

BARN OWLS ETCHINGHAM PRE-SCHOOL

England & Wales · Charity number 1041020

Details

Other names ETCHINGHAM UNDER FIVES

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 1994-09-23

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

Contact

Address Barn Owls Etchingham Pre-school
Parsonage Croft
Etchingham
East Sussex
TN19 7BY

Phone 01580819218

Email etchinghamunderfives@hotmail.com

Website etchinghambarnowls.co.uk

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: Provision of education and learning through play to under fives in the local area

Classification

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

Geography

- East Sussex
- Kent

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-07-31	£117,846	£127,194	-	-
2024-07-31	£145,078	£133,990	-	-
2023-07-31	£126,418	£144,581	-	-
2022-07-31	£118,963	£128,047	-	-
2021-07-31	£114,158	£110,025	-	-
2020-07-31	£108,328	£103,091	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Justin Edward Lyon Taylor	Chair	2020-11-04
Daniel Timothy Cudlipp		2021-01-01
Hannah Boland Moore		2021-03-01
Suzanne Clare Parr		2024-02-21

Accounts



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1 August 202 To 31 July 2025

Charity name: Barn Owls Etchingham Pre-School

Charity registration number: 1041020

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	To enhance the development and education of children under statutory school age by encouraging parents to understand and provide for the needs of their children through community groups.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	Provision of education and childcare through play for under 5s in the local community.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	Confirmed

Achievements and Performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	The charity continue to provide excellent early years education to local 2 to 4 year olds. We had 36 children on the roll with 16 of those leaving to go to primary school. The annual parent survey once again provided excellent feedback on the quality of care and education provided by our staff, ratifying the hard work that has been put in by all concerned. External fundraising events were not held during the year but we plan to carry out another one in the following year end to help reduce the deficit suffered this year.
---	-----------	--

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	At the year end, despite making a deficit, we still had a healthy cash balance of approximately £22k.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	We aim to keep a healthy cash reserve to help us to weather any challenging years and enable us to pay for any unforeseen outgoings.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	Se above
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	No concerns over going concern currently.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	The charity's principle source of funding comes from funded childcare, which is distributed by the East Sussex County Council. This accounted for approximately 90% of income with the majority of the remainder coming from private fees.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	N/A

A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	The principle risks facing us are the reliance on central funding on the one hand and rises to national living wage on the other. If government funding is not increased in line with NLW increase, this leaves us with a deficit, which will need to be plugged through other means. Inevitably this means rises in parent fees but as these only represent approx. 10% of our income source, it is unlikely to be able to plug a substantial deficit, should this arise.
--	------------------	---

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Unincorporated association
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Election or re-election of trustees bi-annually and any member of the Association may put themselves forward.

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Barn Owls Etchingam Pre-School
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1041020
Charity's principal address	Parsonage Croft, High St, Etchingam, E.Sussex TN19 7BY

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Justin Lyon Taylor	Chair		
2	Daniel Cudlipp			
3	Hannah Moore			
4	Suzanne Parr			
5				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
N/A		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
N/A		

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

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

Exemptions from disclosure

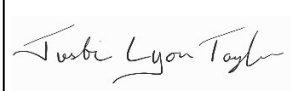
Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

N/A

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Justin Lyon Taylor	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	

Date

31 March 2026



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Barn Owls Etchingham Pre-School

1041020

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

01-Aug-24

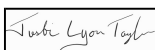
To

31-Jul-25

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Parent Fees	11,852	-	-	11,852	-
ESCC Fees	102,907	-	-	102,907	-
Donations	95	-	-	95	-
Nursery Grant		-	-	-	-
School Dinners	2,851	-	-	2,851	-
School Uniform	140	-	-	140	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	117,846	-	-	117,846	-
Total receipts	117,846	-	-	117,846	-
A3 Payments					
Advertising		-	-	-	-
Net Wages	90,222			90,222	
SMP				-	
HMRC	6,805			6,805	
Pensions	6,378			6,378	
Recruitment Expenses				-	
SMP, SSP SAP Reclaimed				-	
Premises Expenses	7,150			7,150	
Business Rates	2,096			2,096	
Postage	10			10	
Office Stationery	136			136	
Computer Software	186			186	
Pre-school General Expenses	6,024			6,024	
Refreshments				-	
Accountancy	2,377			2,377	
Professional Fees	35			35	
Repairs and renewals				-	
Bank Charges	108			108	
Staff Uniforms	537			537	
Training Costs	966			966	
Insurance	1,308			1,308	
School Meal Costs	2,858	-	-	2,858	-
Sub total	127,194	-	-	127,194	-
Total payments	127,194	-	-	127,194	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 9,348	-	-	- 9,348	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	32,115	-	-	32,115	-
Cash funds this year end	22,767	-	-	22,767	-

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank Account	22,663	-	-
	Petty Cash	104	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	22,767	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Equipment and furniture (estimated MV)	Unrestricted	-	6,000
			-	-
			-	-
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		Justin Lyon Taylor	31.3.2026	



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name

Barn Owls Etchingham Pre-School

On accounts for the year
ended

31 July 2025

Charity no
(if any)

1041020

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 31 / 07 / 2025.

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:

Oliver Cripps

Date:

23/06/2026

Name:

Oliver Cripps

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

Up to 31 December 2024, I was a Chartered Accountant under the Institute of Chartered Accountants for England and Wales

Address:

Lomas Farmhouse,

Lomas Lane, Sandhurst,

Kent, TN18 5PT

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

Accounts



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1 August 2023 To 31 July 2024

Charity name: Barn Owls Etchingham Pre-School

Charity registration number: 1041020

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	To enhance the development and education of children under statutory school age by encouraging parents to understand and provide for the needs of their children through community groups.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	Provision of education and childcare through play for under 5s in the local community.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	Confirmed

Achievements and Performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	After a challenging year to 31 July 2023, we have had an encouraging year managing to stabilise our position, resulting in a surplus for the year. We had 45 children on roll by the end of the year and have seen 27 of those leave for the local primary schools, primarily Burwash and Etchingham, but also in the surrounding villages too. The annual parent survey provided excellent feedback on the quality of care and education provided by our staff, ratifying the hard work that has been put in by all concerned. We were very grateful to the parish council for providing a grant towards a new mud kitchen which was completed after the year end. We were also very grateful for the parents and the local community turning out for a fundraiser at the Etchingham Club to help raise additional funds for this. It also served to increase our engagement in the community and make people aware of what Barn Owls stands for. From a financial report standpoint, our existing accountant is retiring and for the following year we will be running the book-keeping and accounts in-house by the trustees. As such, the accounts will be shown on a receipts and payments basis and we have prepared the accounts to 31 July 2024 on this basis. It should therefore be noted that under the receipts and payments basis, the accounts show an additional surplus of around £7k due to amounts owed to HMRC for tax and NI that have not yet been paid.
---	-----------	--

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	At the year end, we had a healthy cash balance of approximately £30k.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	We aim to keep a healthy cash reserve to help us to weather any challenging years and enable us to pay for any unforeseen outgoings.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	See above
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A

Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	No concerns over going concern currently.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	The charity's principle source of funding comes from funded childcare, which is distributed by the East Sussex County Council. This accounted for approximately 80% of income with the majority of the remainder coming from private fees.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	N/A
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	The principle risks facing us are the reliance on central funding on the one hand and rises to national living wage on the other. If government funding is not increased in line with NLW increase, this leaves us with a deficit, which will need to be plugged through other means. Inevitably this means rises in parent fees but as these only represent approx. 20% of our income source, it is unlikely to be able to plug a substantial deficit, should this arise.

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Unincorporated association
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Election or re-election of trustees bi-annually and any member of the Association may put themselves forward.

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Barn Owls Etchingham Pre-School
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1041020
Charity's principal address	Parsonage Croft, High St, Etchingham, E.Sussex TN19 7BY

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Justin Lyon Taylor	Chair		
2	Daniel Cudlipp			
3	Hannah Moore			
4	Suzanne Parr			
5				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
N/A		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
N/A		

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

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

Exemptions from disclosure

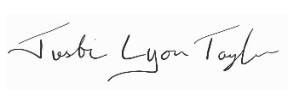
Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

N/A

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Justin Lyon Taylor	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	

Date 09/05/2025



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Barn Owls Etchingham Pre-School

1041020

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

01-Aug-23

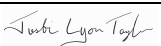
To

31-Jul-24

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Parent Fees	18,569	-	-	18,569	-
ESCC Fees	120,068	-	-	120,068	-
Donations	1,258	-	-	1,258	-
Nursery Grant		-	-	-	-
School Dinners	5,116	-	-	5,116	-
School Uniform	66	-	-	66	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	145,078	-	-	145,078	-
Total receipts	145,078	-	-	145,078	-
A3 Payments					
Advertising	240	-	-	240	-
Net Wages	97,864			97,864	
HMRC	2,006			2,006	
Pensions	6,743			6,743	
Premises Expenses	7,350			7,350	
Business Rates	2,128			2,128	
Postage	32			32	
Office Stationery	486			486	
Computer Software	446			446	
Pre-school General Expenses	6,681			6,681	
Accountancy	1,554			1,554	
Professional Fees	116			116	
Repairs and renewals	150			150	
Bank Charges	99			99	
Staff Uniforms	553			553	
Training Costs	- 735			- 735	
Insurance	1,168			1,168	
School Meal Costs	7,110	-	-	7,110	-
Sub total	133,990	-	-	133,990	-
Total payments	133,990	-	-	133,990	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	11,087	-	-	11,087	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	21,029	-	-	21,029	-
Cash funds this year end	32,116	-	-	32,116	-

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank Account	31,864	-	-
	Petty Cash	252	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	32,116	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Equipment and furniture (estimated MV)	Unrestricted	-	6,000
			-	-
			-	-
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		Justin Lyon Taylor	9/5/2025	



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

Barn Owls Etchingham Pre-School

On accounts for the year
ended

31 July 2024

Charity no
(if any)

1041020

Set out on pages

See annual accounts

(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 **31 / 07 / 2024**.

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").

Independent
examiner's statement

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.

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:

Date: 08/05/2025

Name:

Oliver Cripps

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

Up to 31 December 2024, I was a Chartered Accountant under the Institute of Chartered Accountants for England and Wales

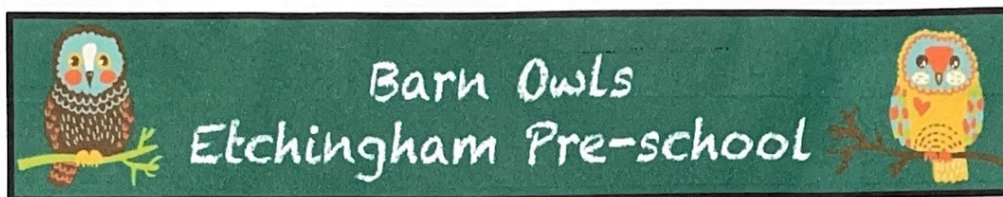
Address:

Lomas Farmhouse,

Lomas Lane, Sandhurst,

Kent, TN18 5PT

Accounts



Barn Owls Pre-school, Parsonage Croft, Burwash Road, Etchingham, East Sussex TN11 7AD

Telephone: 01580 819218

Mobile: 07507 983313

Email: helen@etchinghambarnowls.co.uk

Chairman's Report for year ended 31 July 2023

The Barn Owls Pre-School year, which ended 31 July 2023 was a challenging year with a number of significant headwinds faced. The rising cost of living and inflation affected both our costs and the position of our parents, and years of inadequate funding from central government took its toll on our operating costs leading to a significant loss, which is covered in detail in the financials section.

As a reminder, Barn Owls operates as a not-for-profit charitable organisation providing early years education for children aged 2-4 in Etchingham and the surrounding areas. We are not owned by government or private shareholders and our aim is to be a community asset providing excellent childcare at reasonable cost, whilst ensuring our staff are paid fairly. Barn Owls is managed by a group of voluntary trustees and operates under the regulation of Ofsted and the Charity Commission. Whilst we aim to have strong ties with Etchingham C of E Primary School and share part of the same premises, we are not owned or managed by the school in any way.

Throughout the year we have broadly been operating at our maximum capacity and have consciously 'over-staffed' at times to ensure that individual needs of all our children have been catered for. We have seen over 20 leavers this year, the majority moving on to Burwash and Etchingham primary schools.

Interestingly, we are still seeing the effects of the Covid lockdown period on the children coming through the setting with speech and language as well as their personal, social and emotional development all behind where we would normally expect. Whilst the children will no doubt catch up it is interesting to see the lasting implications the tumultuous Covid period had.

Finally, we are now fully up and running with Tapestry, an online learning journal. Last year we invested in ipads so that staff can capture the children's learning journeys in real time and log these online for parents to see. The move coincided with a change in the curriculum and after the initial trial period is now proving popular with both parents and staff alike.

Financials

Following a challenging year ended July 2022 where the setting made a £9.3k loss, the year ended July 2023 resulted in an increased loss of £18.2k. We were aware that this was going to be a challenging year and had ensured the cash reserves were in place to absorb this loss.

The main challenge we have faced is the Early Years Education Entitlement (EYEE) funding (i.e. the rate we are paid by local government for the free childcare certain people are entitled to) has not kept pace with the rise in the national living wage (NLW). We have been committed to paying all our staff the NLW as a bare minimum and the rises in this benchmark over the past two years (from April 2022 and April 2023) have been 6.6% and 9.7%. By contrast the rise in EYEE funding in those two years has been approx 3.9%/3.9% and 4.9%/10.1% (3-4 year old/2 year old) respectively. As these two factors are by far our biggest source of income/expense, this has been the source of the loss over the past 2 years. On a more positive note, an interim increase in EYEE rates was announced from September 2023 (32.7% for 2 yo and 10.6% for 3/4 yo), which will bring down the deficit for FY24. We have also had to make modest rises to the fee levels, which we have done roughly in line with the NLW increase.

As well as the increased wage bill we have seen a rise in premises costs and general expenses caused by inflationary pressures, which further contributed to the loss in the year.

The profit and loss account for the year ended 31 July can be found as an Appendix to this report.

Next Year

As alluded to earlier, I am hopeful that the increase in EYEE funding in both April 2023 and September 2023 will help to ensure that we break even in the next financial year. Early years childcare has risen up the political agenda in recent times and it appears the chronic underfunding of this sector is slowly starting to be addressed. However, it is inevitable that we will also need to raise the rates of parent fees as well. Our rates are notably cheaper than most local offerings and we are committed to keeping them as low as possible whilst ensuring the viability of the setting.

Historically we have a far smaller proportion of 2 year olds compared to 3&4 year olds but the government is extending its offer of 15 hours free childcare to more working parents from April 2024, so we will see what effect this has on parents wishing to enrol their 2 year olds.

We continue to be the main feeder for Etchingham C of E Primary school and it is important we

Page | 2

maintain strong ties with the school given the reception children operate under the same curriculum and it is hugely beneficial for those children moving on to the primary school to have that familiarity. We also benefit from a strong relationship with Burwash C of E Primary school which we will look to foster and continue given the numbers of pupils that move on to there.

We expect there to be a continued pause on any spending on new capital equipment whilst the financial position stabilises.

Conclusion

Despite the headwinds mentioned, there is cause for optimism and with the increased funding provided by government I expect Barn Owls to be in a financially stronger position this time next year. That said, costs will need to be monitored tightly throughout the year to ensure the viability and sustainability of the setting going forwards.

I would like to register my thanks to Helen and her wonderful team of staff. They are what makes the setting a success and work tirelessly to provide an outstanding education to the children.

Finally, there are currently 2 trustee vacancies that we are looking to fill. The role of a trustee is not an onerous one, nor does it require prior knowledge of the childcare sector. We can only keep running Barn Owls if we have people in the community willing to support so if you are interested, please contact Helen (contact details on header) or me on justinlyontaylor@gmail.com.

Best regards,

Justin Lyon Taylor (Chair of Trustees)

Appendix 1 - Accounts to 31 July 2023

Date: 18/11/2023

Time: 16:39:24

Etchingham Barn Owls Preschool

Page: 1

Profit and Loss

From: Month 1, August 2022

To: Month 12, July 2023

Chart of Accounts:

Default Layout of Accounts

	<u>Period</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	
Sales			
Parent Fees	33,997.12	33,997.12	
ESCC Fees	87,086.40	87,086.40	
Fundraising	51.00	51.00	
Donations	4.99	4.99	
School Uniform	61.60	61.60	
School Dinners	5,174.03	5,174.03	
Nursery Grant	165.00	165.00	
	126,540.14		126,540.14
Purchases			
Advertising	122.40	122.40	
	122.40		122.40
Direct Expenses			
	0.00		0.00
Gross Profit/ (Loss):	<u>126,417.74</u>		<u>126,417.74</u>
Overheads			
Gross Wages	112,292.45	112,292.45	
SMP	10,291.19	10,291.19	
Employers National Insurance	6,309.76	6,309.76	
Employers Pensions	3,025.89	3,025.89	
SMP, SSP SAP Reclaimed	(10,291.19)	(10,291.19)	
Premises Expenses	6,326.60	6,326.60	
Hall Hire	35.00	35.00	
Business Rates	2,166.40	2,166.40	
Postage	14.70	14.70	
Office Stationery	305.92	305.92	
Computer Software	158.28	158.28	
Pre-school General Expenses	7,605.67	7,605.67	
Refreshments	52.72	52.72	
Accountancy	1,472.80	1,472.80	
Professional Fees	156.00	156.00	
Repairs and Renewals	366.06	366.06	
Cleaning	380.70	380.70	
Bank Charges	95.55	95.55	
Training Costs	358.00	358.00	
Insurance	858.17	858.17	
School Meal Costs	2,600.58	2,600.58	
	144,581.25		144,581.25
Net Profit/ (Loss):	<u>(18,163.51)</u>		<u>(18,163.51)</u>

Date: 18/11/2023
Time: 16:39:24

Etchingham Barn Owls Preschool

Page: 1

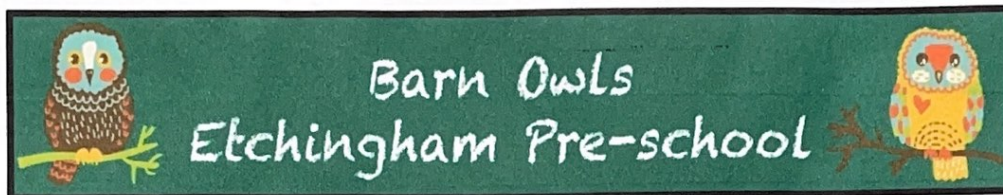
Profit and Loss

From: Month 1, August 2022
To: Month 12, July 2023

Chart of Accounts:

Default Layout of Accounts

	<u>Period</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	
Sales			
Parent Fees	33,997.12	33,997.12	
ESCC Fees	87,086.40	87,086.40	
Fundraising	51.00	51.00	
Donations	4.99	4.99	
School Uniform	61.60	61.60	
School Dinners	5,174.03	5,174.03	
Nursery Grant	165.00	165.00	
	126,540.14		126,540.14
Purchases			
Advertising	122.40	122.40	
	122.40		122.40
Direct Expenses			
	0.00		0.00
Gross Profit / (Loss):	<u>126,417.74</u>		<u>126,417.74</u>
Overheads			
Gross Wages	112,292.45	112,292.45	
SMP	10,291.19	10,291.19	
Employers National Insurance	6,309.76	6,309.76	
Employers Pensions	3,025.89	3,025.89	
SMP, SSP SAP Reclaimed	(10,291.19)	(10,291.19)	
Premises Expenses	6,326.60	6,326.60	
Hall Hire	35.00	35.00	
Business Rates	2,166.40	2,166.40	
Postage	14.70	14.70	
Office Stationery	305.92	305.92	
Computer Software	158.28	158.28	
Pre-school General Expenses	7,605.67	7,605.67	
Refreshments	52.72	52.72	
Accountancy	1,472.80	1,472.80	
Professional Fees	156.00	156.00	
Repairs and Renewals	366.06	366.06	
Cleaning	380.70	380.70	
Bank Charges	95.55	95.55	
Training Costs	358.00	358.00	
Insurance	858.17	858.17	
School Meal Costs	2,600.58	2,600.58	
	144,581.25		144,581.25
Net Profit / (Loss):	<u>(18,163.51)</u>		<u>(18,163.51)</u>



Barn Owls Pre-school, Parsonage Croft, Burwash Road, Etchingham, East Sussex TN11 7AD

Telephone: 01580 819218

Mobile: 07507 983313

Email: helen@etchinghambarnowls.co.uk

Chairman's Report for year ended 31 July 2023

The Barn Owls Pre-School year, which ended 31 July 2023 was a challenging year with a number of significant headwinds faced. The rising cost of living and inflation affected both our costs and the position of our parents, and years of inadequate funding from central government took its toll on our operating costs leading to a significant loss, which is covered in detail in the financials section.

As a reminder, Barn Owls operates as a not-for-profit charitable organisation providing early years education for children aged 2-4 in Etchingham and the surrounding areas. We are not owned by government or private shareholders and our aim is to be a community asset providing excellent childcare at reasonable cost, whilst ensuring our staff are paid fairly. Barn Owls is managed by a group of voluntary trustees and operates under the regulation of Ofsted and the Charity Commission. Whilst we aim to have strong ties with Etchingham C of E Primary School and share part of the same premises, we are not owned or managed by the school in any way.

Throughout the year we have broadly been operating at our maximum capacity and have consciously 'over-staffed' at times to ensure that individual needs of all our children have been catered for. We have seen over 20 leavers this year, the majority moving on to Burwash and Etchingham primary schools.

Interestingly, we are still seeing the effects of the Covid lockdown period on the children coming through the setting with speech and language as well as their personal, social and emotional development all behind where we would normally expect. Whilst the children will no doubt catch up it is interesting to see the lasting implications the tumultuous Covid period had.

Finally, we are now fully up and running with Tapestry, an online learning journal. Last year we invested in ipads so that staff can capture the children's learning journeys in real time and log these online for parents to see. The move coincided with a change in the curriculum and after the initial trial period is now proving popular with both parents and staff alike.

Financials

Following a challenging year ended July 2022 where the setting made a £9.3k loss, the year ended July 2023 resulted in an increased loss of £18.2k. We were aware that this was going to be a challenging year and had ensured the cash reserves were in place to absorb this loss.

The main challenge we have faced is the Early Years Education Entitlement (EYEE) funding (i.e. the rate we are paid by local government for the free childcare certain people are entitled to) has not kept pace with the rise in the national living wage (NLW). We have been committed to paying all our staff the NLW as a bare minimum and the rises in this benchmark over the past two years (from April 2022 and April 2023) have been 6.6% and 9.7%. By contrast the rise in EYEE funding in those two years has been approx 3.9%/3.9% and 4.9%/10.1% (3-4 year old/2 year old) respectively. As these two factors are by far our biggest source of income/expense, this has been the source of the loss over the past 2 years. On a more positive note, an interim increase in EYEE rates was announced from September 2023 (32.7% for 2 yo and 10.6% for 3/4 yo), which will bring down the deficit for FY24. We have also had to make modest rises to the fee levels, which we have done roughly in line with the NLW increase.

As well as the increased wage bill we have seen a rise in premises costs and general expenses caused by inflationary pressures, which further contributed to the loss in the year.

The profit and loss account for the year ended 31 July can be found as an Appendix to this report.

Next Year

As alluded to earlier, I am hopeful that the increase in EYEE funding in both April 2023 and September 2023 will help to ensure that we break even in the next financial year. Early years childcare has risen up the political agenda in recent times and it appears the chronic underfunding of this sector is slowly starting to be addressed. However, it is inevitable that we will also need to raise the rates of parent fees as well. Our rates are notably cheaper than most local offerings and we are committed to keeping them as low as possible whilst ensuring the viability of the setting.

Historically we have a far smaller proportion of 2 year olds compared to 3&4 year olds but the government is extending its offer of 15 hours free childcare to more working parents from April 2024, so we will see what effect this has on parents wishing to enrol their 2 year olds.

We continue to be the main feeder for Etchingham C of E Primary school and it is important we

Page | 2

maintain strong ties with the school given the reception children operate under the same curriculum and it is hugely beneficial for those children moving on to the primary school to have that familiarity. We also benefit from a strong relationship with Burwash C of E Primary school which we will look to foster and continue given the numbers of pupils that move on to there.

We expect there to be a continued pause on any spending on new capital equipment whilst the financial position stabilises.

Conclusion

Despite the headwinds mentioned, there is cause for optimism and with the increased funding provided by government I expect Barn Owls to be in a financially stronger position this time next year. That said, costs will need to be monitored tightly throughout the year to ensure the viability and sustainability of the setting going forwards.

I would like to register my thanks to Helen and her wonderful team of staff. They are what makes the setting a success and work tirelessly to provide an outstanding education to the children.

Finally, there are currently 2 trustee vacancies that we are looking to fill. The role of a trustee is not an onerous one, nor does it require prior knowledge of the childcare sector. We can only keep running Barn Owls if we have people in the community willing to support so if you are interested, please contact Helen (contact details on header) or me on justinlyontaylor@gmail.com.

Best regards,

Justin Lyon Taylor (Chair of Trustees)

Appendix 1 - Accounts to 31 July 2023

Date: 18/11/2023

Time: 16:39:24

Etchingham Barn Owls Preschool

Page: 1

Profit and Loss

From: Month 1, August 2022

To: Month 12, July 2023

Chart of Accounts:

Default Layout of Accounts

	<u>Period</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	
Sales			
Parent Fees	33,997.12	33,997.12	
ESCC Fees	87,086.40	87,086.40	
Fundraising	51.00	51.00	
Donations	4.99	4.99	
School Uniform	61.60	61.60	
School Dinners	5,174.03	5,174.03	
Nursery Grant	165.00	165.00	
	126,540.14		126,540.14
Purchases			
Advertising	122.40	122.40	
	122.40		122.40
Direct Expenses			
	0.00		0.00
Gross Profit/ (Loss):	<u>126,417.74</u>		<u>126,417.74</u>
Overheads			
Gross Wages	112,292.45	112,292.45	
SMP	10,291.19	10,291.19	
Employers National Insurance	6,309.76	6,309.76	
Employers Pensions	3,025.89	3,025.89	
SMP, SSP SAP Reclaimed	(10,291.19)	(10,291.19)	
Premises Expenses	6,326.60	6,326.60	
Hall Hire	35.00	35.00	
Business Rates	2,166.40	2,166.40	
Postage	14.70	14.70	
Office Stationery	305.92	305.92	
Computer Software	158.28	158.28	
Pre-school General Expenses	7,605.67	7,605.67	
Refreshments	52.72	52.72	
Accountancy	1,472.80	1,472.80	
Professional Fees	156.00	156.00	
Repairs and Renewals	366.06	366.06	
Cleaning	380.70	380.70	
Bank Charges	95.55	95.55	
Training Costs	358.00	358.00	
Insurance	858.17	858.17	
School Meal Costs	2,600.58	2,600.58	
	144,581.25		144,581.25
Net Profit/ (Loss):	<u>(18,163.51)</u>		<u>(18,163.51)</u>

Accounts

Date: 16/09/2022
Time: 07:40:41

Etchingham Barn Owls Preschool

Page: 1

Profit and Loss

From: Month 10, May 2022
To: Month 12, July 2022

Chart of Accounts:

Default Layout of Accounts

	<u>Period</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	
Sales			
Computer Serve Vouchers	72.29	487.91	
Parent Fees	6,246.11	31,893.36	
ESCC Fees	22,326.33	82,660.07	
Fundraising	20.35	37.94	
Donations	10.00	94.50	
School Dinners	1,070.33	3,789.54	
	29,745.41		118,963.32
Purchases			
School Uniform	0.00	177.59	
Advertising	0.00	122.40	
	0.00		299.99
Direct Expenses			
	0.00		0.00
Gross Profit / (Loss):	29,745.41		118,663.33
Overheads			
Gross Wages	27,983.26	104,584.92	
SMP	957.18	957.18	
Employers National Insurance	1,615.12	5,435.38	
Employers Pensions	668.41	2,365.30	
SMP, SSP SAP Reclaimed	(957.18)	(957.18)	
Premises Expenses	2,023.80	5,073.80	
Hall Hire	0.00	31.50	
Business Rates	543.00	1,283.39	
Postage	6.90	19.82	
Telephone	120.00	120.00	
Office Stationery	129.95	374.13	
Computer Software	5.97	21.89	
Pre-school General Expenses	1,288.80	4,292.91	
Professional Fees	45.80	163.60	
Cleaning	295.00	354.37	
Bank Charges	29.00	103.75	
Training Costs	148.59	178.59	
Insurance	0.00	797.96	
Staff Welfare	0.00	400.00	
School Meal Costs	1,166.00	2,445.25	
	36,069.60		128,046.56
Net Profit / (Loss):	(6,324.19)		(9,383.23)

Accounts

Date: 09/11/2021
Time: 14:54:29

Etchingham Barn Owls Preschool

Page: 1

Profit and Loss

From: Month 1, August 2020
To: Month 12, July 2021

Chart of Accounts:

Default Layout of Accounts

	<u>Period</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	
Sales			
Computer Serve Vouchers	667.50	667.50	
Parent Fees	28,805.81	28,805.81	
ESCC Fees	83,857.58	83,857.58	
Donations	10.00	10.00	
Gov. Furlough Scheme income	1,141.65	1,141.65	
	114,482.54		114,482.54
Purchases			
School Uniform	324.59	324.59	
	324.59		324.59
Direct Expenses			
	0.00		0.00
Gross Profit / (Loss):	<u>114,157.95</u>		<u>114,157.95</u>
Overheads			
Gross Wages	89,714.83	89,714.83	
Staff Bonus	1,750.00	1,750.00	
Employers National Insurance	4,255.93	4,255.93	
Employers Pensions	2,249.30	2,249.30	
Premises Expenses	5,255.30	5,255.30	
Hall Hire	(18.00)	(18.00)	
Postage	31.44	31.44	
Telephone	110.00	110.00	
Office Stationery	434.92	434.92	
Books	14.91	14.91	
Computer Software	23.88	23.88	
Pre-school General Expenses	2,836.64	2,836.64	
Accountancy	1,610.30	1,610.30	
Cleaning	12.73	12.73	
Bank Charges	83.70	83.70	
Training Costs	25.00	25.00	
Insurance	1,284.03	1,284.03	
Staff Welfare	350.00	350.00	
	110,024.91		110,024.91
Net Profit / (Loss):	<u>4,133.04</u>		<u>4,133.04</u>