



ST. MONICA'S PRE-SCHOOL Trustees' Annual Report

1152590

For the period

Period start date

01 09 2020

Period end date

31 08 2021

Charity name St Monica's Pre-School

Other names charity is known by N/a

Registered charity number (if any) 1152590

Charity's principal address

St. Monica's Close

Appleton

Warrington

Postcode

WA4 3AG

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or b) entitled to appoint tru (if any)
1	Clare Wadsworth	Chairperson		
2	Adam Robinson	Vice Chairperson	Leaver 31/7/2021	
3	Sarah Karwa	Treasurer	Leaver 31/7/2021	
4	Donna Teague	Parent Member	Leaver 15/4/2021	
5	Kim Lewis-Qayyum	Parent Member	Leaver 31/7/2021	
6	Helen Kavanagh	Treasurer	Started 1/8/2021	
7	Joanna Ducker	Parent Member	Started 1/12/2021	

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Mrs Emma Lightfoot - Pre-school Leader

Mrs Victoria Johnson - Pre-school Deputy

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution.
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	<p>The pre-school is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and is managed by a committee of charity trustees.</p> <p>The trustees are appointed for a term of three years.</p> <p>There are not less than 3 nor more than 7 appointed trustees at any given time.</p> <p>Committee meetings are held at least half-termly to monitor the effectiveness of the pre-school, to</p>

ensure that it complies with its statutory obligations and to discuss and agree matters relating to its day-to-day management and ongoing development. All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits.

The Committee must include a parent representative and a member of the governing body of St. Monica's Catholic Primary School. The Pre-School Leader is not a trustee but has voting rights on all matters other than those relating to the role of the leader.

Individuals are selected for appointment as trustees based on their skills, knowledge and experience. Each new appointed trustee receives a copy of the constitution, which clearly states the aims and objectives of the pre-school and a copy of the latest Trustees' Annual Report and Statement of Accounts.

During the financial year, the staff employed within the pre-school included: a Leader (full time member of staff), a Deputy Leader (full time member of staff), 1 part time Key Workers and a part time Administrator. There is a nominated SENCO who liaises with parents, the Early Years Advisor and Children's Services on any children requiring additional support. From September 2021, the part time key worker position has increased to a full time role, this is due to an increased staffing demand.

All staff receive regular training in accordance with the EYFS statutory framework. The Leader has completed HND in early years working with children and families in education. All other Key Workers hold an appropriate Level 3 qualification in Childcare.

This year, as well as refresher courses in core training such as Safeguarding, First Aid and Prevent, staff have also undertaken training in Food Safety,

Stopping the struggle with emotions, SEN in early years, SLC, Characteristics of effective learning, DSL, Medication awareness, Fire marshal, reflective practitioner, sustained shared thinking, theories unpinning the EYFS, Effective transitioning and emotional wellbeing, introduction of yoga, being a key person level 2, Autism Awareness, In the Moment Planning, Practical Pre-school Maths, social media marketing & a Relaxation Module.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

For all employment and/or trusteeship, we adhere to our Recruitment and Employment policy. Rigorous recruitment procedures ensure that we employ staff of the highest quality.

We follow Ofsted guidance on obtaining references and completing Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks for all staff and volunteers who have unsupervised access to the children.

We provide a staffing ratio in line with the EYFS statutory framework to ensure that the children have sufficient individual attention and to guarantee quality care and education for all the children.

New staff members complete induction training during the first two weeks of employment where the individual must demonstrate understanding of and compliance with our policies, procedures, daily tasks and routines and they receive ongoing training in accordance with the EYFS statutory framework. Regular supervision by the Pre-School Leader, continuing professional development (CPD) and support of individual career paths maintain positive staff attitudes to work. The team also conduct regular peer observations.

There is a Risk Assessment policy in operation within the pre-school which is continually reviewed and updated accordingly. A specific COVID Risk Assessment has been performed in line with COVID guidelines. Daily risk assessments and health and safety checks are carried out daily by a member of staff to ensure that the setting is a safe and healthy place for children, parents, staff, visitors and volunteers. We also encourage the children to carry out their own risk assessment, both indoors and outdoors, to understand the need to stay safe at all times.

The pre-school is sited within St Monica's Catholic Primary School which is in a suburban area situated in the south of Warrington. It falls within the Roman Catholic Diocese of Shrewsbury and is part of Warrington Borough Local Education Authority.

It is a term-time only setting and is open from 9.00am to 3.30pm, Monday to Friday, for children from 3 years. From September 2021, we will also be accepting a small number of 2 year olds which increases the staffing ratio for the setting.

Flexible arrangements are in place for parents requiring out of school care either before and/or after the pre-school day through the pre-school's breakfast and after school club, or the primary school's breakfast and after school club W.A.S.P.'s, which is an independent after school link club provider.

We are registered with OFSTED and are advised by the EYFS Team.

The pre-school is authorised to take in a maximum of 28 children per session.

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

To advance the education of children attending St Monica's Pre-School by providing and assisting in the provision of facilities for the daily care, recreation and education of such children.

To advance the education of the pupils at St Monica's Catholic Primary School by providing and assisting in the provision of facilities not required to be provided by the local education authority for education at the school.

In planning our activities we continually refer back to our objective as a charity and keep in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The pre-school has a dedicated room which is situated within the main school building in close proximity to the reception class. The rear access to the room is suitable for disabled access, with access also available through the school. There is also a well-resourced outdoor learning area, (prior to COVID this area was shared with the reception class), which benefits from a sun shade canopy, meaning the children are able to access the EYFS curriculum both indoors and outdoors throughout the year.

This year, due to COVID, we have had to hold back on further opportunities for pre-school and reception children to work collaboratively. Usually this would be in the form of EYFS assemblies, collective worship and joint nativity productions.

Prior to COVID, our children were also encouraged to become involved in the extra-curricular activities organised by the Friends of St Monica's Primary School and the Parish Community so that they became an integral part of the wider community from an early age. These included regular fundraising events. We look forward to starting these events back up.

Pre-school children also have use of the school's dining hall which is used for the provision of school lunches and also for extra-curricular activities such as music, sport and movement.

The pre-school operates a Healthy Snack policy. Staff act as positive role models to encourage the children to adopt healthy lifestyles in the setting, by actively involving the children in making 'good choices' about the food they eat. Discussions help to develop the children's understanding of the types of food which keep our bodies healthy. Snacks are available for the children to enjoy during each session. Cold milk and water are also available. Any allergies and/or cultural issues are taken into consideration in the provision of snacks. Alongside our healthy snack policy, we promote a healthy lifestyle by taking part in a 'daily mile' each morning, either walking or running two laps around the school field.

When children returned to the setting in September, in line with our COVID risk assessment, children ate a packed lunch within the pre-school room. Since January, we reassessed our risk assessment, and it was decided that our pre-school children could move to the dining hall again. Here they have had the option of receiving a hot school dinner (prepared by the school's cook in accordance with Warrington MBC guidelines for the preparation of healthy school lunches) or bringing their own packed lunch.

Our open Admissions policy makes the setting available to all and although the pre-school is predominately an English-speaking setting and reflects the catholic faith, children from all faiths and cultures are warmly welcome. We currently have English, Spanish, Japanese, Muslim, Polish and Asian families at pre-school. We use a variety of multi-cultural resources, posters and picture books to promote and encourage an

awareness and acceptance of cultural diversity and we actively encourage all children to develop a positive self- image including their heritage arising from their race, ethnicity, language, religion, cultural traditions and home background. All of our children's cultural needs and beliefs are incorporated within the setting through the celebration of multi-cultural festivals and food tasting activities.

This year, our pre-school staff have been unable to get together with parent volunteers, to arrange our usual regular fundraising events which are open to the pre-school, primary school and parish communities. Instead we have been holding activities and events for the pre-school children which included: monthly birthday parties, monthly film nights, teddy bears picnic. Parents could also get involved in fundraising by taking part in the 'Your School Lottery' which we have set up this year. A total of £656 was raised this year through fundraising activities..

This year, we have been unable to continue our usual visits to Brampton Lodge, the neighbouring care home. We are keen to continue with this initiative once restrictions allow, by inviting some residents to attend fundraising events held at the pre-school.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

The curriculum provision within the pre-school is in line with the EYFS statutory framework.

Each child is allocated a key worker upon entry into the pre-school to ensure consistency and enable good working relationships to be established between staff, children and parents. This allows the key worker to develop a good understanding of the child's needs and to plan effectively for them to be met, in collaboration with their parents and other pre-school staff.

Planning is child centred and is significantly influenced by the current interests of the children in the setting and their home. Weekly staff briefing meetings are held in order to discuss, evaluate and amend the plans accordingly.

Children's individual tracking documents are annotated regularly, and each child's learning journal is completed weekly. Tapestry (an On-Line Learning Journal) allows families secure access to their child's learning journal throughout the school year.

The whole staff team works together to provide a stimulating environment in which children learn and develop. Through a broad balanced curriculum, children are encouraged to develop a positive self-identity taking on roles within their key worker groups to increase their independence and self-esteem.

All staff model and promote the characteristics of effective learning understanding the importance of each child's individual method of learning. Key workers differentiate activities to suit the needs of children in their key groups.

Evidence is collected through regular observations of the children's play and learning and through photographic evidence.

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

The Pre-School Leader collates the tracking information from Tapestry and submits it to the Local Authority.

Tracking data is used to assess the progress of children and the professional development of staff. This enables informed planning decisions to be made for children's next learning development opportunities and agendas for staff supervision meetings.

The pre-school acknowledges that continued communication with parents is essential and is committed to forming effective partnerships with them to enable each child to develop to his /her full potential.

While we operate an 'open-door' policy whereby parents are able to make contact with a member of the team at any time of the pre-school day, through this academic year, this has had to be done remotely due to covid restrictions.

We also encourage parents to observe their own children at home and report their findings either by completing a "Star Moment" which is then shared and displayed within the pre-school room or by uploading evidence directly onto their child's learning record in Tapestry.

Parents are keen to be involved in their child's learning. Unfortunately, parents haven't been able to be as involved this year due to restrictions, however usually there is a high attendance at organised events. These events include, New Parents Evening during the Autumn term, this year these were carried out over the phone where restrictions prevented in person meetings, the joint EYFS Evening with the Reception class during the Summer term, which was carried out remotely. The

various parent/teacher consultations normally arranged on such subjects as transition, numeracy and literacy were completed through tapestry.

A comprehensive newsletter is issued to parents weekly and we have our own website and a secure social media page which we also use as a means of communication with parents.

Prior to COVID, we held regular Stay & Play Sessions where existing and prospective new families were invited to come along and spend some time with their children in our setting. This not only gives parents an insight into the kind of activities on offer for their children, but it provides another opportunity for them to get to know their key worker better and to interact with other families within their cohort. We look forward to these sessions returning when restrictions ease.

All who come into contact with the pre-school comment positively about the setting, staff and children. Pre-school staff act as positive role models at all times and behaviour is managed in a calm, consistent and positive manner. This ensures that boundaries and routines are set in an environment in which the children feel secure and happy.

We have a positive attendance record which demonstrates that children feel safe and secure in the setting and are happy and confident to leave their parents and access their independent play.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

In January 2020, we were awarded an Ofsted rating of 'Good' in all areas.

Strengths in the report show:

- The pre-school has a robust settling-in procedure, understanding children's needs and prior knowledge well.
- A skilful team, who re-shape and extend activities to challenge children.
- The key-person system is well embedded, where relationships between staff are respectful and sensitive.
- A strong partnership with parents, with consistent two-way flow of information.
- Children are provided with healthy foods and take part in regular physical exercise sessions.
- First class relationship with attached school, ensuring the transition to reception is seamless.
- Staff are well supported by the manager and are happy in their roles.

We are reflecting on where improvements can be made, in order to invite Ofsted back, where we are looking to achieve an 'Outstanding in all areas' status again.

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

An amount of £11,000 has been ring-fenced to fund the estimated exit costs, including staff redundancy costs, in the unlikely event of closure. This is reviewed annually.

In addition to this, we aim to hold unrestricted cash reserves of at least £10,000. These funds are held to meet one month's financial obligations and any unforeseen expenditure that may occur.

Any surplus monies are used to purchase further resources for the children and/or fund our ongoing

maintenance plan which covers both our dedicated room and our shared outdoor play area. This benefits the children and families of both the Pre-School and Primary School.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Not applicable.

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The Pre-School's main source of income is the Early Years Funding provided by the Local Authority.

This funding is available to all children, from the school term after their third birthday, and currently equates to 15 hours per week up to a maximum of 570 hours per annum, some children are eligible up to 30 hours per week up to a maximum of 1,140 hours per annum.

The pre-school offers full time funded places (ie 30 hours per week) to all eligible parents across all sessions.

The pre-school also receives income from non-funded sessions (ie additional sessions attended in excess of the 15/30 hours per week) which are optional and are invoiced termly and paid for by parents.

The funding covers the cost of running the setting. The main costs are staffing, rent, insurance, professional services (including an external payroll provider), training and resources.

The pre-school relies on fundraising, organised by staff and parent volunteers to fund all other enrichment activities.

The pre-school has opted to prepare accounts on the Receipts and Payments basis. The financial year end is 31st August.

The accounts disclosed for the period ending 31/08/21 include all financial transactions from 01/09/20 to 31/08/21. During this period, the pre-school made a profit of £3,680.

The surplus funds will be used to enhance the outdoor learning opportunities, including equipment needed for a Forest School provision, to improve the facilities within the pre-school to enable 2 year olds to join us, and to increase staffing for the new financial year.

Section F

Other optional information

During the period 1/8/2021 to 1/12/2021, there were 2 appointed trustees, this is due to a trustee withdrawing their application due to unforeseen personal commitments, and the recruitment process being restarted.

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s) Clare Wadsworth

Full name(s) Clare Wadsworth

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc) Chairperson

Date 8/02/22

St Monica's Pre-School

Profit & loss account for the period ending 31 August 2021

	2021	2020
<u>Turnover</u>		
Funding	50,505	64,215
Fees	11,439	7,461
Other	882	379
<u>Cost of Sales</u>		
Staffing	(43,917)	(49,275)
Gross Profit	18,909	22,780
Administrative expenses	(15,229)	(16,107)
Operating profit	3,680	6,673
Other income	0	0
Profit/(loss) on ordinary activities before taxation	3,680	6,673
Exceptional item	0	0
Taxation	0	0
Profit/(loss) for the period	3,680	6,673
Retained profit brought forward	56,041	49,368
Profit/(loss) for the period	3,680	6,673
Retained profit carried forward	59,721	56,041
<u>Administrative expenses:</u>		
Rent	7,200	7,200
Insurance	898	858
Professional services	2,541	2,585
Advertising	90	156
Staff training	647	942
Fundraising spend	64	697
Toys, equipment, activities & consumables	3,789	3,669
	15,229	16,107

St Monica's Pre-School

Balance sheet as at 31 August 2021

	2021	2020
Fixed assets	0	0
<u>Current assets</u>		
Cash at bank	59,721	56,041
Creditors: amounts falling due within 1 yr	0	0
Net current assets	<u>59,721</u>	<u>56,041</u>
Total assets less current liabilities	59,721	56,041
Net assets	<u>59,721</u>	<u>56,041</u>
<u>Capital & reserves</u>		
Profit & loss account	<u>59,721</u>	<u>56,041</u>

**ST. MONICA'S PRE-SCHOOL**

1152590

Receipts and Payments Accounts

For the period from	01/09/2020	to	31/08/2021
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Section A Receipts and Payments

	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts		
Funded fees	50,505	64,215
Non-funded fees	11,439	7,461
Fundraising activities	656	294
Other	226	85
Sub total	62,826	72,055
A2 Payments		
Staffing	43,917	49,275
Rent	7,200	7,200
Insurance	898	858
Professional services	2,541	1,495
Advertising	90	156
Staff Training	647	942
Fundraising activities	64	697
Toys, equipment, activities & consumables	3,789	3,669
Building works	-	1,090
Sub total	59,146	65,382
Net of receipts/(payments)	3,680	6,673

Section B Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31/08/2021

	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
B1 Cash		
Cash at bank	59,721	56,041
	-	-
Sub total	59,721	56,041
B2 Liabilities		
	-	-
	-	-
Sub total	-	-
Net of assets/(liabilities)	59,721	56,041

Prepared by:	Signature	Print Name	Date
Finance Administrator	<i>E Turner</i>	Miss E Turner	10/2/2022

Signed by	Signature	Print Name	Date
Treasurer	<i>H Kavanagh</i>	Mrs Helen Kavanagh	9/2/2022



Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Report to the trustees/
members of ST MONICA'S PRE-SCHOOL

On accounts for the year
ended 31/08/2021

Charity no	1152590
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Set out on pages 1-2

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 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent examiner's statement My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 the 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 statement 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 Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities 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: Akavanagh

Date: 9/2/22

Name: Helen Kavanagh

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any): ACA - Chartered Accountant - ICAEW - Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales
CTA - Chartered Tax Advisor - CIOT Chartered Institute of Taxation

Address: 42 Grappenhall Road, Stockton Heath
Warrington WAF 2AG



Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

N/A