

FITTLEWORTH AND DISTRICT PLAYGROUP

England & Wales · Charity number 1057649

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 1996-08-20

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

Contact

Address School Lane
Fittleworth
West Sussex
RH20 1JB

Phone 01798865376

Email wdt@countrywide-management.co.uk

Website www.fittleworthplaygroup.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: Pre-school offering full day-care for three months to five year olds.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Education/training
- **Who:** Children/young People

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** FITTLEWORTH
- West Sussex

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£0	£1,747	-	-
2024-08-31	£0	£4,906	-	-
2023-08-31	£160,711	£198,942	-	-
2022-08-31	£149,000	£173,000	-	-
2021-08-31	£150,000	£160,000	-	-
2020-08-31	£107,493	£145,909	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Deborah Burnett		2018-03-16
Lauren Gadd		2019-09-13
Sammie King		2019-09-13
Warwick DeanTaylor		2019-09-13

FITTLEWORTH AND DISTRICT PLAYGROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1057649

Accounts

Fittleworth & District Playgroup

(Registered Charity No 1057649)

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st August 2023

	2022/2023 General Income Fund	2021/2022 General Income Fund
	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES		
Funding	98538	88161
Fees	61235	53465
Breakfast Club	495	4,551
Fundraising	64	2223
Donations		495
Interest	274	
Other Income	105	5
Total Incoming Resources	160711	148900
RESOURCES EXPENDED		
Direct Charitable Expenditure		
Playgroup Costs		
All Wages	122261	107035
HMRC	9206	10707
Pensions	5299	2024
Total Salaries	136766	119766
Admin Costs	11216	9916
Staff Development & Training	718	1914
Premises Costs	22609	14006
Depreciation of Outside Equipment	9790	9095
Child Development & Equipment	4380	6765
Advertising & Marketing	50	50
Bank Charges	0	
Hot Lunches	<u>13413</u>	9938
Miscellaneous		<u>1540</u>
Total Expenditure	198942	172990
SURPLUS/DEFICIT (-)	-38231	-24090

Signed on behalf of The Trustees

Fittleworth & District Playgroup

(Registered Charity No 1057649)

Balance Sheet for the year ended 31st August 2023

Notes		2023 £	2022 £
	FIXED ASSETS		
4	Outdoor Equipment	3260	13050
		<u>3260</u>	<u>£ 13,050</u>
	CURRENT ASSETS		
	Barclays Current Account	2675	6437
	Barclays Fundraising Account		-8
	Barclays Savings Account		25184
	Debtors	<u>2944</u>	
		5619	<u>£ 31,613</u>
	CURRENT LIABILITIES		
	Creditors and Accruals	2447	
	NET CURRENT ASSETS	<u>3172</u>	<u>£ 31,613</u>
	NET ASSETS	£ 6,432	£ 44,663
	FUNDS		
	General Income Fund	<u>£ 2,675</u>	<u>£ 44,663</u>
	TOTAL FUNDS	£ 6,432	£ 44,663

Signed on behalf of The Trustees

Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts.

Report to the Trustees of Fittleworth & District Playgroup (Charity No 1057649) on the Accrual Accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 and set out on pages one and two attached.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner.

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; You consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (The Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43(7)(b) of The Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report.

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement.

In connection with my examination, **no matter has come to my attention**

1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of The Act and

to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of The Act

have not been met or

2) to which in my opinion attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: Jamie Dunstan

04 03 2025

Trustee's Report

On 22nd May 2023, a Special General Meeting was called to discuss the serious WDT provided an update of the financial difficulties that Fittleworth Playgroup has. As recorded in the Annual Accounts, it has been running at a loss for each of the last three years. There followed a lengthy discussion between the Trustees and then the following Resolution was passed:

“It is proposed that the Playgroup be permanently closed on or just after the end of the current financial year. All outstanding liabilities will be settled and any surplus of funds included in the Annual Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2024.”

This Resolution was voted upon and unanimously approved by all six Trustees in the meeting.

financial difficulties and resulting proposed dissolution of the Charity.

and been facing.

over the past three years to 31st August 2022 and this now totals £70,987.

A resolution was proposed by the Chair (SBK):

Resolved that the Charity should be dissolved in an orderly

manner by 14th July 2023 and that the Charity should be dissolved in an orderly

**manner and that the assets and property will be returned to our “umbrella” charity Pre-
14 attendance.**

and proper manner as soon as possible thereafter. All outstanding lia

-School Learning Alliance (Charity No. 1096526) in 2024/25 year.

ilities will be settled and any surplus of funds including assets and pro

Property will be returned to our “umbrella” charity Pre-School Learning AI

liance (Charity No. 1096526).

FITTLEWORTH AND DISTRICT PLAYGROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1057649

Accounts

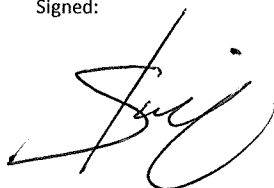
Fittleworth & District Playgroup

(Registered Charity No 1057649)

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st August 2022

Notes		2021/22 General Income Fund £	2020/21 General Income Fund £
	INCOMING RESOURCES		
	Funding	88161	86973
	Fees	53465	55139
	Breakfast Club	4,551	2095
	Fundraising	2223	628
	Donations	495	1926
	Other Income	5	2627
	Total Incoming Resources	148900	149388
	RESOURCES EXPENDED		
	Direct Charitable Expenditure		
	Playgroup Costs		
	Wages		
	Childcare	95598	86103
	Administration & Other	13461	7223
	HMRC	10707	7210
	Pensions	2024	2332
	Total Salaries	119766	102868
	Administration Expenses	9916	11240
	Staff Development & Training	1914	144
	Premises Costs	14006	16525
	Depreciation of old Climbing Frame	7645	1092
	Depreciation of Play Garden	1450	0
	Child Development & Equipment	6765	2859
	Advertising & Marketing	50	894
	Fundraising	0	0
	Hot Lunches	9938	8440
	Refunds & Adjustments	0	3617
	Miscellaneous	1540	918
	Capital Expenditure	0	0
	Total Expenditure	172990	148597
	SURPLUS	-24090	791
	Gain on COIF Investment	0	0
	NET SURPLUS	-24090	791

Signed:



(Chairman) on behalf of The Trustees

Fittleworth & District Playgroup

(Registered Charity No 1057649)

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st August 2022

Notes		2022 £	2021 £
	FIXED ASSETS		
	Climbing Frame	0	7645
	Play Garden	13050	0
		£ 13,050	£ 7,645
	CURRENT ASSETS		
	Barclays Current Account	6437	16354
	Barclays Fundraising Account	-8	9579
	Barclays Savings Account	25184	35175
	Debtors		
		£ 31,613	£ 61,108
	CURRENT LIABILITIES		
	Creditors and Accruals	0	0
	NET CURRENT ASSETS		£ 61,108
	NET ASSETS	£ 44,663	£ 68,753



Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts.

Report to the Trustees of Fittleworth & District Playgroup (Charity No 1057649) on the Accrual Accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 and set out on pages one and two attached.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner.

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Basis of independent examiner's report.

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Independent examiner's statement.

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Signed:

5/5/23

Dated:

Fittleworth & District Playgroup

Chairman's Report – 2021-22

The Last Twelve Months

- We have been very lucky that our outdoor mud kitchen received a huge overhaul thanks to a staff members family member making an donating the work bench! The children are having so much fun. This is always a very popular and educational area for the children.
- This term our breakfast club seems to have its best attendance numbers it has for quite long time. This is something we hope that with the right advertising and support from the school we can continue grow.
- We have had the outside area transformed with the arrival of our "Teletubbies hill" The children are risk assessing their play, enjoying the slide and investigating what rolls well down the hill! This has made better use of the area outside as the old climbing frame was not able to be used a lot of the time. The hill has made this area assessable all day long!

Staff

- We have been very lucky this year to have a very stable team of staff. With us just loosing Linda Ede as she now feels ready for retirement. May we take this opportunity to thank Linda for all her hard work, dedication and cuddles over the last few years. We wish her all the best with her extra time on her hands.

The Next Twelve Months

- With the sad news that Linda Ede will retire in the summer means we are looking to recruit a new special person to look after our under twos!
- Afterschool clubs are something we have spoken and also experimented with in the past few years. Demand for this provision only ever seems to be growing so it is an idea we are going to be revisiting over the next twelve months to see if we can get something put into place.
- Karen is looking into the possibility of having a Forest Schools sessions for our Playgroup children.

Thank You's

As always we are grateful for the tremendous support we have received over the last 12 months from not only our parents but also the wider community. Whilst I cannot list everyone individually there are a number of people I would like to mention.

First of all, I would like to thank our Manager Karen Cearns and all of our playgroup staff. They really all do work tirelessly to provide a safe, nurturing and educational environment for our children.

We would like to thank our management committee, Debbie Burnett, Warwick Dean Taylor and all of the staff of Fittleworth Village School for their continued commitment to the Playgroup.

Finally, thank you to all the parents of our children for their support and encouragement and to the children themselves, who never fail to make us smile!

Sammie King

Chair

Fittleworth & District Playgroup

12th October 2022

FITTLEWORTH AND DISTRICT PLAYGROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1057649

Accounts

Fittleworth Chairpersons Report 2020-21

Obviously, this has been an extremely challenging year!

We re-opened in September, for all children, but with lower numbers than usual. This was a very difficult decision in part as we do NOT socially distance from the children and therefore staff and both their own families and the families of the children attending were put at risk. Without vaccines or any asymptomatic testing until February 2021 when Early Years settings became eligible. We were also unable to show any families around the setting or settle children under the guidance until September 2020 so we made a virtual tour and we tried as best as possible to engage with new families, through increased social media as well as sending home lots of insights into the day and sharing, frequently, the children's memory books.

In November, we had a national lockdown with restrictions being lifted for Christmas. During this lockdown we stayed open for all children but split into two groups, so children attended either Mon-Wed or Thursday and Friday. On January 6th the UK 2021 went into its third Lockdown and yet Early Years settings were instructed by the government to stay open to all children if they were able. At different times over the academic year, we have had parents keep their children at home, through their choice. We have had to ask families to change sessions, and children to change groups. There have been so many new challenges to contend with, but we have done it, and now look forward to the future with new opportunities, with our aim to be the best Early Years setting we can be! This has been a year of reflection and transition and we are all feeling positive about moving forward.

Staff

We welcomed a new apprentice to the team, Lilli-Mai Jupp in April. Lilli-Mai will be studying her Childcare Level 2 certificate whilst working alongside the team at Fittleworth.

We sadly had to say goodbye to Jo Spiers in July and Michelle Still in July. We thank them both for all their hard work and support. We wish them well in their future.

The Fittleworth team have continued to be an amazing support. In these uncertain times it has been important to support all staff's wellbeing and ensure everyone feels as safe as we can make them.

Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts.

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Signed: 

Dated: 12/1/22

Fittleworth & District Playgroup

(Registered Charity No 1057649)

Balance Sheet for the year ended 31st August 2021

Notes		2021 £	2020 £
	FIXED ASSETS		
4	Climbing Frame	7645	8737
5	Coiff Fund	0	0
		<u>£ 7,645</u>	<u>£ 8,737</u>
	CURRENT ASSETS		
	Barclays Current Account	23080	21781
	Barclays Fundraising Account	2853	2271
	Barclays Savings Account	35175	35175
	Debtors		
		<u>£ 61,108</u>	<u>£ 59,227</u>
	CURRENT LIABILITIES		
	Creditors and Accruals	0	0
	NET CURRENT ASSETS	<u>£ 61,108</u>	<u>£ 59,227</u>
	NET ASSETS	<u>£ 68,753</u>	<u>£ 67,964</u>



23.3.23

Fittleworth & District Playgroup

(Registered Charity No 1057649)

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st August 2021

Notes	INCOMING RESOURCES	2020/21 General Income Fund £	2019/20 General Income Fund £
1	Funding	86973	59384
	Fees	55139	36373
	Breakfast Club	2,095	2,402
	Fundraising	628	226
	Donations	1926	105
	Other Income	2627	8957
	Interest		46
	Total Incoming Resources	149388	107493
	RESOURCES EXPENDED		
2	Direct Charitable Expenditure		
	Playgroup Costs		
	Wages	86103	91761
	Childcare		
	Administration & Other	7223	6765
	HMRC	7210	5965
	Pensions	2332	2523
	Total Salaries	102868	107014
	Administration Expenses	11240	9995
	Staff Development & Training	144	480
	Premises Costs	16525	13021
	Depreciation	1092	1092
	Child Development & Equipment	2859	4916
	Advertising & Marketing	894	380
	Fundraising	0	0
	Hot Lunches	8440	6414
	Refunds & Adjustments	3617	1815
	Miscellaneous		782
	Write Off Capital Equipment	8666	0
	Total Expenditure	156345	145909
	NET DEFICIT	-6957	-38416
	Fund balance b/f (01/09/2020)	68069	106485
	Fund balance c/f (31/08/2021)	61112	68069

Signed:



(Chairman) on behalf of The Trustees

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Dated:

12/1/22

Fittleworth & District Playgroup

(Registered Charity No 1057649)

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	NET ASSETS	<u>£ 68,753</u>	<u>£ 67,964</u>



23.3.23

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Signed:



(Chairman) on behalf of The Trustees

FITTLEWORTH AND DISTRICT PLAYGROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1057649

Accounts

Fittleworth Chairpersons Report 2019/2020

Time of writing September 2020

Wow! What a year it has been! Here is some of what has been going on:

Covid-19

We closed on the 20th March following government guidelines and re-opened for key children on the 20th May. We then re-opened on the 8th June bringing our school leaver children back, to help with their transition into the school. During our closure Karen, Playgroup Manager, continued contact with all of the children with zoom connections to the weekly music session, book readings from the staff, video recordings of the staff, role playing, activity packs, seeds through the post and many other inventive ideas to keep the children busy and connected to the playgroup during lockdown.

In the Playroom

We have created a new separate, quiet area for the children to retreat to for book reading or quiet play with a bubble tube, bean bags, soft lighting with a natural/nature theme.

The children are continuing to enjoy the outside area with an added gazebo which has helped in the really hot weather and when it is raining, the children can still continue with their outside activities under the gazebo. We have altered the sand area to a stone play area which is helping the children with their sensory skills. We are now looking to develop the outside area with further outside cover, which gives us more flexibility enabling the children to be outside more often in all weathers. In light of covid-19 we feel it has never been more important for the children to be outside.

Staff

Our amazing manager Karen had her beautiful baby Iris and returned from maternity leave after February half term.

We said goodbye and good luck to Ebony in February, our young apprentice, we are thankful for her support through her time here and lending us her skills and natural ability to work with the children. We are continuing to support our other apprentice, Michelle, who has now completed her first year of study and continuing to complete her course, whilst working in the playroom.

We have continued to support the staff through covid-19 and have a strong team still in place with all staff back to working in the playroom, with a healthy number of children attending in September.

I will be stepping down as Chair of the playgroup after today's AGM so we are looking for someone to fill the role. If there is no chair then playgroup can not open. It is a rewarding job where you get to be a part of working with a wonderful team and also benefiting yours and other children's lives at playgroup. I would encourage anyone to take it up.

I would like to finish by saying a huge thank you to all the staff, parents and children of Fittleworth Playgroup. Without you our playgroup wouldn't be the place it is. I wish you all the luck in the future and look forward to continuing to share yoga with some of your children in the future.

Lydia Styles
Chair

Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts.

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Signed:



Dated:

6/12/2020