

Sowood Pre-School and Community Association

Charity number 1166047

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2024



Sowood Pre-School and Community Association

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2024

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Prepared by West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Sowood Pre-School and Community Association

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 August 2024

Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisors

The trustees during the financial year and up to and including the date the report was approved were:

Name	Position	Dates
Malcolm James	Chair	
Elizabeth Whyte	Secretary	
Frank Greaves	Treasurer	Appointed 18 January 2024
Caroline Remmers		Resigned 15 November 2024
Amanda Jackson		
Malcolm Gardner		
Andrew Holloway		Resigned 1 April 2024
Charity number	1166047	Registered in England and Wales

Registered and principal address

Sowood Community Centre
Stainland Road
Sowood
Halifax
HX4 9HY

Bankers

National Westminster Bank Plc
1 Waterhouse Street
Halifax
HX1 1JA

Independent examiner

Katy Sargeant ACA

West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) Association formed on 14 March 2016 and is governed by a constitution as amended on the 7 February 2020.

Method of recruitment and appointment of trustees

The trustees of the charity are appointed by the members at the AGM.

Sowood Pre-School and Community Association

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 August 2024

Objectives and activities

The charity's objects

The charity is established for the public benefit:

To further or benefit the residents of Calderdale, without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, race or of political, religious or other opinions by associating together the said residents and the local authorities, voluntary and other organisations in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and leisure time occupation with the objective of improving the conditions of life for the residents.

To develop and educate children and young people in particular by:

- 1) promoting their care and safety;
- 2) promoting their education and promoting parental involvement;
- 3) promoting their health and wellbeing;
- 4) providing services to support them and their families and carers;
- 5) providing services to individuals holding membership of the CIO; and
- 6) furthering the aims of the pre-school learning alliance.

The charity's main activities

We provide affordable and good quality childcare and early years education.

We look after the running and up-keep of Sowood Community Centre and promote it's use by other local groups in the community.

Public benefit statement

In setting our objectives and planning our activities our Trustees have given serious consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular the advancement of education.

Achievements and performance

We continue to offer quality care and education to children aged 2-4, supporting families, and offering additional sessions where required using the EYPP funding.

We have continued to recruit new children, and families in to our setting and have had and have a high percentage of children with SEN in our care, our setting allows children to access a good, inclusive early education. We have positive links with outside agencies, including ASD teams, portage and speech and language team.

We also have close links with our local school, in which the majority of our children attend once leaving preschool.

The community centre is used 5 out of 7 days on a regular weekly basis, providing a base for exercising, dog training, WI meetings, and ad hoc hiring for the local community.

From the above our income has significantly increased during 2024.

Financial review

The net receipts for the year were £30,624, including net receipts of £27,470 on unrestricted funds and net receipts of £3,154 on restricted funds.

Sowood Pre-School and Community Association

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 August 2024

Reserves policy

The charity's free reserves, at the year end were £64,814.

The policy states that a contingency fund or reserve should be held to cover any eventualities that could arise within the setting. The appropriate level was set at 3-6 months running costs.

Based on the 23/24 expenditure, this would equate to between £24k and £48k. The trustees are aware the reserves are currently over the target range, but for the coming financial year, they are being used to support ongoing operations. In addition, any excess reserves are being held to be able to run/purchase the Centre, should the opportunity arise in the future.

Trustees will continue to keep the policy under review to ensure that it is at a level that is appropriate to current needs.

Approved by the board of trustees on 19/5/2025

Michael Frank Greaves (Trustee)

Sowood Pre-School and Community Association

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Sowood Pre-School and Community Association

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the CIO for the year ended 31 August 2024, which are set out on pages 6 to 9.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the CIO 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 CIO's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Charities Act;
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and 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.



Katy Sargeant, FRCV

27/5/2025

West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

Sowood Pre-School and Community Association
Receipts and payments account
for the year ended 31 August 2024

	Notes	2024	2024	2024	2023
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		funds	funds	funds	funds
		£	£	£	£
Receipts					
Grants and donations	(2)	779	95,804	96,583	73,001
Pre-school fees		17,663	-	17,663	13,134
Fundraising		664	-	664	523
Milk funding		183	-	183	192
Hall hire		11,324	-	11,324	11,715
Other income		471	-	471	40
Total receipts		31,084	95,804	126,888	98,605
Payments					
Salaries		1,819	69,979	71,798	61,576
Payroll fees		-	257	257	394
Resources and supplies		580	2,777	3,357	2,132
Printing, stationery and advertising		133	963	1,096	382
Professional fees and subscriptions		-	345	345	755
Utilities		-	8,744	8,744	7,293
Repairs and maintenance		310	-	310	249
Telephone and internet		-	994	994	690
Insurance		-	1,252	1,252	889
Food and beverages		-	2,781	2,781	1,601
Community centre consumables		288	-	288	155
Milk		237	-	237	198
Staff training		-	2,941	2,941	201
Fundraising costs		72	-	72	9
Other expenditure		175	281	456	349
Independent examination		-	960	960	600
Computer costs		-	97	97	19
Grant repayment		-	279	279	760
Total payments		3,614	92,650	96,264	78,252
Net receipts		27,470	3,154	30,624	20,353
Fund balances brought forward		37,344	22,653	59,997	39,644
Fund balances carried forward	(3)	64,814	25,807	90,621	59,997

Sowood Pre-School and Community Association
Statement of assets and liabilities
as at 31 August 2024

	2024	2024	2024	2023
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cash funds				
Cash at bank	64,323	25,807	90,130	59,962
Cash in hand	491	-	491	35
Total cash funds	<u>64,814</u>	<u>25,807</u>	<u>90,621</u>	<u>59,997</u>

Debtors and prepayments

	2024
	£
Debtors	1,432
Prepayments	1,115
	<u>2,547</u>

Assets retained for the charity's own use

Printers
Laptops
Various play equipment and furniture

Liabilities

	2024
	£
Creditors	788
Accruals	990
Deferred income - Autumn funding received in advance	21,719
Taxation and social security	666
Other creditors- Pension	293
	<u>24,456</u>

The financial statements were approved by the board of trustees on 19/5/2025

Michael Frank Greaves (Trustee)

Sowood Pre-School and Community Association

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 August 2024

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The trustees have taken advantage of section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 and have prepared the accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

There has been no change to the accounting policies since last year.

No changes have been made to the accounts for previous years.

Taxation

As a charity the organisation benefits from rates relief and is generally exempt from income tax and capital gains tax but not from VAT. Irrecoverable VAT is included in the cost of those items to which it relates.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the accounts.

Sowood Pre-School and Community Association

Notes to the accounts continued

for the year ended 31 August 2024

2 Grants and donations	2024 Unrestricted funds £	2024 Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
Calderdale Council (CC)	-	93,404	93,404	71,247
Department for Education (DfE)	-	2,400	2,400	1,500
Other donations	779	-	779	254
	<u>779</u>	<u>95,804</u>	<u>96,583</u>	<u>73,001</u>

3 Restricted funds	Balance b/f £	Incoming £	Outgoing £	Transfers £	Balance c/f £
Apprentice Payment	2,953	-	-	-	2,953
Early Education funding	16,211	80,621	76,442	-	20,390
EY Pupil Pre'm/Dep'n funding	2,046	4,665	5,092	-	1,619
EY Prof. Dev Programme	-	2,400	2,400	-	-
Inclusion funding	463	8,118	7,736	-	845
Lloyds Bank plc	607	-	607	-	-
Disability Access funding	373	-	373	-	-
	<u>22,653</u>	<u>95,804</u>	<u>92,650</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>25,807</u>

Fund name

Apprentice Payment

Early Education funding

EY Pupil Pre'm/Dep'n funding

EY Prof. Dev Programme

Inclusion funding

Lloyds Bank plc

Disability Access funding

Purpose of restriction

Towards apprenticeship training and assessment.

For the supply of free early years provision for 2 to 4 year olds.

To provide hot meals, extra sessions and resources to help learning and development of children from low income families.

Towards training

To provide one to one support and resources for children with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND).

To create a sensory garden.

To support a child with special needs.

4 Related party transactions

Trustee expenses

No trustee received any expenses during this year or the previous year.

Trustee remuneration and benefits

No trustee received any remuneration or benefit during this or the previous year.