

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1135039
COMPANY REGISTRATION: 07163366

BENNETT COURT COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP LIMITED

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

From
CC



CIMA

Chartered Management Accountants and Business Advisors

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BENNETT COURT COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP LIMITED

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BENNETT COURT COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP LIMITED

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The Board presents its Trustees'/Directors' report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) Accounting and Reporting by Charities issued in March 2005.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Charity Name

Bennett Court Community Playgroup Limited

Charity registration number - 1135039 Company registration number - 07163366.

Registered Office and operational address:

Bennett Court Community Playgroup Limited
Bennett Court Community Centre
Axminster Road
London - N7 6BN

Trustees/Directors

Management committee members are Directors of the Company for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006 and Trustees for the purposes of the Charities Act 2011. The following served as Directors during the year.

Helena F McKeown
Jane Lewis
Cameron McKeown
Joyce Castles-Gibson

Secretary

Jane Lewis

Playgroup Manager

Caroline Connaughton

Independent Examiner

Zahid Tabbassum ACMA, CGMA
Accountell Limited
44A Marlands Road, Clayhall Essex, IG5 0JL

Bankers

National Westminster Bank
490 Holloway Road
London, N7 6JB

BENNETT COURT COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP LIMITED

Trustees' Annual Report

Bennett Court Community Playgroup Limited (The Playgroup) is managed voluntarily by parents and community members.

The Playgroup is situated within Bennett Court Social Club, on the Bennett Court Estate, Axminster Road, Holloway, in the London Borough of Islington.

The Playgroup is registered with OFSTED for 20 places to provide early years' education to children under five. The Playgroup provides subsidised and affordable childcare in a safe and stimulating learning environment to children from diverse backgrounds. Most children attending the Playgroup live locally, and most parents are either in low-paid employment or not in employment. The Playgroup operates from Monday to Friday during term times only, from 9.00 am to 3.00 pm.

All staff are engaged in continuous professional training, providing child-centred learning support, and working within the Early Years Foundation Stage framework and standards.

The Playgroup supports children learning English as an additional language and children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

All staff members hold appropriate early years qualifications.

The Playgroup had its OFSTED inspection on 23 September 2022. We were grateful for all the parents who contributed their thoughts and comments to the inspector that day; it supported us with a positive outcome. The inspector awarded the Playgroup a 'GOOD' outcome with "OUTSTANDING" in the Behaviour and Attitudes of our children. Of course, the biggest appreciation goes to the staff team who worked hard throughout the year to provide a wonderful experience for all the children.

The OFSTED Inspector quoted in the Inspection Report, *"Children's behaviour is excellent. The staff consider children's well-being to be essential to their progress. Children show excellent empathy for others as they practise sign language to communicate during some activities. They show great consideration and kindness to their friends as they play together with good purpose. For example, children offer their musical instruments to those that do not have any. They then wait patiently for their turn to select scarves."*

The Playgroup also enjoy members of the local community visiting and sharing their job role experiences with us, such as the postman, local policeman and caretaker. The children enjoy meeting them and asking questions. We have also worked with the caretaker in collecting and recycling rubbish, providing the children with a sense of community spirit and responsibility.

Achievements

The table below shows how the Playgroup's occupancy was during each term.

Total Children and Terms	Including SEN	3-4 Years	2 Years
Spring 22 – Total 15	4	14	1
Summer 22 – Total 20	5	17	3
Autumn 22 – Total 14	4	8	6
Spring 23 – Total 16	4	12	4

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From the above table, you will note that the total number of children during the Spring Term of 2022 was 15, which increased to 20 children during the Summer Term. This was due to our networking with parents to promote our Playgroup to their friends and family. However, many children left to go to school at the end of the Summer Term, which affected our occupancy. During Autumn 2022, there was a drop in our occupancy to 14, but we managed to increase by two children by the Spring term of 2022. Our informal research found that some new parents were still concerned about their child's health or were keeping children at home as some parents were not working or working from home and could manage their working time.

Last year we were confident the occupancy would increase by the Spring Term of 2022, but we regretfully find that is not the case. The Playgroup is working hard to raise awareness of the excellent childcare it provides to the family in the area and working with other local community organisations and the Early Years Team to have optimum occupancy by the end of Autumn 2023.

Queen's Jubilee party for the children – on 24 May 2022, the Playgroup celebrated Her Majesty The Queen's 70th anniversary as monarch with a lovely tea party for all our children. All children enjoyed this joyful event with fun and dance.

Father's Day breakfast – on 15 June 2022, this was an excellent opportunity for all our Playgroup's children's fathers to celebrate. The Playgroup provided breakfast and music, and the children created gifts for those special to them. All fathers and children were thrilled with enjoyment.

Leavers party and Graduation Ceremony - on 22 July 2022, a Graduation and Leavers party was organised for those children leaving the Playgroup to attend school. The music teacher Susie attended, giving parents and children wonderful music to hear and enjoy. Parents were invited to the children's graduation ceremony. It was an excellent opportunity for the Playgroup to present the children with their work folders, say goodbye, and wish them best wishes in their new schools.

Food Bank – like last year, within our Autumn term, the Playgroup invited families to donate food items to our local food bank. This usually ties in with the Playgroup's Harvest theme and explores 'food to plate' sources with our children. We also think it is vital that our children recognise that they are part of the local community alongside the teaching of kindness and giving to others. Children travelled to the local Food Bank to donate the food collected.

Getting to know you – on 12 October 2022, a breakfast event was held for new existing and new families. This was a community cohesion so that families could connect and get to know each other, create a network and friendship, and know other people's backgrounds and cultures. Families also bring their food to share and enjoy with others. This has always been one of the Playgroup's successful events.

Black History Culture – October 2022 – Within this month, the Playgroup held events to recognise and celebrate the exceptional achievements of black women and opportunities for children and families to learn about and celebrate the contributions of black women throughout history. The Playgroup invited African dancers to share their Black history and culture with us. The Playgroup also invited parents to read and share stories reflecting their cultures and family customs. We continue to foster this, not just in the recognised month of October, as it is very important to us at the Playgroup to celebrate and explore different cultures and traditions.

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Christmas Party – 14 December 2022, before the Playgroup break for its Christmas and New Year holiday, a party was held for children with children's entertainers to perform that all children enjoyed. This was an excellent event to celebrate post covid, and children enjoyed various games and activities.

World Book Day – 2 February 2023, this was an opportunity for the children to explore literature and dress up as characters from their chosen books. The Playgroup wanted to ensure every child could participate in World Book Day and celebrate the stories they love. It was a good opportunity to focus on reading for pleasure, supporting children's autonomy in book choice, and getting them into a habit of reading that brings a wide range of benefits for their learning and development.

Mother's Day / St Patricks Day Breakfast – 17 March 2023, the Playgroup provided a breakfast with some traditional Irish food to celebrate our mothers within our group. All visitors received some daffodils as a thank you for all they did. Families all brought food to share with other people. This was a good cultural event to share with people from other cultures, faiths, and non-faiths.

Natural History Museum – 29 March 2023, this was an educational visit for elder children to Natural History Museum, where children could explore and understand different habitats and historical artefacts. Children also enjoyed travelling by underground and learning about the journey and how to keep safe when travelling by public transport. Children were shown how to read the London Underground map and use it for their journey. This was part of the Playgroup's 'Homes and Habitats' theme.

Library Visits - Our fortnightly visits to the library and Lending Library's "Home Learning Experience" continued through the years. Both proved valuable, and the Playgroup noticed a significant impact on children's overall development. These activities are essential for children's reading and communication skills.

Sobell Sports Centre – The Playgroup uses the local sports centre for various physical activities. These activities are particularly beneficial for our children with additional needs. The OFSTED Inspector, in its recent report, quoted, *"Those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) enthusiastically explore the well-resourced outdoor areas. Children learn about the natural world and are able to develop their physical skills in a playground by being able to run, climb and balance..."*

Staff Training Support – The Playgroup continued, liaised, and worked closely with other agencies to access more specified training due to our cohort. The Playgroup shows appreciation and gratitude to SCT at Northern Health for supporting our training needs and development.

Early Years Framework (Reform) - From September 2021, a revised EYFS Framework became a statutory requirement. The Educational Programmes and the Early Learning Goals (ELGs) have been entirely rewritten under the EYFS Reform. We are pleased to report the Playgroup adapted its service to meet the new EYFS Reform. Staff are receiving training and will continue to attend training courses for their continuous professional development and ensure that Playgroup meets the EYFS Reform requirements.

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Staff Training and Development

The Playgroup has a dedicated team that focuses on training opportunities for supporting children with Autism.

All training support enhances our practice. We ensure that all staff members are always updated with new legislation so that they can confidently provide a safe and caring learning environment for all our children.

All staff completed or attended the following training:

Staff	Training / Course Detail	Date
NB	Supporting children with Autism	18 May 2022
	Black history month training	30 June 2022
HMc	Black history month training	19 October 2022
	Disability Awareness training	18 January 2023
	Disability Awareness training	15 March 2023
JB	Parental use of substances	13 June 2022
	Supporting challenging behaviour	13 October 2022 and 3 November 2022
	DSL Roles and responsibilities	2/3 March 2023
GS	Prevent training	13 November 2022
	Child Protection and Safeguarding update	13 March 2023
IP	DCAT – Autism Awareness training	21 May 2022
	Disability Awareness training	14 September 2022
	Child Protection and Safeguarding update	15 March 2023
CC	DSL Roles and Responsibilities	21/22 November 2022
	DSL monthly supervisions	Regular – monthly
	DSL, SENCO and EY forums	Regular - termly

Staff Matters

Nora Bala left the Playgroup on 22 July 2022, and Gladys Solomon, who joined our staff team on 5 September 2022, left on 31 March 2023. We wish both Nora and Gladys best wishes in their new roles.

Future plans

- To continue to provide a safe and nurturing environment for our local children to thrive and grow.
- To continue to foster close and supportive relationships with our families so that the first steps for their children entering into early education is a positive experience.

BENNETT COURT COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP LIMITED

- To continue to provide a warm and caring first step for children entering early education for the first time.
- As a community playgroup, it is embedded into our ethos the importance of providing opportunities and experiences for those who may not be able to access them. We will continue to strive to provide these opportunities.
- All staff will have opportunities to access vital training throughout the year for continuous professional development.
- To continue to work closely and strengthen the working relationships with vital agencies who support our community/families.

Risk Management

The Playgroup has adopted a robust risk assessment and updates regularly. During the reporting year, no incidents were reported to OFSTED or the local authority.

The Trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the Playgroup is exposed, particularly those related to the operations and finances of the Playgroup. The Trustees confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks. The Trustees also ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

All Playgroups policies were reviewed and updated.

Financial Review and Reserves Policy

The Playgroup's total Unrestricted Funds as of 31 March 2023 are only £13,325, and the Restricted Fund balance is nil. The Playgroup's income decreased by £4,047 compared to the previous year. This represents a decrease of more than 4%. The total expenditure for the period was £112,707, of which £93,962 are the staffing and employer's NIC cost. The total expenditure has increased by £8,522 compared to previous year. The main increase is in the staff cost, which is an increase of £6,927 (around 8% increase on last year).

The Playgroup also needs reserves to meet the working capital. It needs to have sufficient funds in general reserves for the organisation to continue with activities for up to 6 months if the charity loses its funding from the local council or there is a significant drop in the charity's income.

The present level of general reserve available to the Playgroup is well below the amount required to continue activities for up to 6 months if income drops significantly.

The Playgroup is working towards having full occupancy. There are families on the waiting list for September 2023, which would support generating additional income. The Playgroup is confident it will have sufficient reserve to meet its ongoing activities for 6 months within the next three years.

BENNETT COURT COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP LIMITED

Many Early Years settings were severely impacted due to the Covid virus, which has impacted them post covid, but the commitment and support of our staff team will support our Playgroup to sustain our services. As Trustees, we are appreciative of the support of our staff team.

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

Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joyce Castles-Gibson'.

Joyce Castles-Gibson
Trustee

Date: 07/09/2023

BENNETT COURT COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP LIMITED

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF BENNETT COURT COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP LIMITED

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 set out on pages ten to fourteen.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is required.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act); and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statements below.

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 130 of the 2011 Act and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 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



Zahid Tabbassum ACMA, CGMA
Accountell Limited
Chartered Management Accountants
44A Marlands Road
Clayhall, Greater London
IG5 0JL

07 September 2023

BENNETT COURT COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP LIMITED

STATEMENTS OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing an annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. For preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;

Observe the method and principles in the Charities SORP;

Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;

Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustee are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charity Act, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations and the provisions of the trust deed. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and were signed on its behalf by:



Joyce Castles-Gibson
Trustee/Director

07 September 2023

BENNETT COURT COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP LIMITED
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Note	Unrestricted	Restricted	2023	2022
		£	£	Total	Total
				£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income	3	67,291	13,163	80,454	90,492
Activities for generating funds	3	8,636	-	8,636	2,645
Total incoming resources		75,927	13,163	89,090	93,137
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Costs of generating funds					
Support costs	4	6,911	8,026	14,937	13,497
Staff costs		88,825	5,137	93,962	87,035
Governance costs		3,808	-	3,808	3,653
Total resources expended		99,544	13,163	112,707	104,185
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES		(23,617)	-	(23,617)	(11,048)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Transfers between funds	6	-	-	-	-
Total funds brought forward		36,942	-	36,942	47,990
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		13,325	-	13,325	36,942

The notes form part of these financial statements

BENNETT COURT COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP LIMITED**BALANCE SHEET****AS AT 31 MARCH 2023**

	Note	2023		2022
		£	£	£
CURRENT ASSETS				
Debtors		-		-
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>15,197</u>		<u>38,297</u>
		15,197		38,297
 LIABILITIES				
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	5	<u>1,872</u>		<u>1,356</u>
 NET CURRENT ASSETS			<u>13,325</u>	<u>36,941</u>
 TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			<u>13,325</u>	<u>36,941</u>
 NET ASSETS			<u><u>13,325</u></u>	<u><u>36,941</u></u>
 FUNDS	6			
Unrestricted funds				
General funds			<u>13,325</u>	<u>36,941</u>
Restricted funds			<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS			<u><u>13,325</u></u>	<u><u>36,941</u></u>

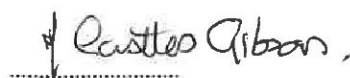
For the year ending 31/03/2023 the company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 07/09/2023 and signed on their behalf by



Joyce Castles-Gibson
Trustee/Director

BENNETT COURT COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2005) and applicable UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from income taxes on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2023.

BENNETT COURT COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2023 Total	2022 Total
	£	£	£	£
3. INCOMING RESOURCES				
Incoming resources from generated funds				
Voluntary income				
LBI Grant Aid Payment	4,388	-	4,388	5,850
LBI NEG	44,846	-	44,846	35,691
LBI 2 Year Old NEG	17,141	-	17,141	31,231
SEN	-	13,163	13,163	12,720
LBI Early Years	-	-	-	-
LBI Others	916	-	916	5,000
Others	-	-	-	-
	67,291	13,163	80,454	90,492
Activities for generating funds				
Fee Income	8,636	-	8,636	2,645
Other Income from Fundraising	-	-	-	-
Interest Income	-	-	-	-
	8,636	-	8,636	2,645
Total incoming resources	75,927	13,163	89,090	93,137
4. RESOURCES EXPENDED				
Support costs				
Agency staff	-	7,876	7,876	3,399
Canteen & refreshment	1,016	150	1,166	1,464
Cleaning	160	-	160	246
Events & outgoing	54	-	54	50
Insurance	-	-	-	629
Learning materials & nursery resources	1,199	-	1,199	2,412
Office & Kitchen Equipment	-	-	-	-
Postage, printing, stationery & supplies	1,436	-	1,436	1,859
PPE & Clothing	678	-	678	142
Professional fee	1,025	-	1,025	1,150
Software subscription	65	-	65	140
Subscription	204	-	204	1,117
Sundry expenses	-	-	-	-
Telephone & broadband	965	-	965	882
Bank charges	109	-	109	7
	6,911	8,026	14,937	13,497
Staff costs				
Salaries and wages	85,679	4,920	90,599	82,687
Employer NI contribution	1,225	117	1,342	1,842
Employer pension contribution	1,460	100	1,560	1,592
Staff training	461	-	461	914
	88,825	5,137	93,962	87,035
<i>Average number of staff employed</i>			4	4
Governance costs				
Independent examiner fee	600	-	600	600
Book-keeping & payroll	3,208	-	3,208	3,053
	3,808	-	3,808	3,653
Total resources expended	99,544	13,163	112,707	104,185

BENNETT COURT COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

5. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£	£
Accruals	600	600
Taxation and social security	1,272	756
Net wages payable	-	-
NEST pension payable	-	-
	<u>1,872</u>	<u>1,356</u>

6. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At the start of the year	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	At the end of the year
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds:					
General fund	36,942	75,927	(99,544)	-	13,325
Total unrestricted funds	<u>36,942</u>	<u>75,927</u>	<u>(99,544)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,325</u>
Restricted funds:					
LBI Training	-	-	-	-	-
SEN	-	13,163	(13,163)	-	-
LBI Early Years	-	-	-	-	-
Total unrestricted funds	<u>-</u>	<u>13,163</u>	<u>(13,163)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>36,942</u>	<u>89,090</u>	<u>(112,707)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,325</u>