

LAUREL FARM STEINER KINDERGARTEN

Charity number: 1163992

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

LAUREL FARM STEINER KINDERGARTEN

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LAUREL FARM STEINER KINDERGARTEN

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Charity Name: Laurel Farm Steiner Kindergarten

Charity Number: 1163992

Charity address: 17 Carlingcott
Peasedown St John
Bath
BA2 8AN

1. Introduction

This report outlines the activities, achievements, challenges, and financial performance of Laurel Farm Steiner Kindergarten (LFSK) during the year from September 2023 to August 2024.

2. Structure

LSSK operates as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with a board of trustees. LFSK is an early years setting for children aged between 2.5 - 7 and is guided by Steiner Waldorf principles in alignment with the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) framework.

Trustees (during the period)

Tania Orgil (*resigned July 20, 2024*)
Jessie Kazak (*resigned as trustee in February 2024*)
Maysa Marques
Claire Peeters
Elodie Rummage

Staffing

The Kindergarten employs:
Two Lead Teachers (job share)
Two Teaching Assistants
One Operations Manager

Operations Manager Jessie Kazak resigned from her staff role in August 2024 following a two month handover period. She was succeeded by Sally Cook, a former parent and active member of the community. The transition was carefully managed to ensure continuity and a smooth leadership shift.

3. Activities and Objectives

LFSK continues to provide a rich early childhood education that integrates all seven areas of the EYFS learning and development framework:

Prime Areas

- 1) Communication and Language
- 2) Physical Development
- 3) Personal, Social and Emotional Development

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Specific Areas

- 4) Literacy
- 5) Mathematics
- 6) Understanding the World
- 7) Expressive Arts and Design

Pedagogical Approach

The kindergarten seeks to nurture the whole child — physically, socially, academically, emotionally, and spiritually. Activities include storytelling and puppet plays, craft, cooking, baking, seasonal celebrations, and daily rhythms aligned with Steiner principles.

4. Curriculum and Daily Rhythm

A significant development this year was the introduction of a revised daily rhythm designed to support the children's transitions and natural energy flow. The new structure introduced a clear "in-breath and out-breath" pattern:

- **Morning:** The day begins with a snack at the Ark.
- **Mid Morning:** Children move into the inside kindergarten for play, lunch, and a rest period.
- **Afternoon:** The group goes to the Magic Glade for outdoor play and closing activities.

Staff observed increased calm and flow throughout the day, with improved transitions and engagement among the children.

5. Achievements and Community Engagement

Festivals and Events

LFSK continued its strong tradition of celebrating the changing seasons and natural cycles.

Festivals held this year included:

- Lantern Festival
- Advent Spiral
- Candlemas
- May Day
- Summer Fair

Attendance at community events increased, supported by proactive engagement from Lead Teacher Elodie Rummage. The Summer Fair raised £1,800, the highest total to date, with £400 raised online prior to the event.

Green Sprouts Group

The Green Sprouts toddler group was led this year by assistant and teacher-in-training, Emma.

Attendance was lower than previous years, but a committed group returned each week.

Suggestions for improvement included better advertising and a review of pricing. Despite its small size, the group remains an essential feeder into the main Kindergarten.

6. Ofsted and Compliance

This year, Elodie Rummage successfully re-registered LFSK with the appropriate Ofsted registration status, becoming a trustee in the process. A follow-up inspection confirmed the new status; a full rated inspection is expected in the next two years.

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7. Financial Review

LFSK ended the financial year with a strong balance of £18,996

Income

- Income increased from both government funding and higher attendance, with local funding rising in May 2024
- The Summer Fair and donations also contributed to overall income.

Expenditure

- Salary costs rose, enabling long overdue pay increases and the introduction of pension contributions.
- Food costs continued to rise, in line with inflation and the Kindergarten's ongoing commitment to 100% organic lunches and snacks.

Outstanding Matters

- The board still needs to claim historic Gift Aid donations going back four years.
- Expert advice is needed to review commercial rent rates and lease terms.

8. Enrolment and Outreach

Three Open Days were held during the year and were well attended. Having all teaching staff present helped foster interest and trust among prospective families, leading to several new sign-ups.

9. Challenges and Opportunities

Challenges

- Ongoing pressure due to rising rent
- Gaps in trustee expertise, especially regarding fundraising and lease negotiations
- Still awaiting historic Gift Aid claim processing

Opportunities

- Continued strong leadership and staff collaboration
- Higher levels of parent engagement and fundraising
- Smoother rhythm and improved transitions for children
- New Operations Manager with energy and experience

10. Looking Ahead

The board and leadership team plan to:

- Review the format and marketing of the Green Sprouts group
- Strengthen trustee recruitment, particularly with legal or property experience
- Continue efforts to secure rent advice and long-term lease clarity
- Process historic Gift Aid claims
- Deepen community and fundraising engagement through expanded event offerings

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TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

This report has been approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Signature: 

Date: 24-06-2025

Name: CLAIRE PEETERS

LAUREL FARM STEINER KINDERGARTEN

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

I report on the accounts of Laurel Farm Steiner Kindergarten for the year ended 31 August 2024 which are set out on pages 6 to 10.

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 Act) but 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 Commissioners (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 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 considerations 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 I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of the accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

David Courtier FMAAT AATQB for and on behalf of:

Community360
Winsley's House, High Street, Colchester, Essex



Date 24th June 2025

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STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

	Note	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Incoming resources			
Donations		1,755	1,686
Charitable activities	2	94,834	78,865
Total incoming resources		96,589	80,551
Resources expended			
Charitable activities	3	92,846	71,385
Total resources expended		92,846	71,385
Net incoming resources		3,743	9,166
Funds at 1 September 2023		17,060	7,894
Funds at 31 August 2024		20,803	17,060

Notes on pages 8 to 10 form part of these financial statements

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BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2024

	Note	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible fixed assets	5	499	-
		<u>499</u>	<u>-</u>
Current Assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		21,564	16,702
Debtors	6	1,638	4,376
		<u>23,202</u>	<u>21,078</u>
Current Liabilities			
Creditors	7	2,898	4,018
		<u>2,898</u>	<u>4,018</u>
Net current assets		<u>20,304</u>	<u>17,060</u>
Net assets		<u><u>20,803</u></u>	<u><u>17,060</u></u>
Funds			
Unrestricted funds		20,803	17,060
		<u><u>20,803</u></u>	<u><u>17,060</u></u>

The trustees declare that they have approved the accounts above.

Signed



Claire Peeters
Trustee

Date

24-06-2025

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of the preparation of the accounts

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement on Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019). (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Cash flow statement

The directors have taken advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard 1 (revised) from including a cash flow statement in the financial statements on the grounds that the company is small.

Income

Income from donations and grants, including capital grants, is included in incoming resources when these are receivable, except as follows:

When donors specify that donations and grants given to the charity must be used in future accounting periods, the income is deferred until those periods.

When donors impose conditions, which have to be fulfilled before the charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred and not included in incoming resources until the pre-conditions have been met.

When donors specify that donations and grants, including capital grants, are for particular restricted purposes, which do not amount to pre-conditions regarding entitlement, this income is included in the incoming resources of restricted funds when receivable.

Expenditure

Expenditure on projects is treated as direct charitable expenditure. All expenditure is unrestricted.

Going concern

These accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

2. Incoming resources from charitable activities	2024	2023
	£	£
Funding	51,884	41,734
Fees	42,950	37,131
	94,834	78,865
3. Costs of charitable activities	2024	2023
	£	£
Salaries	66,032	53,516
Advertising	44	25
Computer costs	542	-
Professional fees	1,217	490
Dues and subscriptions	1,524	469
Repairs and maintenance	4,967	-
Food, supplies, etc	4,136	2,635
Insurances	534	1,090
Printing, postage and stationery	23	721
Rent or lease of buildings	12,365	11,549
Telephone	129	87
Training	750	545
Depreciation	166	-
Sundry expense	417	258
	92,846	71,385
4. Staff		
An average of 4 (2023:4) staff were employed during the year.		
No employee earned over £60,000 during the year.		
5. Fixed Assets	Fixtures & Fittings	Total
	2024	2024
	£	£
Cost as at 1 September 2023	-	-
Additions	665	665
Cost as at 31 August 2024	665	665
Depreciation as at 1 September 2023	-	-
Charge for year	166	166
Depreciation as at 31 August 2024	166	166
Net Book Value as at 31 August 2024	499	499
Net Book Value as at 31 August 2023	-	-

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

6. Debtors	2024	2023
	£	£
Debtors	1,638	4,376
	<u>1,638</u>	<u>4,376</u>
 7. Creditors	 2024	 2023
	£	£
Creditors & accruals	1,983	1,175
Income in advance	101	-
PAYE	814	2,843
	<u>2,898</u>	<u>4,018</u>