



Preschool CIO
Lyme Road, Axminster EX13 5BE
OFSTED EY496057
Charity no. 1160739
Tel: 01297 639329

Email: dragonflies@stmarysaxminster.devon.sch.uk
Website: www.preschoolaxminster.co.uk

Trustees' Annual Report 2024

Trustees 2024-5:

Natalie Shaw (Chair)
Kayleigh Beer
Jessica Ellis
Sarah Fawcett
Grace Herbert

Dragonflies Preschool is a small preschool which takes children from age 2 to 4, until they begin their Reception year at school. It operates within a school building (St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Axminster) and pays rent for one classroom and an outside area, plus cleaning and utilities, to the multi-academy trust which runs the school (Plymouth Cast). The preschool operates within the school day and term times only, and we can look after a maximum of 24 children at one time, up to 5 2-year-olds and the rest 3 and 4-year-olds. Most children do not attend full time but their parents choose the hours and days they attend according to what works best for them.

Trustees are generally recruited from parents of children who attend the preschool, although other interested parties (such as grandparents or other members of the community) would be welcomed if they wished to join.

Our activities and objectives are to provide an excellent preschool - the aim of our preschool is to begin the education process for young children, providing this in a caring but structured way so that the transition to school is a smooth process. We aim to make the children feel happy and confident in our care and to help parents feel involved with this process.

We promote equal opportunities and encourage children to think of others but also of themselves. We encourage self-confidence, good health and a responsible attitude in all our children. We aim to provide a safe, secure, fun place for children to learn whilst also providing more challenging activities. Families can always talk to us in the strictest confidence and be assured that everything we learn about the children remains confidential. Our staff and Trustees recognise that the wellbeing of the children is paramount; we are continually looking for ways to improve our knowledge and practices to the benefit of the children. Our ultimate goal is for our children to leave us and go on to Primary School as happy, healthy individuals who mix well with others, consider the feelings of others but are also able to stand up for what they believe in.

In 2023 we were inspected by Ofsted and were given a rating of “Good”. We also regularly receive positive feedback from parents and are currently almost full to capacity by summer term 2026.

We are funded mostly by Early Years government funding which we claim via Devon County Council, with whom we have a providers agreement, and claim hours for eligible children both through Universal funding for 3 and 4-year-olds, targeted funding for 2-year-olds and working entitlements for all early years children.

We also charge directly for children who attend more hours than they are entitled to claim under funding, and hours outside of our funding period.

We carry out some fundraising locally e.g. at school fetes and through local supermarket fundraising schemes, as well as selling branded uniform items for children at a small profit - these are not compulsory for parents to buy.

Most of our costs are for staff salaries. We employ a team of highly motivated and qualified Early Years practitioners, including an EY Room Manager/SENCo and Deputy, as well as a Finance and Business Manager. We also take on apprentices and work experience students, and have external providers to lead PE, music and outdoor/woodland activity sessions.

We have no debts but keep a reserve both for redundancy of £9k and emergency funds of £7k to cover us in the short term in the case of unforeseen emergencies.

Our accounts are checked annually by a local chartered accountancy firm.

October 2025

DRAGONFLIES PRESCHOOL CIO
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 DECEMBER 2024

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF DRAGONFLIES PRESCHOOL CIO

I report on the accounts of the Dragonflies, for the year ended 31 December 2024, which are set out on pages 2 to 3.

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 Commissioners (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 statement below.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS 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 to 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.

TCAS Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
2 Victoria Hall
Coombe Lane
Axminster
Devon EX13 5AX



7/16/ 2025

DRAGONFLIES PRESCHOOL CIO

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

<u>2023</u>			<u>2024</u>	
<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>		<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
		<u>INCOME</u>		
99776		DCC EYFS		92025
20455		Fees		22016
573		Fundraising		2351
-		Grants		-
62		Interest Received		84
90		Uniform Sales		126
<u>120956</u>			<u>116602</u>	
		<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
	93033	Wages	89236	
	5840	Pensions	5348	
	5111	Rent	5087	
	726	Equipment & Toys	715	
	4114	Consumables & Resources	4671	
	453	T-Shirts/Uniform	641	
	1289	Insurance	1302	
	187	Training Expenses	370	
	499	Professional Costs	572	
	84	Repair Costs	-	
	398	Telephone	301	
	287	Sundry Expenses	-	
	143	Cleaning	144	
	1916	Website/Software Costs	2290	
	36	Stationery & Postage	33	
	1020	Depreciation	993	
	199	Subscription & Memberships	421	
	-	Stock Decrease	-	
<u>115335</u>			<u>112124</u>	
<u>5621</u>		<u>SURPLUS/(DEFECIT) FOR THE YEAR</u>	<u>4478</u>	

Approved by the committee and signed on its behalf by:

Chairman: _____

Treasurer: _____

DRAGONFLIES PRESCHOOL CIO

BALANCE SHEET

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	<u>2023</u> <u>£</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>£</u>
<u>FIXED ASSETS</u>	5782	5169
<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>		
Closing Stock	204	204
Bank Current Account	82875	88208
Redundancy Account	9000	9000
Deposit Account	7066	7150
Cash in Hand	47	47
	<u>99192</u>	<u>104609</u>
<u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>		
Creditors	<u>1014</u>	<u>1340</u>
<u>NET CURRENT ASSETS</u>	<u>98178</u>	<u>103269</u>
<u>TOTAL NET ASSETS</u>	<u>103960</u>	<u>108438</u>
<u>REPRESENTED BY:</u>		
Capital Account @ 1 January 2024	98339	103960
(Loss)/Profit for the Year	5621	4478
	<u>103960</u>	<u>108438</u>

DRAGONFLIES PRESCHOOL CIO
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 DECEMBER 2024

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