

TOTS R US PRE-SCHOOL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023 (CONTINUED)

Progress during the year

This year, like many businesses, was a tough year after the Covid fallout. We had less children on the register and due to the financial climate and the cost of living crisis, parents are booking less paid for sessions for their children and only taking the free government funded places which, as this is grossly underfunded, is sadly not free to us as a provider. The numbers of special educational needs children needing additional support is also increasing and this takes more adults out of the equation for mainstream children. The financial support for this from the local authority does not match what we provide so again we end up part funding this from our own pockets. All of this, in addition to increased costs, has seen us expectedly running at a loss. There is no happy ending in sight.

We replaced the carpets and lino which was much needed and has resulted in lots of positive comments from parents which we hope will help us fill places.

This year has seen a change of staff – Lauren returned from maternity leave and Kerry, our co manager, left. We have given it some time and thought and have decided to recruit a new member of staff to ensure that we can book children in for more paying sessions. In order to help funds, no maintenance was carried out this summer as it was not really needed and staff have been willing to do small maintenance and tidying jobs in the other holidays as part of their 39th week that they are paid to do training etc in.

Our lease is up for renewal and sadly this means a rent increase and so we are not expecting a better financial outcome for 2024. We can only hope more children enroll with us and that funding increases. We have started increasing our fees and adding on a snack fee as well. We have agreed with the local authority that we can reintroduce the lunch club which they said we had to stop a few years ago. We have also separated our early start from the funding and this can now only be booked as an additional service and suspended the late finish as it is not financially viable to do this for one or two children.

We are hoping to increase our numbers on roll during this school year by advertising in Aylesham, a nearby village that has long waiting lists at its nurseries. We have already received enquiries from families there. We have had to cap our sen sessions to mornings only with only one sen child per morning so that staff are available for more children to join us.

Reserves

At the year end income reserves amounting to £188,809 (2022 - £192,062) were held by the Pre-School.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMITTEE


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M Hollis, Chairperson

Date: 10.10.23

TOTS R US PRE-SCHOOL

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

	Notes	2023 Restricted Funds £	2023 Unrestricted Funds £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Income and endowments from:					
Charitable activities:					
KCC funding and nursery vouchers		-	71,640	71,640	68,042
Fees		-	7,088	7,088	17,039
Fund-raising		-	404	404	77
Investment income – building society interest		-	-	-	4
Total		-	79,132	79,132	85,162
Expenditure on:					
Management and administration expenditure	3	-	1,091	1,091	1,201
Charitable expenditure	4	1,955	82,301	84,256	94,698
Total		1,955	83,392	85,347	95,899
Net (expenditure) / income		(1,955)	(4,260)	(6,215)	(10,737)
Total funds brought forward		9,304	199,244	208,548	219,285
Total funds carried forward		7,349	194,984	202,333	208,548

The notes form part of these financial statements

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF

TOTS R US PRE-SCHOOL

I report on the financial statements of the Pre-School for the year ended 31 July 2023, which are set out on pages 4 to 9.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity 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 charity'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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of the 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.

J D SHEATHER FCA
McCABE FORD WILLIAMS
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
CHARLTON HOUSE
DOUR STREET
DOVER
KENT
CT16 1BL



Dated: 16 OCTOBER 2023