



The Spring Playgroup Charity
Registered Charity No 1157755

**Trustees' Annual Report
for the year ending
31 August 2024**

The Spring Playgroup Charity

Also known as: The Spring Playgroup (also referred to as the Spring Playgroup)

Registered charity number: 1157755

Setting address: Kenilworth Sports and Social Club, Montague House, Upper Rosemary Hill, Kenilworth CV8 2PA

Email: admin@Springplaygroup.co.uk

Website: www.Springplaygroup.co.uk

Trustees at point of submitting Annual Report:

Antony Feltbower (Chairman)

Lise Reeve

Jacqueline Cross

Felicity Hawke

Jacqueline Cook was also a trustee and the Secretary until she resigned on 23 February 2024 and Kevin Broadbent retired as a Trustee and Treasurer on 30 September 2024

Structure, governance and management

The Charity is governed by a Trust Deed that was registered with the Charity Commission on 7 July 2014 and came into effect on 1 September 2014. This is based on the Charity Commissions model trust deed, incorporating provisions from the previous Spring Playgroup registered charity's trust deed, which was dated 7 June 1999, where they did not conflict with the model. The Charity is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation and takes over the work of the original Spring Playgroup, registered charity number 1076506.

Trustees are selected by the existing Trustees discussing the requirements of a new Trustee, making suggestions, approaching suitable candidates and appointing a suitable person.

The Charity's organisational structure is as follows:

- Trustees
- Manager/Supervisor
- Deputy Supervisors
- Staff and volunteers

The Trustees confirm they have complied with the duty in section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Objectives and activities

The main object of the Trust is to advance the education of children under statutory school age, regardless of their financial circumstances, in a loving caring and respectful atmosphere based on Christian belief and practice, while encouraging other charitable activities through which parents and carers may help their children.

The Trustees must use the income and may use the capital of the Trust in promoting the objects.

As a result, the Charity provides high quality preschool sessions. The Spring Playgroup does not charge fees for these sessions and will not do so for as long as funds allow. It is believed to be the only such group in Warwickshire to do this.

During the year the Spring Playgroup offered flexible sessions between the hours of 9am and 3.30pm for children from the age of two. We received statutory funding for some children from the age of two and most children aged three and over (from the beginning of the term following their third birthday). When all children eligible for statutory funding had been allocated their sessions, additional hours were offered to these and other children as best fitted their needs.

In total 37 children attended the Playgroup during the year, 30 of whom received some statutory funding and 6 of whom received extra funded sessions. 4 children received the new Working 2s grant which was available from April 2024.

The Spring Playgroup encourages parents and others to help in group sessions as volunteers. In many cases, these volunteers have undertaken qualifications in childcare and preschool education with the Spring Playgroup's support, benefitting the volunteers, their children and the wider community. In 2023-24 one person volunteered with the Playgroup.

Work experience and work placements are also sometimes offered to local students, along with support for local people wishing to volunteer and take qualifications in childcare, where appropriate, and this was offered for a Year 11 student during 2023-2024.

Achievements and performance

From April 2023, the deputy manager was appointed acting manager of the Spring when the manager retired. She was formally appointed as the manager from September 2023 and has been very successful to ensure the smooth running of the Spring Playgroup. In addition, during the summer term, she was instrumental in organising the move from our location at the Sports and Social Club to the brand new Scouts Centre at Castle Farm. This involved considerable planning and coordination as well as working over the summer holidays, ably assisted by members of staff, trustees and friends.

There was a substantial increase in child numbers during the year with 3 new starters in the autumn term and 9 more in the spring / summer terms, bringing total numbers for the year to 37. This included many younger children and an increase in the number who qualified for two-year olds funding.

The Trustees remain humbled by the dedication of the staff and volunteers and their commitment to work in the best interests of the children and their carers, above and beyond the call of duty.

Financial review

The trustees reviewed and agreed a policy on reserves in January 2022 to keep a positive cashflow throughout each year and aim to increase the reserves over time so that the Spring Playgroup has improved financial resilience. This policy continued through the last year.

Total expenditure for the year was £117,576 compared with total income received of £122,491.

Income was mainly derived from:

- The Government's Early Education Funding, provided for children over three years old (this starts from the term after they are three. This figure varies from year to year,

depending on the numbers of children in the Spring Playgroup and when their birthdays fall during the school year);

- The Government's 30 hours free childcare scheme;
- Statutory funding for some two year olds under the Warwickshire County Council's scheme for two year olds and the government's new scheme for working families;
- Gifts from parents and other individuals; and
- Grants and donations from organisations and other supporters including local churches.

Income from the various Early Education Funding schemes this year totaled £72,635, and the income from restricted grants was £18,823. We received grants from the WCC Councilor's Grant Fund, the Kings Table Residual Fund and Kenilworth Town Council. £1,750 was spent on staff costs, £8,800 was used towards our rent, and £1,273 was spent to purchase equipment in our new premises. £7,000 of restricted funds has been carried forward to next year.

£30,278 of income was received via donations from parents, individuals, and other organisations. This was significantly higher than in previous years following an appeal in late 2023 when it looked like there might be a significant shortfall in funds. The trustees are grateful to all those who made donations during the year. Organisations donating in 2023/24 included the Kenilworth Round table, the Living Word Fellowship Church, St John the Evangelist Church, and the SJP Foundation.

The playgroup moved to new premises during the summer of 2024. One of the grants was specifically towards the purchase of new equipment required following the move. About £5,500 was spent in total on move related costs and this has had an impact on the level of reserves. 2023/24 ended with cash in the bank of £11,397 being carried forward to the following year, which included £7,000 of restricted funds. No fund was in deficit.

The budget for 2024/25 has been set to broadly break even and maintain the same level of cash in the bank at the end of the year.

Declaration

The Trustees declare they have approved the Trustees' Annual Report above.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees

Signature



Full name

Antony Feltbower

Position

Chair of Trustees

Date

16.12.2024



Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

The Spring Playgroup Charity

On accounts for the year
ended

31st August 2024

Charity no
(if any)

1157755

Set out on pages

7 & 8

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:

Date: 16-12-24

Name: Mr P Lewis

Relevant professional

ACA

qualification(s) or body

Address: 40 Barrow Road, Kenilworth. CV81EH



The Spring Playgroup Charity	1157755
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Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	1st September 2023	To	31st August 2024
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Gifts	30,278	-		30,278	17,521
Statutory funding	72,635	-		72,635	80,959
Fundraising	474	-		474	491
Grants	-	18,823		18,823	9,100
	-	-		-	-
Bank interest	281	-		281	172
Other	-	-		-	-
				-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	103,668	18,823	-	122,491	108,243

The Spring Playgroup Charity
Annual Report for the year ending 31 August 2024

A2 Asset and investment sales.	-				
		-		-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	103,668	18,823	-	122,491	108,243

A3 Payments

Staff costs	95,299	1,750		97,049	90,080
	-	-		-	-
Premises	5,597	8,800		14,397	13,230
Insurance	1,194	-		1,194	1,191
Consumable play materials	391	-		391	552
Refreshments and cleaning materials	596	-		596	469
Office/Administration	1,771	-		1,771	1,603
Bank charges	60	-		60	60
Equipments and resources	845	1,273		2,118	1,007
Sundry	-	-		-	-
Sub total	105,753	11,823	-	117,576	108,192

A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)

The Spring Playgroup Charity
Annual Report for the year ending 31 August 2024

	-	-		-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	105,753	11,823	-	117,576	108,192
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 2,085	7,000	-	4,915	51
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-		-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	6,482	-		6,482	6,431
Cash funds this year end	4,397	7,000	-	11,397	6,482

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Caf Bank Current Account	1,378	-	-
	Caf Bank Gold Account	3,000	7,000	-
	Petty Cash	19	-	-
	Total cash funds	4,397	7,000	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds

The Spring Playgroup Charity
Annual Report for the year ending 31 August 2024

	Details	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
	Various storage solutions for toys/play materials	Restricted	-	-
	Tables/Chairs/Home corner	Restricted	-	-
	Various toys/play equipment	Unrestricted	-	-
	Computer equipment	Unrestricted	-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

The Spring Playgroup Charity
Annual Report for the year ending 31 August 2024

B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature

Print Name

Date of approval

Tony Feltbower

A Feltbower

16-Dec-24