



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

		Period start date			Period end date		
From		01	09	2023	To	31	08 2024

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

EMERSON VALLEY PLAYGROUP

Other names charity is known by

THE WENDY HOUSE

Registered charity number (if any)

1056708

Charity's principal address

River Valley Centre, 6, White Horse Drive, Emerson Valley,
Milton Keynes

Postcode

MK4 2AS

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	Wendy Cross			
2	Amy Lannon			
3	Sarah Clarke	Chair		
4	Aliz Szasz			
5	Natasha Wiggins	Secretary	Until 5/03/2024	
6	Charlotte Ross	Treasurer		
7	Nicola Kirby			
8	Samantha Ardley			
9	Luke Gibbons			
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution (Pre-School Learning Alliance 2011)
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Trust reapproved on 04/03/24
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Elected by members at AGM and/or co-opted by invitation of the committee

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

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Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

To enhance the development and education of children primarily under statutory school age by encouraging parents to understand and provide for the needs of their children by:
Offering appropriate play, education and care facilities, family learning, together with the right of parents to take responsibility for and to become involved in the activity of the group, ensuring that opportunities are offered to all children whatever their race, culture, religion, means or ability.

We are able to offer children play, education and care in accordance with Ofsted's Early Years Foundation Stage education and welfare requirements. Primarily this is through renting an appropriate space to provide these requirements and the employment of trained, qualified and experienced staff.

We admit children from families within the local community and the wider area within Milton Keynes from varied family backgrounds.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

The playgroup reached capacity with almost all sessions taken by April 2024.

However, it was a challenging year with a greater percentage of 2 years olds No staff changes however our Administrator reduced her hours with a view to retiring in the near future and new Administartor finished her training. Another member of staff finished her SENCO training in March 2024 and another finished her level 4 in summer term 2024

We had another successful trip to Rookery farm on the 2nd May 2024 was well attended with lots of unaccompanied children and our open evening/parent evening was very successful.

The playgroups committee had been in a stage of slight unease during the last couple of years which has lead us to look into changing to a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) which we are looking at going ahead with.

There is an increase in Nursery Grant due to the increase in the hourly rate we received from Milton Keynes Council. Wages costs has also increased. There was a large increase from April 2024 in National Living Wage and we needed more staff on some sessions because of the higher percentage of 2 year olds.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Our policy aims to hold to build and maintain a reserve a total of three working months income. This is to cover for contingencies including, the temporary shortfall in the Autumn term, redundancy, SSP, increases in National Living Wage, pensions. Policy also has to take account of the more than normal increases set by the recent Government and the unknown increases for Nursery Funding and reduction in the birth rate.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Section F

Other optional information

Section G

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

Charlotte Ross

Charlotte Ross

Full name(s)

Charlotte Ross

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Committee member

Date

5th June 2025

EMERSON VALLEY PLAYGROUP T/A THE WENDY HOUSE
RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
Income		
Fund raising	150.76	39.09
Milk Grant	242.95	338.30
Fees	24,448.25	37,900.32
Nursery Grant	174,114.53	139,694.96
Bank interest	1,489.64	399.91
Other Funding	948.00	5,639.10
Funds surplus	1.00	
Total	201,395.13	184,011.68
Expenditure		
Rent	10,417.50	6,812.50
Milk	326.89	353.77
Equipment	1,042.07	677.61
Stationery	1,426.21	1,217.97
Other	205.00	0.00
Wages (net)	158,908.17	148,049.66
NI & Tax	9,698.19	7,915.40
Pensions	5,017.36	4,380.43
Beverages	1,571.69	1,482.84
Expenses & Training	243.20	1,814.20
Consumables	1,265.01	2,263.92
Bank charges	149.10	175.00
Treats	700.00	1,409.21
Gifts, etc	921.78	1,398.45
Uniform	643.04	815.63
Memberships inc Insurance	2,580.20	1,885.69
Marketing	369.60	0.00
Telephone	565.99	669.22
Total	196,051.00	181,321.50
NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	5,344.13	2,690.18
Opening cash balance	79,546.65	76,856.47
Closing cash balance	97,131.50	79,546.65

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Assets

Petty cash float	1,365.21	1,338.05
Current account	34,576.96	37,811.34
Reserve account 68752547	51,175.41	50,286.75
Reserve account 81683855	13.92	
Metro bank	10,000.00	
Total Assets	97,131.50	89,436.14
Total Liabilities	12,240.72	9,889.49
Net Assets	84,890.78	79,546.65

Accounts examined by:



C T Wilks FCMA FCCA

19th November 2024



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name

Emerson Valley Playgroup T/A The Wendy House

On accounts for the year
ended

31st August 2024

Charity no
(if any)

1056708

Set out on pages

1

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/08/2024.

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

[I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) 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.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Colin Thomas Winks

Date:

19th November 2024

Name:

COLIN THOMAS WINKS

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

FCMA FCCA

Address:

SUITE 2, DOUGLAS HOUSE, 32-34 SIMPSON ROAD
FENNY STRATFORD MK1 1BA

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.

NONE