



The Windmill Preschool

(a Company limited by Guarantee)

Charity Number: 1106496

Company Number: 5021469

Report of the Preschool Committee Chair year ending 31 July 2024

Introduction

2023-24 has been a challenging year for Early Years settings across the country and it has been no different for The Windmill Preschool. The combination of staff turnover, increases in minimum wage and churn of student numbers is difficult to manage but The Windmill has an excellent core of staff who have seen us through.

Fundraising, Grants and Donations

Funding raising opportunities have been limited on larger scales but the staff have done an excellent job of running mini fundraisers all which help massively. Selling ice lollies during the summer term helps to add additional pennies into the pot to help.

As we continue, a separate group of parents who are happy to be involved in regular fund raising would really benefit the preschool to not only allow the preschool finances to be more stable but also to allow for other additional opportunities which can be difficult to always fund.

Staffing

Recruitment for the preschool is a challenge as it is with most Early Years settings but this is not helped by the term time only, pack away setting basis. Whilst the staff are doing extra shifts to be able to manage the continuing growing numbers of students, an elusive Level 3 role, has been offered, accepted and fallen through on numerous occasions proving to be a constant absence

Finances

The finances remain steady helped by the increase in student numbers. Reporting a small loss for the year whilst being watchful of increased costs coming through. Limited fund raising means limited scope for pursuing more exciting expenditure that could happen, whilst at the same time the preschool staff play a huge role in delivering exceptional opportunities for the children within the limited budget that is available.

Other Matters

The preschool committee continue to be exploring the process of changing company structure to a CIO. This has many benefits and follows the move being made by similar Early years settings across the country. This is ongoing into the current academic year but one we hope to be able to draw to a close in the not too distant future.

The Windmill Pre-School
Registered Charity No. 1106496
Financial Statements for the year to 31 July 2024

Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating the Income & Expenditure Account)

		Unrestricted Funds 2023/2024		Unrestricted Funds 2022/2023	
	Note	£	£	£	£
<u>Income</u>					
Income from Donations					
Donations	3	<u>2,036.33</u>	2,036.33	<u>3,475.00</u>	3,475.00
Income from charitable activities					
<u>Provision of Pre-School Education & Care</u>					
Fees & Funding	4	97,289.97		78,870.42	
Special Needs Funding		0.00		0.00	
Other	5	<u>0.00</u>	97,289.97	<u>32.08</u>	78,902.50
Income from other trading activities					
Fundraising Receipts	6		195.26		1,058.75
Total Income			<u>99,521.56</u>		<u>83,436.25</u>
<u>Expenditure</u>					
Expenditure on raising funds					
Fundraising Expenses	6		0.00		15.00
Expenditure on charitable activities					
<u>Provision of Pre-School Education & Care</u>					
Wages	7	75,933.95		72,264.86	
Hall Hire		5,656.85		5,614.15	
Insurance		834.62		805.82	
OFSTED Registration		50.00		50.00	
Repairs & Renewals		69.69		0.00	
Equipment	8	72.95		1,577.11	
Consumables	9	4,614.59		2,230.02	
Administration Costs		345.80		250.80	
Training		1,032.00		850.42	
Book-keeping & Finance		599.04		1,006.50	
Other	10	<u>867.04</u>	90,076.53	<u>764.20</u>	85,413.88
Total Expenditure			<u>90,076.53</u>		<u>85,428.88</u>
Net Income / (Expenditure) for the year			<u>9,445.03</u>		<u>(1,992.63)</u>
<u>Reconciliation of Funds</u>					
Total Funds brought forward			17,975.36		19,967.99
Total Funds Carried Forward			<u>27,420.39</u>		<u>17,975.36</u>



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees of The Windmill Pre-School

On accounts for the year ended 31 July 2024

Charity no.:

1106496

Company no.:

5021469

Consisting of: The Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet and related Notes to the Financial Statements

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 July 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited for this year under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act"). In carrying out my examination, I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act).

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; or
- the accounts do not accord with such records; or
- the accounts do not comply with relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 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; or
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102).

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: Martin Ormondroyd Date: 05/03/2026

Name: Martin Ormondroyd

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

Address: Market House, 10 Market Walk, Saffron Walden, Essex, CB10 1JZ

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.