

Cobnuts Steiner Kindergarten

Chairperson's Report 2023-2024

The highlight of the year was the success of the Kindergarten in the much anticipated Ofsted inspection in June 2024. An Outstanding grading was given overall and for each of the categories: The quality of education; Behaviour and attitude; Personal development; Leadership and management. The following extracts from the report illustrate some aspects of the high quality of the education offered.

Staff have extremely high expectations for all children, who are making exceptional progress. Staff follow children's interests and provide exciting activities, such as apple picking in the orchard or planting carrot seeds together.

Every moment of children's time at the kindergarten is used purposefully. Staff unfailingly implement their clear intention to give children the skills, resources and motivation to follow their own ideas. As a result, children are engaged and behave exceptionally well.

The report also explicitly acknowledges the effectiveness and value of the Steiner Waldorf approach to early years education. The result is testament to the skills, confidence and hard work of Diane and the team.

In other regards the year has been one of stability, both in staffing and the work of the Trustees in the Management Committee. The Cobnuts community celebrated the yearly cycle of festivals as usual: Harvest time featuring apple pressing; the Lantern Walk at Martinmas; the Advent Spiral; and May time. Stardust puppet theatre gave a well-received performance of the Rumpelstiltskin fairy story in February.

Looking to next year there is a desire to widen the involvement of the parent body and so we will also hold social community gatherings, which will look forward to the upcoming festivals so that plans can be laid and offers of help received.

Julian Ritchie

Chair of Trustees

Maidstone Steiner Kindergarten Initiative

Registered Charity No 1086476

Income and Expenditure Account to 31.08.2024

INCOME	Year End 31/08/24	Year End 31/08/23
Kindergarten fees	4,014.00	2,169.50
Parent and toddler fees	1,025.00	746.00
Kent County Council funding (fees)	28,021.17	28,711.66
Interest on deposits	190.59	85.67
Regular donations	5,160.00	5,160.00
Irregular donations	250.30	199.79
Activities	379.40	166.20
Gift aid repayments (I.R)	1,341.55	1,956.67
Fundraising	182.00	254.80
Other	300.00	300.00
Total	40,864.01	39,750.29
EXPENDITURE		
Wages	31,939.13	30,103.60
Rent	4,800.00	4,800.00
Gas and Electricity	975.97	847.43
Water	414.77	327.30
Telephone and post	332.35	264.17
Printing and Stationery	169.81	11.74
Equipment	195.33	273.18
Food	716.33	667.02
Materials (craft and garden)	375.04	440.72
Publicity	82.00	71.86
Cleaning and Maintenance	373.82	391.86
Staff Training	280.00	159.00
Memberships & subscriptions	547.00	556.00
Insurance	561.13	612.98
Miscellaneous	33.60	47.65
Bank Charges	60.00	60.00
Total	41,856.28	39,634.51
Surplus for the year	-992.27	115.78
Bank Balance brought forward	4,634.78	4,589.00
CAF Gold A/C brought forward	7,095.67	7,025.67
	10,738.18	11,730.45
Carried forward		
Current account	3,467.18	4,634.78
CAF Gold A/C	7,271.00	7,095.67
	10,738.18	11,730.45

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Maidstone
Kent. ME16 0BE

20th October 2024

I, Warren Haddon, have examined the accounts of Maidstone Steiner Kindergarten Initiative for the year ending 31st August 2024. I confirm that they represent a true picture of the charity's financial affairs.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W Haddon', is written over the printed name.

Warren Haddon