

The Athelstan Nursery

Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

Trustees' report and Financial Statements

for the period

01 September 2023 to 31 August 2024

Registered Charity Number 1166948

The Athelstan Nursery
Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Registered Charity Number 1166948

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the period ended 31 August 2024

CONTENTS	PAGE
Charity Information	3
Trustees' Annual Report	4-5
Independent Examiner's Report	6
Receipt & Payments Account	7
Statement of Assets and Liabilities	8
Notes to the Accounts	9

The Athelstan Nursery

Trustees' annual report

for the year ended 31 August 2024

Full name	The Athelstan Nursery
Registered charity number	1166948
Principal Address	The Athelstan Nursery, All Souls Church Hall, Athelstan Road, Clive Vale, Hastings, TN35 5JE
Trustees	Janet Gasson - Chair/Secretary Jessica Dorey Sally King Sharon Mayhew
Bankers	Lloyds Bank plc, Hastings
Independent examiner	Laura Dawson, Hastings Voluntary Action, Jackson Hall, Portland Place, Hastings, TN34 1QN

Objects

To advance the education of children below compulsory school age.

The Athelstan Nursery

Trustees' annual report

for the year ended 31 August 2024

Background

The Athelstan Nursery opened in 1978 and is managed by a Committee of Trustees. It operates from the parish rooms in the Clive Vale area of Hastings. Magdalen and Lasher own the hall and allow the nursery sole use of the space with a renewable 5yr lease. Opening hours are from Monday to Friday, 9 am to 3 pm during term time only. The nursery is registered with OFSTED and the Charity Commission. Provision is offered for funded education and private places for children aged 2, 3 & 4 years old. Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities as well as children with English as an additional language are supported. There is a staff of six employees who hold relevant qualifications in Early Years. The staff team receive support from the management committee and the local authority early years team.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Clive Vale Playgroup was established with a Committee of Parents and governed by a constitution adopted on 7th October 1978. It became The Athelstan Nursery in July 1995 when the constitution was amended and then amended again in October 1996.

The Athelstan Nursery CIO has been registered with the Charity Commission and full adoption took effect following the AGM in 2017.

Day to day management is undertaken by the manager who is responsible to the Trustees. The membership of the nursery is families of attending children and other adults with an interest in the nursery. The Trustees are in regular contact with each other and meet with the manager and deputy manager at least once a term and are present at general meetings which parents and carers are welcome to attend. Issues arising within the setting are raised through the Manager with the Trustees having the final say. All staff and committee members hold valid and current DBS checks. Sally King stepped down from her Trustee role in June and Patrick Ryan applied to join us. We continue with the challenge of finding new committed Trustees and especially struggle to fill the role of Treasurer

Achievements and performance

The nursery began the year by welcoming new children and returning families. Once again morning sessions proved very popular. At Christmas we held a performance of children singing festive songs and had a party for them during which Father Christmas visited.

We continue to receive very positive feedback from past parents, reception class teachers and other professionals in the Early Years field. We also gain from recommendations and the positive reputation that we hold in the local community and have not needed to advertise.

We were able to hold our AGM in May which was very well attended. A sponsored letter hunt was held at Easter and a Teddy Bears picnic in the summer term. Our main achievement during this year is a much improved bank balance. This has been achieved by an increase in children attending the nursery and also an increase in Government funding. We were able to give all staff a bonus at the end of the summer term as thanks for all their hard work.

Staff

Lauren left in December for a years Maternity leave. Natasha took on an extra role as a mentor for the Department of Education, outside of her nursery working hours. Catherine left us in July after seven years working with us. She will be greatly missed.

The Trustees are very grateful for the professional and efficient way the staff have worked during the year and their continued commitment to the nursery.

Learning and development

The Athelstan Nursery offers a safe, stimulating and rich space that encourages children to learn at their own pace. We provide broad, balanced and challenging activities which encourage children to explore. Staff work closely with parents to ensure the best outcomes for children. All staff are committed to continued professional development through training.

Special Thanks

Particular thanks go to all the staff in the nursery. They complement each other in skills and make the nursery an exciting environment for children to grow and develop.

We also thank the Magdalen and Lasher charity and Hastings Voluntary Action for their continued support of the nursery. Special thanks go to Keith Miller who continues to offer his book keeping support to the nursery.

Donations acknowledged with thanks:

Donations were received from Sussex Mason Chambers, Derwent Edwards Masonic Hall and The Muffin Club.

Signed: J. M. Gasson.

1st April 2025

Chair

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of
The Athelstan Nursery
for the year ended 31 August 2024

I report on the accounts of the charity, which are set out on the following pages.

Respective responsibilities of committee 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 report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 presents 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 reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 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.



Laura Dawson
Finance Manager
Hastings Voluntary Action
Jackson Hall, Portland Place, Hastings, TN34 1QN

Dated: 4/4/25

The Athelstan Nursery
Receipts & payments account
for the year end 31 August 2024

Previous Year		Notes	Current Year		
			Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total funds
	<u>Receipts</u>				
105,890.16	EYEE Funding		111,634.36	-	111,634.36
19,315.55	Fees		22,228.50	-	22,228.50
843.80	Fundraising/trips & events		148.00	-	148.00
-	Grants & Donations		1,110.00	-	1,110.00
7.50	Miscellaneous Income		10.00	1,500.00	1,510.00
<u>126,057.01</u>			<u>135,130.86</u>	<u>1,500.00</u>	<u>136,630.86</u>
	<u>Expenditure</u>				
90,481.27	Wages		91,916.88	-	91,916.88
14,152.17	Rent & utilities		15,316.08	-	15,316.08
6,666.68	Equipment, Office, Materials		4,723.31	-	4,723.31
435.00	Trips & Events		74.60	-	74.60
319.00	Fundraising costs		-	-	-
88.45	Food		63.20	-	63.20
35.00	Ofsted		35.00	-	35.00
299.00	Memberships and Subscriptions		165.82	-	165.82
-	Repairs & Renewals		1,659.64	-	1,659.64
1,439.70	Health & Safety/Cleaning		2,016.53	-	2,016.53
776.71	Insurances		761.97	-	761.97
95.00	Training		1,056.90	-	1,056.90
534.78	Advertising		39.60	-	39.60
1,015.40	Accountancy & Payroll		856.80	-	856.80
106.13	Bank Charges		100.40	-	100.40
-	Bad Debts		-	-	-
520.04	Sundry Payments		484.72	1,500.00	1,984.72
<u>116,964.33</u>			<u>119,271.45</u>	<u>1,500.00</u>	<u>120,771.45</u>
9,092.68	Net surplus (deficit)		15,859.41	-	15,859.41
<u>49,144.23</u>	Opening balances @	1/9/23	<u>58,236.91</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>58,236.91</u>
<u>58,236.91</u>	Fund balances c/f @	31/8/24	<u>74,096.32</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>74,096.32</u>

The Athelstan Nursery
Statement of Assets & Liabilities
as at
31 August 2024

Previous year	Notes		Total Funds
		Cash assets	
53,660.25		Business account	70,499.34
-		Undeposited funds	-
4,558.66	5	Accounts receivable	3,509.65
18.00		Cash in hand	87.33
<u>58,236.91</u>		Total cash assets	<u>74,096.32</u>
		Liabilities	
-		Accounts payable	-
-		Outstanding cheques	-
-		Total liabilities	-
<u>58,236.91</u>			<u><u>74,096.32</u></u>

Assets retained for the charity's own use

The group holds a costed inventory of equipment

Approved by the Trustees on 1 April 2025 and signed on their behalf by

J. M. Gasson Janet Gasson - Chair/Secretary

The Athelstan Nursery
Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Registered Charity Number 1166948

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 August 2024

1. Receipts & payments accounts

Receipts and payments accounts are statements that summarise the movement of cash into and out of the charity during the financial year. In this context "cash" includes cash equivalents, for example, bank accounts where cash can be readily withdrawn to pay for debts as they become due. Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which comply with the regulations set out in the Charities Act 2011. The Trustees have elected to take advantage of the provisions that apply to small charities and have prepared a Receipts and Payments Account and Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

2. Premises and staff.

The premises are rented from the Magdalen and Lasher Trust.
The staff are directly employed by the Trustees.

3. Trustees' remuneration.

Trustees received no expenses, remuneration or benefits in this period.

4. Glossary of terms.

Restricted funds: These are funds given to the charity, subject to specific restrictions set by the donor, but still within the general objects of the charity.

5. Debtors.

Figure includes £3,509.65 credit balance at HMRC. This relates to credits for Maternity Allowance and Employment Allowance which, for several months, have exceeded the total payable in respect of Income tax and NI.. Will resolve itself naturally in due course.