

Long Bennington Pre-School

Registered Charity No: 1157300

St James's Village Hall, Main Road
Long Bennington,
NEWARK, Notts
NG23 5DJ

Telephone: 07816 537242

Email: longbenningtonpreschool@googlemail.com

Chair: Sam Dell

Secretary: Hannah Johnson

Clerk to the Committee: Jane Evans

Trustees' Annual Report for the period:

From:	08/11/2024	To	13/11/2025
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Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name	Long Bennington Pre-school
Registered Charity Number	1157300
Charity's Address	St James' Hall Main Road Long Bennington Newark Nottinghamshire NG23 5DJ

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee Name	Office (If any)	Dates acted
1	Samantha Dell	Chair	07/11/2024
2	Julie Knapton Butler		07/11/2024
3	Alex McKeegan	Treasurer	07/11/2024
4	Kirsty Cranwell	Secretary	07/11/2024
5	Lyndsay Teft		07/11/2024
6	Rebecca Sadler		07/11/2024
7			
8			
9			

Structure, Governance and Management

Type of governing document	Constitution adopted 26/03/2014
Trustee selection methods	Trustees are appointed, or reappointed annually at the Annual General Meeting held in October.
Additional governance information	The Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum is followed and the Pre-school can be inspected by Ofsted at any time.

	<p>Long Bennington Pre-school is a member of the Early Years Alliance and Early Years and Childcare Support service for Lincolnshire which provide support and advice on all aspects of running the pre-school as well as best practice in the setting.</p> <p>All trustees gave their time voluntarily and received no remuneration or other benefits.</p>
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Objectives and Public Benefit

Public Benefit

Long Bennington Pre-School is a charitable trust which seeks to benefit the public through the pursuit of its stated objective, namely to provide quality, affordable childcare for pre-school aged children (from age 2 to statutory school age) from the local community. We provide a safe and supportive environment for the children as well as working closely with their parents or carers. Long Bennington Pre-School was started in 1998 and is managed by a committee of parents, although day-to-day running of the Pre-School is in the hands of qualified, experienced staff. Our fees are set at a level to ensure the financial viability of the School, excellent provision of childcare whilst being consistent with the necessity for the fees to be affordable to all.

Our Pre-School welcomes children from all backgrounds. We are an equal opportunity organisation and are committed to a working environment that is free from any form of discrimination on the grounds of colour, race, ethnicity, religion, sex, sexual orientation or disability.

At Long Bennington Pre-School we aim to provide a safe, caring, fun and stimulating environment for children to play, socialise and learn. We aim to provide a carefully selected balance of activities to ensure the overall development of the child. Each child will be treated as an individual within the group and will be encouraged to develop their knowledge and skills at a pace appropriate to them, in order to produce happy, confident children, well-prepared for school.

We have developed strong links with the local schools as we understand the importance of our role in the progression of our children from the early years setting in providing joined-up provision of childcare.

Achievements and Performance – Chair's Report

This year has been an extremely quiet year for the committee in terms of implementing actions to do with the running of the Pre-school. Pay reviews took place in March in line with the increase in the national minimum wage increase in April.

Very low numbers and how to improve on these continues to be a priority for the committee and following the results of a survey as well as numerous discussions at Committee meetings it was decided to extend our opening hours. There has been a small uptake of this offer and we are confident that we can build on this moving forwards. We are now focusing on advertising this to the wider community over the coming months.

Committee voted to increase the hourly fee rate to £6.00 per hour.

Fundraising continues to be a fundamental role of the committee with huge support from the Pre-school staff, the residents of Long Bennington and the extremely generous donations from local businesses.

The Christmas raffle was again a huge success with a huge variety of prizes, raising vital funds for the Pre-school. Staff and committee members toured the village with Santa's Sleigh collecting donations to be shared amongst 3 charities from the village. The ever-popular Easter Hunt was supported with some donations of chocolate eggs. We took the decision this year not to hold the Halloween Disco, mainly due to our DJ having to cancel due to illness.

Due to the low numbers on roll this year I would like to take this opportunity to ask you all to please advocate the outstanding work and commitment the staff at Long Bennington Pre School offer the children from Long Bennington and the surrounding areas, and make sure everyone knows that we are here!

I would like to finish by again thanking all the staff for their continued hard work, Jane Evans for working on the finances and giving her support to myself and the committee. Also the wider community as well as the rest of the committee for their support, ideas and all the work involved in organizing the events.

Pre-school Activities – Manager's Report

1. Welcome and Introduction

Thank you everyone for taking the time to attend and for your support.

2. Overview of the Past Year

Achievements and Highlights:

- We said goodbye to 12 children who went to 4 different schools. All the schools sent staff to meet the children in setting and to speak with the children's keyperson. Transition continues to be strong.
- We are using social media more to promote the setting, posting to the surrounding villages to hopefully increase numbers.
- The staff all work well together and really pulled together as a strong team. There is very little illness so there are no concerns about covering each other for any long periods.
- Increasing the Pre-school days since September 2025 has had some effect in a slight increase in the number of hours taken up but not as much as hoped for.
- Pre-school has had a lot of support from Lincolnshire Early Years as and when needed.

Challenges:

- Having no Deputy Manager meant all organisational work was down to the Manager which added pressure.
- National Minimal Wage and National Insurance increases have had a huge impact on Pre-school which also meant we have had to increase our hourly rate to £5.50 to help cover the additional costs. These were then increased to £6.00 an hour from September 2025.
- Another member of staff leaving at the end of the academic year meant greater pressure covering sessions with only 3 staff.
- Low numbers since the start of the 2025 academic year is adding pressure and more families are needed to join Pre-school to keep it going. Low birth numbers are part of the issue.
- With only a morning in the office means completing all the work necessary to meet statutory requirements is becoming increasingly challenging even with doing some work in the room.

3. Staffing Updates

- Staff are very supportive of each other and continue to provide a broad curriculum, meeting each child's individual needs.
- Staff members continue to be supportive, act as a sounding board and working to provide a happy, nurturing environment for our children and their families.
- Since September 2025, there is only now 3 staff members and still no Deputy Manager

4. Looking Ahead

- Continue with a marketing strategy to build numbers.
- To revisit the viability of extending our offer to 18-month-olds.

5. Call for Committee Members

- We are seeking enthusiastic and dedicated individuals to join our committee. Your fresh ideas and commitment are vital to our continued success.

6. Closing Remarks

Thank you to Jane, committee and all the staff for their continued support. Thank you as well to all our families who help make the Pre-school a fantastic place to work.

Financial Review – Treasurer's Report

A copy of the Profit and Loss Account for the year ended 31 July 2025 has been circulated for information.

The accounts show a loss of £1914.87 and this is disappointing. However, the actual position is actually slightly better. Pre-school was overcharged the hall hire in June and July. It was corrected and a refund of £906.50 was received on 1st Aug. Also, a member of staff left in July and her accrued holiday pay (£559) was included in her last salary where normally this would be paid in August (the new financial year).

Early years funding at £61366 was £3600 more than previous years with numbers of children attending being at similar levels to the previous year.

Staffing hours were reviewed regularly throughout the year, acknowledging that the staffing costs remain high. The expenditure for wages is slightly less but PAYE and pension costs have risen by £3k. This is as a result of changes in the NI thresholds for employers and also, the absorption of the previous Deputy Manager's hours by staff has resulted in a higher proportion of staff wages being over Income Tax and NI contributions thresholds.

A summary/breakdown the fundraising activities has also been provided for information. Generally, fundraising activity was not as high as in previous years but £1560 has been raised. The main source of income was £539 from the Christmas Raffle and £535 donation from the Rotary Santa Sleigh (Pre-school staff volunteering to help with collections).

The financial records have been inspected and verified by an independent examiner. The annual return to the Charities Commission can be submitted subject to Trustee approval.

Future Plans

To continue to market Pre-school to increase numbers and consider the viability of offering places from 18 months of age.

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signature	<i>SDell</i>
Full name	SANTANTHA DELL
Position	MANAGER CHAIRPERSON
Date	17.11.25

Long Bennington Pre School

Registered Charity 1157300

For Year ended 31st July 2025

Receipts

	YE 31 July 2024	YE 31 July 2025
Fees	8,270.42	6,928.24
EYE Funding	57,766.54	61,366.88
Interest	276.96	366.90
Other	145.93	132.00
Clothes	-	-
Fundraising	3,723.41	2586.45
Grant	905.32	448.64
Paye/Pension		
	<u>71088.58</u>	<u>71,829.11</u>

Payments

Wages	54,481.85	53,693.16
Consumables	553.50	533.07
Admin	783.88	1,131.19
Fundraising	1,743.14	1,025.85
Rent	6,105.40	8,464.40
Equipment	2,503.14	1,546.94
Sundries	944.33	511.39
PAYE	2,734.16	5,803.23
Insurance	936.64	976.15
Training	90.00	58.60
	<u>70,876.04</u>	<u>73,743.98</u>

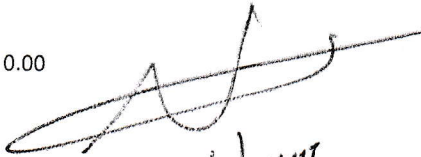
Balance Receipts over Payments	212.54	-1914.87
Plus Balance Bfwd	41798.36	42010.90
	<u>42,010.90</u>	<u>40096.03</u>

Plus unrepresented chq		0
less Unbanked cash		0
	<u>42010.90</u>	<u>40096.03</u>

Cash on hand	14.27	22.24
Current Account	16545.15	14071.76
Deposit Account	25451.48	25818.38
Paypal Account		183.65
	<u>42010.90</u>	<u>40096.03</u>

Difference

0.00


 MARTIN WRIGHT
 28/9/25

Notes:

Receipts "grants" includes household support grants totalling £448.64.

Payments sundries includes support grant £380 paid to families, the difference being an admin fee included to cover costs of distribution.

Rent/hall hire was overpaid by £906.50. A refund payment received 1/8/25



CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name

LONG BENNINGTON PRE-SCHOOL

On accounts for the year
ended

31/07/2025

Charity no
(if any)

1157300

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/07/2025.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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 (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date:

28/9/25

Name:

MARTIN WRIGHT

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

ASSOCIATE OF THE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF BANKERS
(ACIB)

Address:

1 NEWTON PARK

LONG BENNINGTON

NEWARK NG23 5FE