

## Uplands Pre-School

### Report from Treasurer 2024 to be read in conjunction with accounts

The group has had a successful year financially. The Treasurer is keeping a close eye on the finances especially with regards to running with fewer children in September (so we can increase their sessions in January) and because of the current financial situation in childcare. The accounts have been audited by Sharon Peacock and all books are up to date and correct. In addition the books have been reviewed by an independent examiner for the Charities Commission, Adam Sandford.

The group is operating offering 15 hours free childcare for 3-4 year old and 30 hours free childcare for eligible working parents (group is paid at an hourly rate of £4.95 from September for 3 and 4 year olds and £7.61 from September for 2 year olds). The group is also receiving additional funding for child using the disadvantage formula for some postcode areas. A few of our children are also entitled to Early Years Pupil Premium which is used to directly support the individual child. Meetings have been held between key persons and parents to decide how to spend the money using children's interests and areas identified on trackers as needing support. Disadvantage formula has been spent wisely on resources to enhance the woods and providing more small world play or to enhance staff ratios for children needing additional support. All funding has been completed successfully.

From January those who wanted to extend childcare hours due to reaching their funding period or claiming 30 hours were able to increase their sessions. Group is registered for 40 children so decided as a group, using the back room without payment as centre not being used by other groups, to take more children and split the group. The group have decided that from September 2024 we will not have as many children so it will not be necessary to split the group. The group will fill up sessions in January for sustainability; therefore there will be no additional sessions available in April.

Fees for those children who are not yet entitled to government funding are £17, being increased to £18 from September 2024, a session, lunch club is currently £6 increasing to £7 in September and breakfasts are currently £4 increasing to £5 in September. In addition parents of funded children are charged £1 per session to cover the costs of consumables (invoice issued). This charge is to cover the costs of craft materials, fruit, nappies etc. Some parents have chosen not to pay and prefer to bring in their own craft materials. Most settings have brought these charges in and they are now mentioned at the bottom of the Funding Forms. Most parents have been prompt in paying fees but appropriate letters have been sent if they got behind with payments. Our invoices show clearly funded and non-funded hours and these go out each term with two payment dates and details so that payments can be paid directly into the Pre-School's bank account. Book Bags and T-Shirts are being paid for, Book Bags £6, T-Shirts £6 and Fleece £15, and these may rise in September due to increased costs from Screenprint. Breakfast and Lunch Clubs continue to be very successful.

Children starting last September required extra sessions from January and April luckily we were able to keep sessions back. We are now full to maximum to get as much money behind us for September so that we can keep sessions free to follow the same pattern next year. This will be dependent on the impact of the cost of living on bills etc.

The Community Centre charge £12.50 per hour to be reviewed in January 2025. We are not paying what other hall members are but the situation will be monitored depending on the utility bills coming in. If the Management Committee for the hall struggle with finances long term it would mean closure.

Staff sick pay has been changed. Staff will only be paid for 3 sick days per full term.

Minimum pay has been increased from £10.42 per hour to £11.44 per hour in April this, along with other price increases, has resulted in a real strain on the Pre-School finances. Paying for 14 weeks holiday may not be possible moving forward. Staff are only entitled to 5.6 weeks by law.

Payments have been made in respect of annual fees to the Pre-School Learning Alliance and Ofsted, and the insurance premium has been paid to Sterling, cover having been increased to reflect additional hours operating for breakfast and lunch clubs. PAT testing has been completed and invoice paid.

Sponsored walk or any other fund raising has been done since last AGM.

Sheet1

UPLANDS PRE-SCHOOL

ACCOUNTS 1 APRIL 2023 TO 31 MARCH 2024

Balance b/f		29,885.23
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INCOME

Income/Fees	26415.60	
Funding	148516.48	
T Shirts/Fleece	568.00	
Party Funds	150.00	
Walk	75.00	<u>175,725.08</u>
		205,610.31

EXPENDITURE

Staff Wages	137328.41	
Screens/Resources	1447.83	
Meals/parties etc	2403.02	
Toys/Books etc	2000.70	
Hall Hire	14387.50	
Renewals/Membership	416.16	
Insurance	516.18	
Postage	103.77	
Stationery	2969.18	
Bank Charges	60.40	
Electric	473.87	
Maintenance/Equipment	2262.81	
Phone Rental	423.79	
Audit	80.00	
Nest Pension	6257.95	
Pat Testing	76.44	
Courses	279.00	
Water	90.19	
Suffolk CC Maintenance	2091.78	173,668.98

Sheet1

Balance c/fwd		<u>31,941.33</u>
Bank Statement as at 31 March 2024		34,619.82
Less unrepresented cash	£382.57	
	£302.48	
	£188.80	
	£240.15	
	£305.92	
	£348.65	
	£250.79	
	£324.05	
	£34.00	
	£114.08	
	<u>£190.00</u>	2,681.49
Plus unrepresented cash	£3.00	
		31,941.33





Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Uplands Pre- School

On accounts for the year  
ended

31.03.2024

Charity no  
(if any)

1046072

Set out on pages

1-2

(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

In connection to my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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

I have completed this Independent Examination and have no concerns in respect to any material matters in connection with the Directions of the Charity Commission. I have identified no matters that require drawing your attention.

Signed:

Date:

02.01.2025

Name:

Mr A H Sandford

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

N/A

Address:

63 Ship Road

Pakefield

NR33 7DP

**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.**

N/A