accordance with instructions given to us we have prepared, without carrying out an Audit, the attached Accounts from the accounting records of the business and from information and explanations supplied to us.



03/08/2022

J & S Accountancy Ltd

16 West Street,

Sittingbourne,

Kent, ME10 1AW

Phone: 01795 437317

Email: info@jsaccounts.com

STEPPING STONES PRE-SCHOOL (Lynsted)

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5th APRIL 2022

Section 1

INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
Fees from parents	24,229.25	Premises costs	
Local authority grant	170.84	Rent services & R&R	650.00
Fund raising	640.33	Repairs and renewals	4,742.66
KCC vouchers	54,978.76	Phone	2,044.86
Donations	0.00	DBS Checks / Offsted	468.15
Staff training and wages	0.00	Equipment	2,815.42
Interest received	0.34	Insurance	2,091.37
Staff furlough grants	582.00	Wages	
		Net Wages	64,421.26
		Paye	4,383.74
		NEST Pension	2,358.63
		Training	195.00
		Accountancy	240.00
		Payroll / Software Charges	66.81
		Bank Charges	1364.00
		Uniform purchases	64.95
		Refreshments etc.	626.46
		Sundries	1,555.00
	<hr/>		<hr/>
Excess of expenditure over income	80,601.52	Excess of income over expenditure	88,088.31
	7,486.79		
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	97,278.60		97,278.60

STEPPING STONES PRE SCHOOL (Lynsted)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 5th APRIL 2022

Section 2

Balances brought forward

Lloyds Business Extra Account	6,090
Cash in hand	118
Retained Cash	638
Instant access	5,954

Excess of income over expenditure

12,800

Balances carried forward

Lloyds Business Extra Account	1,502	
Cash in hand	1	
Retained Cash	562	
Instant access	3,248	
	<u>5,313</u>	

Excess of expenditure over income

7,487

12,800

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Stepping Stones Pre-School

I reported the accounts on the Stepping Stones Pre School for the year ended 5th April 2022, which are enclosed.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner.

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 43 (2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43 (7) (b) of the Act, whether particular matter have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report.

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items of disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required for an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reason to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act;
 - and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Acthave not been met; or
- (2) to which in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

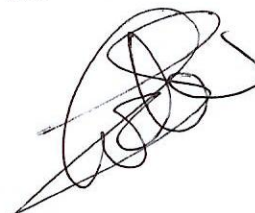
Name: John Crowder

Date: 03.08.2022

Relevant professional qualification of body: FFA FTA

Address:

16 West Street
Sittingbourne
Kent
ME10 1AW



J & S Accountancy Ltd

16 West Street,

Sittingbourne,

Kent, ME10 1AW

Phone: 01795 437317

Email: info@jsaccounts.com