

ST MARYS PLAYGROUP CHARLTON KINGS

Charity Number – 1055267

**CHARITY TRUSTEES' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st August 2024**

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Index

Treasurer's/Chair/Trustees' reports	Page 1 – 2
Independent Examiner's Report	Page 3
Statement of Financial Activities	Page 4

**ST MARY'S PLAYGROUP, Brotherhood Hall, Lyefield Road East, Charlton
Kings GL53 8AU - Charity No: 1055267**

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – June 1st 2023 – August 31st 2024

Chairperson: Ray Dowling

Trustees: Steffi Roscoe

Treasurer: Richard Barnes

Paula Dinwoodie

Secretary: Charlotte Fisher

The academic year started off with low numbers of children again, however as the year progressed we became busier. Taking on two year olds from September 2023 has made a big change in numbers and proven to be successful.

In the summer term we had our school leavers taking part in various sports activities at Charlton Kings Infant School (CKIS), helping them get to know the establishment's surroundings. Mrs Pergusey, a reception year teacher from CKIS, also visited us to read to our preschoolers and to support an easier transition in September.

As the academic year comes to an end it is bringing some changes to St. Mary's. In July 2024 Sally Hayman, the Manager of playgroup for almost 30 years, will retire bringing on a change of leadership to Playgroup. We say a big thank you to Sally for all the years of hard work and wish her all the best for her retirement.

We will embark on a new school year with some changes in our committee, with Richard Barnes taking on the role of the treasurer and Charlotte Marston as secretary. The Leadership Team will be split between Paula Dinwoodie as Business Lead and Early Years Deputy and Steffi Roscoe as Early Years Lead and SenCo. Working together closely with the new appointed committee of parents we hope for a bright future.

A final thank you to Sally and her team for all the hard work over the past year.

Treasurer's Report - June 1st 2023 - August 31st 2024

As with each academic year we always face challenges with increasing running costs, but we had a strong start having finished the previous year with a slight profit of £1291.53. In the summer we replaced the small picket fence by the vegetable patch long with the steps as there were rotten patches developing on both. We changed the florescence lighting in the main hall to pendant lights, helping to reduce the cost. One strip light had broken so we decided it was a good time to use some more ecofriendly alternatives.

Child numbers for September were good. 15 children on roll. We were now taking the younger ones and opening at 8.45am. This proved to be a good move because as the year progressed we had more and more 2yr enquiries and starters. We received more than £7,000.00 in child fees and funding compared to last year. Fund raising bought in just over £700. This was from our annual wreath making, cake sales and a new event for us, a dance-a-thon. The dance-a-thon was very popular and raised over £300.

National minimum wage was increased in the spring to £11.44, up from £10.42. We increased our hourly charge to £6.00 to help bridge the gap. Our funded 2yr olds were also contributing to this with the higher rate that they bought in from the government.

We also made the decision to change our financial year dates to bring them into line with the academic school year. So, this year's figures go right through to 31st August 2024. That is 16 months of incoming and outgoing expenses. This will distort the overall picture of Playgroup's financial situation but going forward 2024/2025 will be back to 12mths. With this in mind we finished the year (31st August 2024) with £13,149.98 in our current account but making a significant loss due to the extra 4 months and mainly staff wages contributing to this.

As we go into the new academic year under new management and with the 2yr enquiries strong, we will be able to claw back our costs. Keeping the staff to child ratio nearer to the legal requirements will be key. With the opening of our after school club from September 2025, we hope that this will contribute to a more positive financial finish in August 2026.

ST MARYS PLAYGROUP CHARLTON KINGS

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Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of St Marys Playgroup Charlton Kings

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above Charity ("the Trust") for the period ended 31 August 2024.

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.

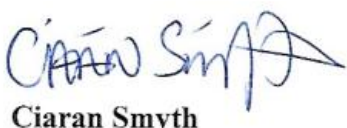
Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:


Ciaran Smyth

Date: 26-6-25

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Statement of Financial Activities

Income & Expenditure Account

For the year ended 31st August 2024

Income	2024	2023
Fees	39,794.49	21,710.25
Grant Funding	32,598.63	44,716.77
Hall Hire	00.00	210.00
Fund Raising & Commission	875.39	453.50
Donations	100.00	-
Deposit from Savings A/C and Interest	40.08	8.36
Refunds	403.18	00.00
Total Income	<u>£73,811.77</u>	<u>£67,098.88</u>
Out Goings		
Staff Costs	76,765.52	52,585.04
Accommodation Costs	9,192.63	5,858.58
Activities	2,590.00	2,669.25
Equipment & Stationery	2,093.50	2,914.75
Consumables	1,677.84	1,519.72
Subscriptions	430.76	210.01
Book keeping	50.00	50.00
Total Out Goings	<u>£ 92,800.25</u>	<u>£65,807.35</u>
Bank account balances at start of year (less Petty Cash)	32,084.80	30,900.99
Total income less out goings	-18,988.48	1,291.53
Bank account balances at end of year	<u>£13,096.32</u>	<u>£32,192.52</u>
Made up of		
Bank Current account	10,339.09	29,367.65
Bank Deposit account	2,757.23	2,717.15
Petty Cash	53.66	107.72
	<u>£13,149.98</u>	<u>£32,192.52</u>

All of the funds of the Charity are unrestricted and are raised with the express intention of providing the playgroup with funding for the benefit of the children.