



Wigginton Preschool, Village Hall, Chesham Road,
Wigginton, Tring, HP23 6HJ

Chairman's Report Sept 2020 – Aug 2021

Wigginton Preschool made a loss of £987 under a strong management team. The preschool was closed due to Coronavirus from March 20th to September 4th 2020 as it was not feasible to open as only a few families were happy to return. From September we ran out of 2 halls with 4 staff members in a beautiful old character village hall. We opened with a cautious approach with only 5 returning children, we also employed an apprentice as we knew in time our intake would be stable. During October, our returning 5 Little Stars children came back into the smaller hall, and we continued with 2 morning sessions. We started to make a start on promoting the setting as some families were still reluctant to return because of the pandemic, we advertised on social media and took out an advert in the local magazine and interest increased.

By January 2021 our numbers in preschool were up to 18 children with 8 of those leaving in July, Little Stars numbers went to 8 after the manager took the initiative to introduce an extra session, making it 3 sessions a week. Both halls were providing a reliable source of childcare and by introducing various outside activities, natural resources, and quality care. We took to Facebook to promote our setting with weekly posts, this was extended to our local Town's page where we received good response and interest. Our numbers for both halls produced waiting lists therefore we introduced extra sessions for Little Stars increasing it to 5 sessions after the Easter holidays, this has been a remarkable success as we now have intake for Preschool for 2022. Preschool numbers increased by a further 3 on their waiting list.

During the Summer we had a change of staff and for our September return we introduced 2 new members on a 3-day week, this will support sickness and provide cover when training. We have a good steady intake in both halls and are in line with the Ofsted registration capacity of 28. Little Stars provides the setting with a levelling of the finances for the coming year, we have future projects for the Preschool that will include a committee member becoming a forest school provider. This will put Wigginton Preschool on another level by providing outside learning for the children and hopefully will increase our intake.

Signed:

Co-chairman of Wigginton Preschool

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Finance Report Sept 2020 – Aug 2021

Wigginton Preschool made a loss of under £987 under a strong management team. The preschool re-opened on September 04th 2020 following the Covid pandemic, it would have been too costly to open for the 3 families who were happy to return. We opened with a cautious approach with 5 returning children in preschool and October 5 returning into our younger hall with 4 members of staff. We were able to furlough 3 staff during the closure at 70% and the preschool made up the shortfall. It was advised to keep the manager as full pay in order to keep updates from Government and County, this supported the re-opening and parent contact. We employed an apprentice as we knew in time our intake would be stable this also gave the preschool with a £2,000 government incentive. We started to promote the setting as some families were still reluctant to return because of the pandemic, we advertised on social media, local magazine and purchased an advertisement board to be displayed at the local cricket club.

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During the Summer we employed a casual worker for two months until summer holidays where we would look to recruit 2 new members on a 3-day week, this will support sickness and provide cover when training. We now have a good steady intake in both halls and are in line with the Ofsted registration capacity of 28. Little Stars provides the setting with a levelling of the finances for the coming year, we have future projects for the Preschool that will include a committee member becoming a forest school provider, this would be from a grant at our local community project. This will put Wigginton Preschool on another level by providing outside learning for the children and hopefully will increase our intake.

During the year we have been able to claim for various grants such as Furlough & Covid grants at the amount of £4050, Government furlough scheme for 3 members and Government apprentice scheme £2,000. We have spent on a couple of isolated events such as Summer term day trip for the children, Christmas & Summer meals for the staff as the committee felt it had been a very challenging time for all concerned and a little light relief was needed.

Signed:

Rachel Macdonald
Wigginton Preschool Treasurer