

**The Athelstan Nursery**

**Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)**

**Trustees' report and Financial Statements**

**for the period**

**01 September 2024 to 31 August 2025**

**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 2025

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## **The Athelstan Nursery**

### **Trustees' annual report**

for the year ended 31 August 2025

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 Patrick Ryan Sally Wade
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 2025

### **Background**

The 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, 8.30am 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 seven 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 7<sup>th</sup> 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 changed its Charity status to a CIO in 2016. 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 Trustees hold valid and current DBS checks. Sharon stepped down as our Treasurer in the spring and we were joined during the year by two new Trustees, Patrick and Sally. We continue to struggle to find and recruit new Trustees and also to fill the Treasures post. Also maintaining an old building can be challenging at times.

### **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 sing festive songs and had a party for them during which Father Christmas visited. A scavenger hunt with a spring theme was held at Easter. An end of year celebration was held in July with a return visit from the ice cream van. 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 held our AGM in May which was very well attended. Our improved finances allowed us to give staff a bonus both at Christmas and again in July as a thank you for all their hard work. We were also able to replace the flooring in the bathroom and kitchen and purchase a new fridge.

**The Athelstan Nursery**  
**Trustees' annual report( continued)**  
for the year ended 31 August 2025

**Staff**

We welcomed two new members of staff in September , Corinne and Jen. Lauren returned from Maternity leave in December and Catherine returned in the summer as a bank staff member. 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:**

£200 received from Sussex Masonic Chambers.  
£250 received from a parent and a dressing up trolley purchased with the money.  
£200 received from The lodge of St Michael.  
£400 received from The Muffin Club.  
£808.79 received from Derwent Edwards Masonic Lodge.

Signed:

J.M. Goussan

Date:

12<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Chair



Independent examiner's report to the trustees of  
**The Athelstan Nursery**  
for the year ended 31 August 2025

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: 16/01/26

**The Athelstan Nursery**  
**Receipts & payments account**  
**for the year ended 31 August 2025**

Previous Year			Current Year		
		Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total funds
<b><u>Receipts</u></b>					
111,634.36	EYEE Funding		153,044.98	-	153,044.98
22,228.50	Fees		12,048.41	-	12,048.41
148.00	Fundraising/trips & events		-	-	-
1,110.00	Grants & Donations		1,858.79	-	1,858.79
1,510.00	Miscellaneous Income		121.20	-	121.20
<u>136,630.86</u>			<u>167,073.38</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>167,073.38</u>
<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>					
91,916.88	Wages		110,850.40	-	110,850.40
15,316.08	Rent & utilities		13,137.87	-	13,137.87
4,723.31	Equipment, Office, Materials		12,256.20	-	12,256.20
74.60	Trips & Events		24.99	-	24.99
-	Fundraising costs		-	-	-
63.20	Food		86.61	-	86.61
35.00	Ofsted		35.00	-	35.00
165.82	Memberships and Subscriptions		1,052.20	-	1,052.20
1,659.64	Repairs & Renewals		2,039.90	-	2,039.90
2,016.53	Health & Safety/Cleaning		3,621.24	-	3,621.24
761.97	Insurances		778.38	-	778.38
1,056.90	Training		333.70	-	333.70
39.60	Advertising		156.00	-	156.00
856.80	Accountancy & Payroll		895.20	-	895.20
100.40	Bank Charges		149.00	-	149.00
-	Bad Debts		-	-	-
1,984.72	Sundry Payments		2,271.50	-	2,271.50
<u>120,771.45</u>			<u>147,688.19</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>147,688.19</u>
15,859.41	Net surplus (deficit)		19,385.19	-	19,385.19
58,236.91	Opening balances @	1/9/24	<u>74,096.32</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>74,096.32</u>
<u>74,096.32</u>	Fund balances c/f @	31/8/25	<u>93,481.51</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>93,481.51</u>

**The Athelstan Nursery**  
**Statement of Assets & Liabilities**  
as at  
**31 August 2025**

Previous year	Notes	Total Funds
	<b>Cash assets</b>	
70,499.34	Business account	93,476.59
-	Undeposited funds	-
3,509.65	Accounts receivable	-
87.33	Cash in hand	4.92
<u>74,096.32</u>	<b>Total cash assets</b>	<u>93,481.51</u>
	<b>Liabilities</b>	
-	Accounts payable	-
-	Outstanding cheques	-
<u>-</u>	<b>Total liabilities</b>	<u>-</u>
<u>74,096.32</u>		<u>93,481.51</u>

**Assets retained for the charity's own use**

The group holds a costed inventory of equipment

Approved by the Trustees on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2026 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 2025**

**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.