

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL CIO

England & Wales · Charity number 1173988

Details

Other names	ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2017-07-27
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Acorn Pre School Portacabin Mill Lane Whaplode Spalding PE12 6TS
Phone	01406373400
Email	acornpreschoolwhaplode@googlemail.com
Website	www.acornpreschoolwhaplode.co.uk

Activities

Objects: THE CHARITY WORKS FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT HAVING AS ITS OBJECTS THE DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION OF 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.

Activities: To provide high quality care and education for children primarily below statutory school age, working in partnership with parents to help them learn and develop. To add to the life and well-being of our local community and offer children and their parents a service that promotes equality and values diversity.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training
- **Who:** Children/young People

Geography

- Lincolnshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£126,901	£132,927	-	-
2024-08-31	£108,974	£96,718	-	-
2023-08-31	£97,329	£97,982	-	-
2022-08-31	£83,680	£78,445	-	-
2021-08-31	£70,770	£66,725	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Belinda Elizabeth Needham		2025-04-01
Helen Rosalind Robson		2024-04-22
LISA HOLLIS		2017-09-01
Lucy Driver		2021-11-18

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1173988

Accounts

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
CHARITY COMMISSION REGISTERED NO. 1173988

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended

31 August 2025



ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Annual Report
for the year ended 31 August 2025

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ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Trustees' Annual Report
for the year ended 31 August 2025

The trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 August 2025.

The Acorn Pre-School was originally constituted by deed of gift and was a registered charity, No. 518623 on 30 March 1987. The charity is converted and registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation in England and Wales on 27 July 2017, registered number 1173988. The funds were transferred across on 1 February 2021.

The registered address is Acorn Preschool, The Portacabin, Whaplode Primary School, Mill Lane, Whaplode, Spalding, Lincs, PE12 6TS

This is also the principal address for the operation of the preschool.

The charity's trustees and committee members during the year to 31 August 2025 were:

Mrs Lisa Hollis	Chairperson
Mrs Lucy Driver	
Mrs Tsitsi Samantha Iredia	
Mrs Helen Rosalind Robson	
Mrs Holly Wright	
Ms Belinda Needham	Appointed 1 April 2025
Mrs Anne Cook	Retired 1 April 2025

Non Committee Members

Mr. M. Hollis Treasurer

Bank: HSBC Bank Plc, 53-54 Market Place, Boston, PR21 6LS.

Independent Examiner: Ken Maggs, Chartered Accountant, Hoekman Way, Spalding, Lincs, PE11 3HE.

Aims and objectives

To enhance the development and education of children primarily under statutory school age by encouraging parents to understand and provide for the needs of their children through community groups and by offering appropriate facilities and training courses, encouraging the study of needs of the children and instigating and adhering to and furthering the aim of the Pre-school Learning Alliance.

The trustees will normally be volunteers from parents of children attending the pre-school and therefore their tenure will be relatively short-term. Nominations are agreed at the Annual General Meeting and will be those persons willing to offer the skills and experience required by the charity.

The pre-school may further the aims by providing accommodation, equipment and engage staff, raise money, make payments as necessary, fix and collect fees, control the admission of children to the groups, take up membership of the Pre-school Learning Alliance and take such other action as may benefit the pre-school.

Public benefit

The trustees consider that the objectives and activities of the charity are in accordance with the Charity Commissions' general guidance on public benefit because the children leaving the pre-school are considered to be well placed for the furtherance of their education.

The trustees regard all children and their families as members of our setting who have full participatory rights. These include a right to be:

- valued and respected;
- kept informed;
- consulted;
- involved;
- included at all levels.

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Trustees' Annual Report (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2025

Review of the year

During the year ended 31 August 2025, the charity provided the pre-school facility to children in the area and the wider community of surrounding villages.

As at 31 August 2025, the current account amounted to £7,536, the savings accounts amounted to £30,184 and the petty cash £149.

We have continued to ensure that all the children and their families are in a safe, warm, welcoming and stimulating environment where each one of the children have been given generous care and attention because of our ratio of qualified staff to children as well as volunteer students and helpers which are also trustees.

The children have the opportunity and encouragement to join in with other children and adults, to grow, play learn and develop together, this helping to enrich and develop local community for the long term. All children are helped and encouraged to build on their over all development and knowledge by giving all children experiences that they may not have a chance to experience and by all children having a personal key person, whom have a strong understanding and knowledge of where each child is at in their development through ages and stages and what next steps the children needed to develop further in their care and education.

The key person supports families through ideas, lending bags and homework activities to give families the tools they may need to support their child/ren at home creating a strong, firm working together ethnic between the school and the home environment.

Staff and volunteers cover all the areas in the early year's foundation stage, these being:

Prime areas:

- Personal, Social and Emotional development;
- Physical Development;
- Communication and Language.

Specific areas:

- Literacy;
- Mathematics;
- Understanding the world;
- Expressive Arts and Design.

Over the years and in the current period we have continued to work on the Children's confidence and build on their independence to leave familiar adults and enter a new environment where they are settled into preschool. We have recently started home visits before a child begins so the children had a familiar face in their key person on their first day.

The children are encouraged to build relationships among adults and peers alike, we helped to develop this by ensuring we had information on what the children enjoy playing with and their interests at home. We asked parents/Carers for Photos of the child's family and pets, which we displayed on our walls for the child's first day to encourage a smooth transition and to support parents/carers on their first day of leaving their child, we send lots of photos of their child playing and having a good time, to ease that anxiety for the family too.

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Trustees' Annual Report (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2025

Review of the year (continued)

The children are encouraged to follow a routine that encourages the development of individual independence which includes:-

- Removing and putting on own shoes and coats;
- Finding name cards;
- Placing personal possessions in required areas, e.g. lunch boxes and drinks on the lunch table;
- Use the toilet/potty*Hand washing and teeth cleaning;
- Choosing own activities / equipment;
- Pouring own drinks into a cup;
- Helping adults with jobs e.g. choosing a story for reading time, Helping set tables up for meals etc.

All important factors in growing up and becoming confident and independent.

We start the children's educational skills by assessing and identifying where each and every child is at in their development and then we plan activities and provide resources to enable children to achieve their next goals.

Staff and volunteers complete training and develop their own CPD regular to ensure all their knowledge and skills are kept up to date. Staff and volunteers role model behaviours and play enabling children to learn important aspects of daily life and social skills such as taking turns, sharing and making relationships.

Acorns has been working on bridging the gaps between home and preschool by introducing the family app allowing staff to place photos observations and messages straight to parents/carers and encouraging parents to do the same, this opens up communication channels, not only for adults but also between adults and children. Each child has been given a book bag to take home, a book from the lending library they have chosen and share with their families

Future developments

We have recently opened a breakfast and after school club to help meet the needs of our families and giving staff more opportunities to help and support individual children who are struggling in some areas of their development.

The trustees are aware that funding is currently tight with government cuts and tax increases. There is little they can do about the economic climate but they can try to raise funds internally and continue to provide the children of the area with this much needed support and learning.

The trustees wish to be able to build funds in order to undertake building repairs to the portacabin and to also ensure that they are able to continue in the long term. This does not only require funds but will need more volunteers and some taking on the longer term supporting roles as trustees.

Reserves policy

The charity has a small reserves policy in place due to the nature of the charity. The trustees will be made aware of the changes in Government policy well before such an eventuality would ever occur. Therefore, if Government funding was ever to be removed then the charity would be forced to cease. In such circumstance, the trustees consider that it would only be necessary to hold reserves to cover redundancy. The Government would be required to provide a replacement for the benefits offered by the charity.

Funding is received at the start of each term and the summer break so government funding dictates the continuance of the charity. Any excess funds that the charity is able to raise can then be put back into expenditure for the good of the children attending.

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Trustees' Annual Report (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2025

Reserves policy (continued)

The level of reserves expected to be required is approximately, £6,000 to cover the term costs if funding was not to be available. The trustees are expecting the level of funding required to cover repairs and maintenance in ongoing years to the portacabin and equipment is likely to be significant.

The current excess funds at 31 August 2025, amounting to approximately £27,000 is likely to be short of this requirement but any surplus is always available for spending on the children improving the activities they are able to undertake and safely.

The trustees would love to be able to expand the facilities and provision to enable a wider coverage, at the date of the last Ofsted report in May 2022, they had 20 places available but 31 children on the roll. This means that not everyone can be provided the necessary and valuable start to life and education.

Going concern

The pre-school has many plans for the future as indicated above and expects to be here now and for future generations to continue with the good work within the local community.

Statement of Trustee's Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SOP 2019 (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed by order of the Trustees:

.....
Mrs Lisa Hollis - Chairperson

Date: **2026**

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Independent Examiners Report

I report to the charity on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2025, which are set out on pages 6 to 2.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees 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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and 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 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records, or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of 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 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.

.....
K.J. Maggs B.A., F.C.A.
Chartered Accountant
Spalding

Date: 2026

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 August 2025

		2025			2024
	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Total £
Income from:					
Investments		523	-	523	244
Charitable activities	2	123,592	2,259	125,851	111,348
Fundraising		527	-	527	1,025
Total income		124,642	2,259	126,901	112,617
Expenditure on:					
Costs of charitable activities	3	129,830	14	129,844	98,101
Grants paid out and administration		-	2,259	2,259	2,260
Total expenses		129,830	2,273	132,103	100,361
Net (expenditure) / income		(5,188)	(14)	(5,202)	12,256
Fund balances brought forward		53,481	144	53,625	41,369
Fund balances carried forward		48,293	130	48,423	53,625

All income and expenditure in both the current and prior year are regarding unrestricted funds.

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Assets and Liabilities Statement
at 31 August 2025

	Notes	2025		2024	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	6		10,539		9,360
Current assets					
Debtors:					
Prepayments and accrued income		1,629		1,758	
		<u>1,629</u>		<u>1,758</u>	
Cash at bank and in hand:					
Current account		7,536		19,105	
Reserve account		30,184		24,570	
Petty cash		149		71	
		<u>37,869</u>		<u>43,746</u>	
Current assets			39,498		45,504
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year:					
Charitable activities' creditors		75		75	
Accruals and deferred income		1,539		1,164	
			<u>(1,614)</u>		<u>(1,239)</u>
Net current assets			37,884		44,265
Total assets less current liabilities			48,423		53,625
Income funds					
Unrestricted funds			48,293		53,481
Restricted funds	8		130		144
			<u>48,423</u>		<u>53,625</u>

We approve these accounts and confirm that we have made available all relevant records and information for their preparation.

These accounts were approved by the trustees on **2026**.

.....
Mrs Lisa Hollis - Chairperson

.....
- Trustee

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 August 2025

1. Accounting policies

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis and are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

Funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund.

Expenditure which complies with these criteria is identified to the fund.

Income recognition

All income is recognised in the statement of financial activities when the conditions for receipt have been met and there is reasonable assurance of receipt. Where a claim for repayment of income tax has or will be made, such income is grossed for the tax recoverable.

Grants are recognised in the statement of financial activities when the conditions for receipt have been met.

Investment income is accounted for in the period in which the charity is entitled to receipt.

Donations and all receipts from charitable activities are reported gross and are accounted for on a receivable basis.

Expenditure recognition

Expenditure is included in the statement of financial activities on an accruals basis and has been allocated as detailed below:

Charitable activities include the costs of the activities defined by the charity's aims for the benefit of the persons sited in the charity objects. Costs of charitable activities includes the direct costs of the activities and depreciation on related assets. Where such assets relate to more than one functional cost category, they have been allocated on either an estimate time or floor space basis, as appropriate.

Within charitable activities, governance costs include the costs which relate to the general running of the charity as opposed to the direct management function inherent in generating funds, service delivery and programme or project work.

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Cost includes costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended.

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost, less estimated residual value, of all tangible fixed assets over their expected useful lives. The rates generally applicable are:

Games, toys and equipment	10% reducing balance
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ACORN PRE-SCHOOL

Notes to the accounts (continued)

for the year ended 31 August 2025

1. Accounting policies (continued)

Debtors and creditors receivable / payable within one year

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

2. Incoming resources from charitable activities

	2025			2024
	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Total £
Fees	116,258	-	116,258	105,094
Household Support Grant	-	2,259	2,259	2,315
Employment allowance	6,963	-	6,963	3,643
Trips and outings	371	-	371	296
	<u>123,592</u>	<u>2,259</u>	<u>125,851</u>	<u>111,348</u>
<i>Included above</i>				
Central Government funding	6,963	-	6,963	3,643
Local Government funding	110,071	2,259	112,330	100,795
	<u>117,034</u>	<u>2,259</u>	<u>119,293</u>	<u>104,438</u>

3. Costs of charitable activities

	2025			2024
	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Total £
Wages and salaries	97,473	-	97,473	83,009
Social security costs	6,963	-	6,963	3,643
Outings	630	-	630	200
Training and course fees	90	-	90	90
Repairs and maintenance	10,104	-	10,104	253
Cleaning materials and waste disposal	1,604	-	1,604	865
Telephone and internet	550	-	550	546
Rent paid and hall hire	475	-	475	200
Rates	240	-	240	327
Licences	257	-	257	207
PLA insurance	994	-	994	676
Building insurance	1,109	-	1,109	252
Electricity	1,489	-	1,489	2,019
Computer costs	2,539	-	2,539	632
Refreshments and fund raising	234	-	234	176
Purchases of equipment, books and similar items	2,376	-	2,376	2,992
Postage, stationery and office expenses	254	-	254	146
Depreciation	1,158	14	1,172	1,038
Profit on disposal of fixed assets	455	-	455	-
Independent examiners fees	745	-	745	735
Legal and professional	35	-	35	35
Bank charges	56	-	56	60
	<u>129,830</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>129,844</u>	<u>98,101</u>

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL

Notes to the accounts (continued)

for the year ended 31 August 2025

4. Employee emoluments

There are no employees who received emoluments exceeding £60,000.

	2025 No.	2024 No.
Average number of employees during the year	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>

5. Payments to trustees

No trustee has been paid in respect of their position as a trustee. All trustee work has been on a voluntary basis only.

Due to the nature of the charity's activities several trustees are also employees. However, no element of their remuneration is linked to their role as trustees.

6. Fixed assets

	Leasehold Property £	Nursery equipment £	Computers and IT £	Other assets £	Total £
Cost					
At 1 September 2024	14,370	7,389	3,443	210	25,412
Additions	196	2,180	290	140	2,806
Disposals	-	(514)	(1,363)	(99)	(1,976)
At 31 August 2025	<u>14,566</u>	<u>9,055</u>	<u>2,370</u>	<u>251</u>	<u>26,242</u>
Depreciation					
At 1 September 2024	7,835	5,348	2,680	189	16,052
Charge for the year	674	412	71	15	1,172
On disposals	-	(412)	(1,022)	(87)	(1,521)
At 31 August 2025	<u>8,509</u>	<u>5,348</u>	<u>1,729</u>	<u>117</u>	<u>15,703</u>
Net book value					
At 31 August 2025	<u>6,057</u>	<u>3,707</u>	<u>641</u>	<u>134</u>	<u>10,539</u>
At 31 August 2024	<u>6,535</u>	<u>2,041</u>	<u>763</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>9,360</u>

All the assets above are used by the charity in the furtherance of its objectives.

7. Related parties and control

The trustees consider that there are no related parties to the charity requiring disclosure.

The charity is controlled by the Board of Trustees and no individuals can or do exert control.

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL

Notes to the accounts (continued)

for the year ended 31 August 2025

8 Restricted funds

	Balance at 1 Sep 24 £	Incoming funds £	Outgoing funds £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 Aug 25 £
Interactive Play for Children	144		(14)	-	130
Household Support Grant	-	2,259	(2,259)	-	-
	<u>144</u>	<u>2,259</u>	<u>(2,273)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>130</u>

	Balance at 1 Sep 23 £	Incoming funds £	Outgoing funds £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 Aug 24 £
Interactive Play for Children	211	-	(67)	-	144
Household Support Grant	-	2,315	(2,260)	(55)	-
	<u>211</u>	<u>2,315</u>	<u>(2,327)</u>	<u>(55)</u>	<u>144</u>

The funds are represented by:

	Tangible fixed assets £	Cash at bank and in hand £	Other assets £	Liabilities £	Total £
Interactive Play for Children	130	-	-	-	130
Household Support Grant	-	75	-	(75)	-
	<u>130</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(75)</u>	<u>130</u>

2024

	Tangible fixed assets £	Cash at bank and in hand £	Other assets £	Liabilities £	Total £
Interactive Play for Children	144	-	-	-	144
Household Support Grant	-	75	-	(75)	-
	<u>144</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(75)</u>	<u>144</u>

Interactive Play for Children fund relates to the balance of a grant received from Lincolnshire County Council in order to provide interactive play and learning for the young children within a safe and controlled environment.

Household Support Grant fund relates to funds provided to schools and early years providers for children eligible for free school meals and early years pupil premium and to support to care leavers in supported living accommodation received from South Holland District Council. A small surplus is eligible for use against the costs of administration by the school.

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Notes to the accounts(continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2025

9 Comparative period

Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Income from:			
Investments	244	-	244
Charitable activities	109,033	2,315	111,348
Fundraising	1,025	-	1,025
Total income	<u>110,302</u>	<u>2,315</u>	<u>112,617</u>
Expenditure on:			
Costs of charitable activities	98,034	67	98,101
Grants paid out and administration	-	2,260	2,260
Total expenses	<u>98,034</u>	<u>2,327</u>	<u>100,361</u>
Net (expenditure) / income	<u>12,268</u>	<u>(12)</u>	<u>12,256</u>

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1173988

Accounts

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
CHARITY COMMISSION REGISTERED NO. 1173988

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended

31 August 2024



ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Annual Report
for the year ended 31 August 2024

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ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Trustees' Annual Report (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2024

Review of the year

During the year ended 31 August 2024, the charity provided the pre-school facility to children in the area.

As at 31 August 2024, the current account amounted to £19,105, the savings accounts amounted to £24,570 and the petty cash £71.

We have continued to ensure that all the children and their families are in a safe and stimulating environment. Each of the children is given generous care and attention, because of our ratio of qualified staff to children, as well as volunteer helpers which are also trustees.

The children have the opportunity to join in with other children and adults to live, play, work and learn together and thus helps to develop the local community for the long term. They are all helped to take forward her/his learning and development by being helped to build on what she/he already knows and can do. In order to achieve these and their ambitions, each child has a personal key person who makes sure each child makes satisfying progress.

The staff and volunteers cover all the seven areas in the early years foundation stage, which are personal, social and emotional development, Physical development, mathematic development, communication and language, literacy, knowledge and understanding of the world and expressive arts and design.

Over the years and in the current period, we have continued to work on the children's confidence and build their independence to leave familiar adult, and enter a new environment when they are settling into preschool. The children are encouraged to build relationships among adults and peers alike.

The children are given the independence to wash hands, use cups, use the toilet / potty. We aim to ensure that they learn the ability of putting own coats and shoes on and taking them off again. These skills and learning and following daily routines are all important factors in growing up.

We start the children's educational skills by helping them to learn colour naming and recognition and counting in rota to 5 and then 10, setting them up for their coming years of education and providing them with the best start possible.

The staff and volunteers assist the children with sitting and listening to stories for short periods of time encouraging them to join in with singing and rhyming. These systems help them with their learning to share and taking turns.

All the above continuous activities result in showing that the children are building confidence to ask for help and choose their own activities. They are developing confidence to find comfort in familiar adults and the confidence to explore new activities and opportunities developing senses and emotions.

Some of the activities we have undertaken are as follows:

- Role play doctors and babies - imaginative play, playing cooperative.
- Hand painting spiders - discussing textures and counting spider legs.
- Help the veg escape from the evil pea (Vegetables are taped down in tray for children to release) - Refining motor skills and vegetable identification.
- Recognising their own names and beginning to trace over their cards - Name recognition and phonics.
- Christmas theme treasure hunt, (tinsels and baubles hiding items chosen from around the room) working on developing speech and communication development.
- Pass the Parcel working on taking turns.
- Scissor control and safety understanding.
- Letter to Santa - expressing ideas and thoughts.
- Make playdough - looking at measuring and exploring mixing.
- Making marks in sand - developing fine motor skills and hand dominance.

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Trustees' Annual Report (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2024

Review of the year (continued)

Although the following are events for enjoyment that have occurred during the year, they have also provided valuable learning for the children:

- Guess who the baby in the photo is' - sense of self and pride, beginning to notice the differences within each other.
- Halloween themed tray with jelly and eyeball - discuss textures and building vocabulary.
- Painting real pumpkins - looking at and discussing the world around us. Also included exploring the inside of the pumpkin - discussing textures.
- Baking breadstick sparklers - learning how to combine different ingredients to create a yummy treat while discussing fire safety.
- Sound Lotto - working on attention and listening skills.
- Dark den and light sensory play - self reflection, self regulation time and developing emotions.
- Hoop playing outside - fine and gross motor skills.
- Large construction digger in the mud kitchen - imaginative play and turn taking.
- College rocket pictures - fine motor skills and awareness of rockets. Children learn to take pride in their own work.
- Throwing and catching ball skills - fine and gross motor skills.
- Conker playdough - developing hand control and muscle formation.
- Creating Xmas pictures using shapes - shape recognition and naming.
- Making Xmas cards - Sense of people who are important to us.
- Christmas lights on the Xmas tree (Threading coloured cotton buds onto a box) - colour recognition and naming.
- Make reindeer food using natural ingredients - developing vocabulary and communication skills.

The trustees are very grateful for the assistance of the staff and parents at these events which makes the whole outing more exciting for the children. They have, jointly provided the high quality care and education for children below statutory school age which cannot be done by the trustees alone.

Future developments

The trustees are aware that funding is currently tight with government cuts and tax increases. There is little they can do about the economic climate but they can try to raise funds internally and continue to provide the children of the area with this much needed support and learning.

The trustees wish to be able to build funds in order to undertake building repairs to the portacabin and to also ensure that they are able to continue in the long term. This does not only require funds but will need more volunteers and some taking on the longer term supporting roles as trustees.

Reserves policy

The charity has a small reserves policy in place due to the nature of the charity. The trustees will be made aware of the changes in Government policy well before such an eventuality would ever occur. Therefore, if Government funding was ever to be removed then the charity would be forced to cease. In such circumstance, the trustees consider that it would only be necessary to hold reserves to cover redundancy. The Government would be required to provide a replacement for the benefits offered by the charity.

Funding is received at the start of each term and the summer break so government funding dictates the continuance of the charity. Any excess funds that the charity is able to raise can then be put back into expenditure for the good of the children attending.

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Trustees' Annual Report (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2024

Reserves policy (continued)

The level of reserves expected to be required is approximately, £5,000 to cover the term costs if funding was not to be available. The trustees are expecting the level of funding required to cover repairs and maintenance in ongoing years to the portacabin and equipment is likely to be significant.

The current excess funds at 31 August 2024, amounting to approximately £34,000 is likely to be short of this requirement but any surplus is always available for spending on the children improving the activities they are able to undertake and safely.

The trustees would love to be able to expand the facilities and provision to enable a wider coverage, at the date of the last Ofsted report in May 2022, they had 20 places available but 31 children on the roll. This means that not everyone can be provided the necessary and valuable start to life and education.

Going concern

The pre-school has many plans for the future as indicated above and expects to be here now and for future generations to continue with the good work within the local community.

Statement of Trustee's Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SOP 2019 (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed by order of the Trustees:

Mrs. Lisa Hollis - Chairperson

Date: 20 January 2025

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Independent Examiners Report

I report to the charity on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2024, which are set out on pages 6 to 2.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees 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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and 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 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records, or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of 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 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.

K.J. Maggs B.A., F.C.A.
Chartered Accountant
Spalding

Date: **21 Janaury 2025**

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 August 2024

		2024		2023	
	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Total £
Income from:					
Investments		244	-	244	33
Charitable activities	2	106,415	2,315	108,730	98,996
Total income		106,659	2,315	108,974	99,029
Expenditure on:					
Fundraising costs		-	-	-	35
Costs of charitable activities	3	94,391	67	94,458	97,947
Grants paid out		-	2,260	2,260	1,700
Total expenses		94,391	2,327	96,718	99,682
Net income / (expenditure) before transfers		12,268	(12)	12,256	(653)
Transfers	8	55	(55)	-	-
Net income / (expenditure) after transfers		12,323	(67)	12,256	(653)
Fund balances brought forward		41,158	211	41,369	42,022
Fund balances carried forward		53,481	144	53,625	40,716

All income and expenditure in both the current and prior year are regarding unrestricted funds.

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Assets and Liabilities Statement
at 31 August 2024

	Notes	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	6		9,360		10,238
Current assets					
Debtors:					
Charitable activities' debtors		-		67	
Prepayments		1,758		934	
		1,758		1,001	
Cash at bank and in hand:					
Current account		19,105		27,184	
Reserve account		24,570		3,457	
Petty cash		71		210	
		43,746		30,851	
Current assets			45,504		31,852
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year:					
Charitable activities' creditors		75		54	
Accruals		1,164		667	
			(1,239)		(721)
Net current assets			44,265		31,131
Total assets less current liabilities			53,625		41,369
Income funds					
Unrestricted funds			53,481		41,158
Restricted funds	8		144		211
			53,625		41,369

We approve these accounts and confirm that we have made available all relevant records and information for their preparation.

These accounts were approved by the trustees on **20 January 2025**.

Mrs. Anne Cook

Mrs. Lisa Hollis - Chairperson

The notes on pages 8 - 12 form a part of these accounts

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 August 2024

1. Accounting policies

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis and are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

Funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund.

Expenditure which complies with these criteria is identified to the fund.

Income recognition

All income is recognised in the statement of financial activities when the conditions for receipt have been met and there is reasonable assurance of receipt. Where a claim for repayment of income tax has or will be made, such income is grossed for the tax recoverable.

Grants are recognised in the statement of financial activities when the conditions for receipt have been met.

Investment income is accounted for in the period in which the charity is entitled to receipt.

Donations and all receipts from charitable activities are reported gross and are accounted for on a receivable basis.

Expenditure recognition

Expenditure is included in the statement of financial activities on an accruals basis and has been allocated as detailed below:

Charitable activities include the costs of the activities defined by the charity's aims for the benefit of the persons sited in the charity objects. Costs of charitable activities includes the direct costs of the activities and depreciation on related assets. Where such assets relate to more than one functional cost category, they have been allocated on either an estimate time or floor space basis, as appropriate.

Within charitable activities, governance costs include the costs which relate to the general running of the charity as opposed to the direct management function inherent in generating funds, service delivery and programme or project work.

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Cost includes costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended.

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost, less estimated residual value, of all tangible fixed assets over their expected useful lives. The rates generally applicable are:

Games, toys and equipment	10% reducing balance
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ACORN PRE-SCHOOL

Notes to the accounts (continued)

for the year ended 31 August 2024

1. Accounting policies (continued)

Debtors and creditors receivable / payable within one year

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

2. Incoming resources from charitable activities

	2024			2023
	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Total £
Fees	105,094	-	105,094	97,105
Household Support Grant	-	2,315	2,315	1,700
Trips and outings	296	-	296	191
Fundraising	1,025	-	1,025	-
	<u>106,415</u>	<u>2,315</u>	<u>108,730</u>	<u>98,996</u>
Local Government funding included above	<u>98,480</u>	<u>2,315</u>	<u>100,795</u>	<u>84,841</u>

3. Costs of charitable activities

	2024			2023
	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Total £
Wages and salaries	83,009	-	83,009	83,756
Outings	200	-	200	370
Computer costs	632	-	632	73
Milk purchases	-	-	-	29
Training and course fees	90	-	90	45
Repairs and maintenance	253	-	253	1,186
Cleaning materials and waste disposal	865	-	865	954
Telephone and internet	546	-	546	564
Rent paid and hall hire	200	-	200	400
Rates	327	-	327	201
Licences	207	-	207	586
PLA insurance	676	-	676	745
Building insurance	252	-	252	252
Electricity	2,019	-	2,019	1,594
Refreshments and fund raising	176	-	176	225
Purchases of equipment, books and similar items	2,941	51	2,992	4,781
Postage and stationery	50	-	50	92
Subscriptions	96	-	96	132
Depreciation	1,022	16	1,038	1,141
Independent examiners fees	735	-	735	726
Legal and professional	35	-	35	35
Bank charges	60	-	60	60
	<u>94,391</u>	<u>67</u>	<u>94,458</u>	<u>97,947</u>

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL

Notes to the accounts (continued)

for the year ended 31 August 2024

4. Employee emoluments

There are no employees who received emoluments exceeding £60,000.

	2024 No.	2023 No.
Average number of employees during the year	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>

5. Payments to trustees

No trustee has been paid in respect of their position as a trustee. All trustee work has been on a voluntary basis only.

Due to the nature of the charity's activities several trustees are also employees. However, no element of their remuneration is linked to their role as trustees.

6. Fixed assets

	2024			2023		
	Cost £	Depr'n £	NBV £	Cost £	Depr'n £	NBV £
Portacabin	1,227	1,133	94	1,227	1,122	105
Extension	2,819	2,601	218	2,819	2,577	242
Fridge	81	76	5	81	75	6
Fence and gate	576	531	45	576	526	50
Outdoor equipment	3,284	3,030	254	3,284	3,002	282
Computer	499	460	39	499	456	43
Police car, dumper truck and tractor	353	307	46	353	302	51
Filing cabinet	30	26	4	30	26	4
Henry Hoover	99	87	12	99	86	13
Skills compact discs	94	82	12	94	81	13
Camera	90	77	13	90	76	14
Computers and laptops	2,693	2,126	567	2,693	2,063	630
Chairs	169	145	24	169	142	27
Play shelter	1,126	945	181	1,126	925	201
Paint "n" Store tray units	515	412	103	515	401	114
Sophia armchairs	326	261	65	326	254	72
Book and toy storage units	187	150	37	187	146	41
Tables and chairs	630	459	171	630	440	190
Playhouse	200	82	118	200	69	131
Oil heaters	100	34	66	100	27	73
Room dividers	346	119	227	346	94	252
High wooden fence	3,560	1,224	2,336	3,560	964	2,596
Outside sink	390	134	256	390	106	284
Water dispenser	166	45	121	166	32	134
Post box	20	7	13	20	5	15
LED lighting	987	268	719	987	188	799
New rectangular table	352	96	256	352	67	285
Six new radiators	2,990	810	2,180	2,990	568	2,422
New laminate floor	675	182	493	675	127	548
Outdoor sorting boxes and table	512	97	415	512	51	461
Drying rack	156	30	126	156	16	140
Two tablets	160	16	144	-	-	-
	<u>25,412</u>	<u>16,052</u>	<u>9,360</u>	<u>25,252</u>	<u>15,014</u>	<u>10,238</u>

All the assets above are used by the charity in the furtherance of its objectives.

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Notes to the accounts (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2024

7. Related parties and control

The trustees consider that there are no related parties to the charity requiring disclosure.

The charity is controlled by the Board of Trustees and no individuals can or do exert control.

8 Restricted funds

	Balance at 1 Sep 23 £	Incoming funds £	Outgoing funds £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 Aug 24 £
Interactive Play for Children	211	-	(67)	-	144
Household Support Grant	-	2,315	(2,260)	(55)	-
	<u>211</u>	<u>2,315</u>	<u>(2,327)</u>	<u>(55)</u>	<u>144</u>

	Balance at 1 Sep 22 £	Incoming funds £	Outgoing funds £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 Aug 23 £
Interactive Play for Children	211	-	-	-	211
Household Support Grant	-	1,700	(1,700)	-	-
	<u>211</u>	<u>1,700</u>	<u>(1,700)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>211</u>

The funds are represented by:

	Tangible fixed assets £	Cash at bank and in hand £	Other assets £	Liabilities £	Total £
Interactive Play for Children	144	-	-	-	144
Household Support Grant	-	75	-	(75)	-
	<u>144</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(75)</u>	<u>144</u>

2023

	Tangible fixed assets £	Cash at bank and in hand £	Other assets £	Liabilities £	Total £
Interactive Play for Children	<u>-</u>	<u>211</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>211</u>

Interactive Play for Children fund relates to the balance of a grant received from Lincolnshire County Council in order to provide interactive play and learning for the young children within a safe and controlled environment.

Household Support Grant fund relates to funds provided to schools and early years providers for children eligible for free school meals and early years pupil premium and to support to care leavers in supported living accommodation received from South Holland District Council. A small surplus is eligible for use against the costs of administration by the school.

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Notes to the accounts(continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2024

9 Comparative period

Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£
Income from:			
Charitable activities	97,296	1,700	98,996
Total income	<u>97,329</u>	<u>1,700</u>	<u>99,029</u>
Expenditure on:			
Fundraising costs	35	-	(35)
Costs of charitable activities	97,947	-	(97,947)
Grants paid out	-	1,700	(1,700)
Total expenses	<u>97,982</u>	<u>1,700</u>	<u>99,682</u>
Net expenditure	<u><u>(653)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>(653)</u></u>

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1173988

Accounts

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
CHARITY COMMISSION REGISTERED NO. 1173988

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended

31 August 2023



ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Annual Report
for the year ended 31 August 2023

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ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Trustees' Annual Report
for the year ended 31 August 2023

The trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 August 2023.

The Acorn Pre-School was originally constituted by deed of gift and was a registered charity, No. 518623. The charity is converted and registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation in England and Wales on 27 July 2017, registered number 1173988. The funds were transferred across on 1 February 2021.

The registered address is Acorn Preschool, The Portacabin, Whaplode Primary School, Mill Lane, Whaplode, Spalding, Lincs, PE12 6TS

This is also the principal address for the operation of the preschool.

The charity's trustees and committee members during the year to 31 August 2023 were:

Mrs. Lisa Hollis	Chairperson
Mrs. Anne Cook	
Mrs. Stacey Stafford	
Mrs. Lucy Driver	
Mrs. Tsitsi Samantha Iredia	

Non Committee Members

Mr. M. Hollis	Treasurer
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Bank: HSBC Bank Plc, 53-54 Market Place, Boston, PR21 6LS.

Independent Examiner: Ken Maggs, Chartered Accountant, Hoekman Way, Spalding, Lincs, PE11 3HE.

Aims and objectives

To enhance the development and education of children primarily under statutory school age by encouraging parents to understand and provide for the needs of their children through community groups and by offering appropriate facilities and training courses, encouraging the study of needs of the children and instigating and adhering to and furthering the aim of the Pre-school Learning Alliance.

The trustees will normally be volunteers from parents of children attending the pre-school and therefore their tenure will be relatively short-term. Nominations are agreed at the Annual General Meeting and will be those persons willing to offer the skills and experience required by the charity.

The pre-school may further the aims by providing accommodation, equipment and engage staff, raise money, make payments as necessary, fix and collect fees, control the admission of children to the groups, take up membership of the Pre-school Learning Alliance and take such other action as may benefit the pre-school.

Public benefit

The trustees consider that the objectives and activities of the charity are in accordance with the Charity Commissions' general guidance on public benefit because the children leaving the pre-school are considered to be well placed for the furtherance of their education.

The trustees regard all children and their families as members of our setting who have full participatory rights. These include a right to be:

- valued and respected;
- kept informed;
- consulted;
- involved;
- included at all levels.

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Trustees' Annual Report (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2023

Review of the year

During the year ended 31 August 2023, the charity provided the pre-school facility to children in the area.

As at 31 August 2023, the current account amounted to £27,184, the savings accounts amounted to £3,457 and the petty cash £210.

We have continued to ensure that all the children and their families are in a safe and stimulating environment. Each of the children is given generous care and attention, because of our ratio of qualified staff to children, as well as volunteer helpers which are also trustees.

The children have the opportunity to join in with other children and adults to live, play, work and learn together and thus helps to develop the local community for the long term. They are all helped to take forward her/his learning and development by being helped to build on what she/he already knows and can do. In order to achieve these and their ambitions, each child has a personal key person who makes sure each child makes satisfying progress.

As a result of the last two years' expenditure on repairs and maintenance, and the capital items within note 3, to the financial statements, each child is in a setting that sees parents as partners in helping each child to learn and develop and each is in the appropriate setting in which parents can help to shape the service it offers.

The staff and volunteers cover all the seven areas in the early years foundation stage, which are personal, social and emotional development, Physical development, mathematic development, communication and language, literacy, knowledge and understanding of the world and expressive arts and design.

At the end of the summer term, we offered a trip for the children and their parents to Ferry Meadows, in Peterborough. At the end of the year, the trustees gave out books and gifts to the children that were moving up to primary school.

In March 2023, the charity organised a trip to a local farm during their lambing season. The parents were once again invited to this event and all were able to cuddle some lambs, as well as seeing some born.

The trustees are very grateful for the assistance of the parents at these events which makes the whole outing more exciting for the children.

Future developments

Some of the activities we have planned are as follows:-

- Sensory dough for ginger bread men.
- Role play/ doctors and baby care.
- Autumn collages.
- Learning about fire safety.
- Pumpkin carving.
- Mark making fire works.
- Scissor skills/snowmen shapes.
- Frozen tuff tray.
- Creating hedgehogs.
- Autumn walks around the village, spotting signs of autumn.
- Yoga.
- Christmas crafts.
- Recognition of shapes, colours and numbers.

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Trustees' Annual Report (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2023

Reserves policy

The charity has a small reserves policy in place due to the nature of the charity. The trustees will be made aware of the changes in Government policy well before such an eventuality would ever occur. Therefore, if Government funding was ever to be removed then the charity would be forced to cease. In such circumstance, the trustees consider that it would only be necessary to hold reserves to cover redundancy. The Government would be required to provide a replacement for the benefits offered by the charity.

Funding is received at the start of each term and the summer break so government funding dictates the continuance of the charity. Any excess funds that the charity is able to raise can then be put back into expenditure for the good of the children attending.

The level of reserves expected to be required is approximately, £5,000 to cover redundancies and a similar figure for repairs and maintenance in ongoing years to the portacabin and equipment. Therefore, there are currently excess funds of £21,000 approximately which is available for spending on the children.

Going concern

At the start of the 2021 school year, lockdown restrictions had ceased and the school was operating within government guidelines. Based on the level of liquid reserves and continued funding it is believed that the charity will be able to continue to operate into the foreseeable future despite any new lockdown measures which may be announced.

The pre-school has many plans for the future as indicated above and expects to be here now and for future generations to continue with the good work within the local community.

Statement of Trustee's Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SOP 2019 (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed by order of the Trustees:

Mrs. Lisa Hollis - Chairperson

Date: 24 January 2024

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Independent Examiners Report

I report to the charity on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2023, which are set out on pages 5 to 0.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees 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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and 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 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records, or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of 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 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.

K.J. Maggs B.A., F.C.A.
Chartered Accountant
Spalding

Date: **25 January 2024**

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 August 2023

		2023			2022
	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Total £
Income from:					
Investments		33	-	33	1
Charitable activities	2	97,296	-	97,296	83,679
Total income		97,329	-	97,329	83,680
Expenditure on:					
Fundraising costs		35	-	35	-
Costs of charitable activities:	3	97,947	-	97,947	78,445
Total expenses		97,982	-	97,982	78,445
Net (expenditure) / income		(653)	-	(653)	5,235
Fund balances brought forward		41,811	211	42,022	36,787
Fund balances carried forward		41,158	211	41,369	42,022

All income and expenditure in both the current and prior year are regarding unrestricted funds.

The notes on pages 7 - 10 form a part of these accounts

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Assets and Liabilities Statement
at 31 August 2023

	Notes	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	6		10,238		10,711
Current assets					
Debtors:					
Charitable activities' debtors		67		-	
Prepayments		934		221	
		1,001		221	
Cash at bank and in hand:					
Current account		27,184		28,337	
Reserve account - General fund		3,246		3,208	
- Restricted fund		211		211	
Petty cash		210		36	
		30,851		31,792	
Current assets			31,852		32,013
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year:					
Charitable activities' creditors		54		-	
Accruals		667		702	
			(721)		(702)
Net current assets			31,131		31,311
Total assets less current liabilities			41,369		42,022
Income funds					
Unrestricted funds			41,158		41,811
Restricted funds			211		211
			41,369		42,022

We approve these accounts and confirm that we have made available all relevant records and information for their preparation.

These accounts were approved by the trustees on **24 January 2024**

Mrs. Anne Cook

Mrs. Lisa Hollis - Chairperson

The notes on pages 7 - 10 form a part of these accounts

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 August 2023

1. Accounting policies

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis and are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

Funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund.

The **restricted fund** relates to the balance remaining to be spent of a Grant received from Lincolnshire County Council in respect of Interactive Play for Children.

Expenditure which complies with these criteria is identified to the fund.

Income recognition

All income is recognised in the statement of financial activities when the conditions for receipt have been met and there is reasonable assurance of receipt. Where a claim for repayment of income tax has or will be made, such income is grossed for the tax recoverable.

Grants are recognised in the statement of financial activities when the conditions for receipt have been met.

Investment income is accounted for in the period in which the charity is entitled to receipt.

Donations and all receipts from charitable activities are reported gross and are accounted for on a receivable basis.

Expenditure recognition

Expenditure is included in the statement of financial activities on an accruals basis and has been allocated as detailed below:

Charitable activities include the costs of the activities defined by the charity's aims for the benefit of the persons sited in the charity objects. Costs of charitable activities includes the direct costs of the activities and depreciation on related assets. Where such assets relate to more than one functional cost category, they have been allocated on either an estimate time or floor space basis, as appropriate.

Within charitable activities, governance costs include the costs which relate to the general running of the charity as opposed to the direct management function inherent in generating funds, service delivery and programme or project work.

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL

Notes to the accounts (continued)

for the year ended 31 August 2023

3. Costs of charitable activities:

	2023			2022
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Wages and salaries	83,756	-	83,756	63,948
Outings	370	-	370	-
Uniform and other clothing	-	-	-	26
Computer costs	73	-	73	63
Milk purchases	29	-	29	136
Training and course fees	45	-	45	9
Repairs and maintenance	1,186	-	1,186	2,815
Cleaning materials and waste disposal	954	-	954	1,247
Telephone and internet	564	-	564	555
Rent paid and hall hire	400	-	400	733
Rates	201	-	201	176
Licences	586	-	586	680
Entertainer	-	-	-	165
PLA insurance	745	-	745	610
Building insurance	252	-	252	252
Electricity	1,594	-	1,594	1,424
Refreshments and fund raising	225	-	225	213
Purchases of equipment, books and similar items	4,781	-	4,781	3,089
Postage and stationery	92	-	92	140
Subscriptions	132	-	132	13
Depreciation	1,141	-	1,141	1,190
Independent examiners fees	726	-	726	810
Legal and professional	35	-	35	105
Bank charges	60	-	60	46
	<u>97,947</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>97,947</u>	<u>78,445</u>

4. Employee emoluments

There are no employees who received emoluments exceeding £60,000.

	2023	2022
	No.	No.
Average number of employees during the year	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>

5. Payments to trustees

No trustee has been paid in respect of their position as a trustee. All trustee work has been on a voluntary basis only.

Due to the nature of the charity's activities several trustees are also employees. However, no element of their remuneration is linked to their role as trustees.

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Notes to the accounts (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2023

6. Fixed assets

	2023			2022		
	Cost £	Depr'n £	NBV £	Cost £	Depr'n £	NBV £
Portacabin	1,227	1,122	105	1,227	1,110	117
Extension	2,819	2,577	242	2,819	2,550	269
Computer	374	342	32	374	338	36
Fridge	81	75	6	81	74	7
Fence and gate	576	526	50	576	521	55
Outdoor equipment	3,284	3,002	282	3,284	2,971	313
Computer	499	456	43	499	451	48
Police car, dumper truck and tractor	353	302	51	353	296	57
Filing cabinet	30	26	4	30	26	4
Henry Hoover	99	86	13	99	84	15
Skills compact discs	94	81	13	94	80	14
Camera	90	76	14	90	74	16
Computer	1,830	1,536	294	1,830	1,503	327
Chairs	169	142	27	169	139	30
Play shelter	1,126	925	201	1,126	902	224
Paint "n" Store tray units	515	401	114	515	388	127
2 Sophia armchairs	326	254	72	326	246	80
2 book / toy storage units	187	146	41	187	141	46
5 tables and 21 chairs	630	440	190	630	419	211
Laptop	189	82	107	189	71	118
Playhouse	200	69	131	200	54	146
Laptop	300	103	197	300	81	219
2 Oil heaters	100	27	73	100	19	81
3 Room dividers	346	94	252	346	66	280
High wooden fence	3,560	964	2,596	3,560	676	2,884
Outside sink	390	106	284	390	74	316
Water dispenser	166	32	134	166	16	150
Post box	20	5	15	20	2	18
LED lighting	987	188	799	987	99	888
New rectangular table	352	67	285	352	35	317
Six new radiators	2,990	568	2,422	2,990	299	2,691
New laminate floor	675	127	548	675	68	607
Outdoor sorting boxes and table	512	51	461	-	-	-
Drying rack	156	16	140	-	-	-
	<u>25,252</u>	<u>15,014</u>	<u>10,238</u>	<u>24,584</u>	<u>13,873</u>	<u>10,711</u>

All the assets above are used by the charity in the furtherance of its objectives.

7. Related parties and control

The trustees consider that there are no related parties to the charity requiring disclosure.

The charity is controlled by the Board of Trustees and no individuals can or do exert control.

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1173988

Accounts

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
CHARITY COMMISSION REGISTERED NO. 1173988
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended
31 August 2022

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Annual Report
for the year ended 31 August 2022

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- 3 Independent Examiners Report
- 4 Statement of Financial Activities
- 5 Assets and Liabilities Statement
- 6 - 9 Notes to the accounts

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Trustees' Annual Report
for the year ended 31 August 2022

The trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 August 2022.

The Acorn Pre-School was originally constituted by deed of gift and was a registered charity, No. 518623. The charity is now registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation in England and Wales, registered number 1173988.

The registered address is Acorn Preschool, The Portacabin, Whaplode Primary School, Mill Lane, Whaplode, Spalding, Lincs, PE12 6TS

This is also the principal address for the operation of the preschool.

The charity's trustees and committee members during the year to 31 August 2022 were:

Mrs. Lisa Hollis	Chairperson
Mrs. Anne Cook	
Mrs. Stacey Stafford	Appointed 29 March 2022
Mrs. Lucy Driver	Appointed 18 November 2021
Mrs. Tsitsi Samantha Iredia	Appointed 18 November 2021
Ms. Samantha Clover	Resigned 29 March 2022

Non Committee Members

Mr. M. Hollis	Treasurer
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Bank: National Westminster Bank Plc, 1 Market Place, Wisbech, Cambs, PE12 1DT.

Independent Examiner: Moore Thompson Chartered Accountants, Bank House, Broad Street, Spalding.

Aims and objectives:

To enhance the development and education of children primarily under statutory school age by encouraging parents to understand and provide for the needs of their children through community groups and by offering appropriate facilities and training courses, encouraging the study of needs of the children and instigating and adhering to and furthering the aim of the Pre-school Learning Alliance.

The trustees will normally be volunteers from parents of children attending the pre-school and therefore their tenure will be relatively short-term. Nominations are agreed at the Annual General Meeting and will be those persons willing to offer the skills and experience required by the charity.

The pre-school may further the aims by providing accommodation, equipment and engage staff, raise money, make payments as necessary, fix and collect fees, control the admission of children to the groups, take up membership of the Pre-school Learning Alliance and take such other action as may benefit the pre-school.

Public benefit:

The trustees consider that the objectives and activities of the charity are in accordance with the Charity Commissions' general guidance on public benefit because the children leaving the pre-school are considered to be well placed for the furtherance of their education.

Change of constitution

On 27 July 2017, the trustees adopted a new constitution converting the current unincorporated charity into a Charitable Incorporated Organisation and registering this with Charity Commission.

Although a separate legal charity the new formation is the same charity in all but number. The trustees feel that the separate legal entity status has allowed the charity to move forward with subsidiary trading activities protecting the charity assets from business factors, risk and taxation.

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Trustees' Annual Report (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2022

Reserves policy

The charity does not have a specific reserves policy in place as the trustees have decided that holding reserves is currently unnecessary to the charity.

Review of the year:

During the year ended 31 August 2022, the charity provided the pre-school facility to children in the area.

The Charity received OFSTED permission to operate as a CIO and therefore ceased being a dormant entity on 31 March 2020.

As at 31 August 2022, the current account amounted to £28,337, the savings accounts amounted to £3,419 and the petty cash £36.

Going concern

Prior to the commencement of operation a National Lockdown was announced which remained in force for the remainder of the School year. This significantly affected the level of income from fees; however the charity was able to operate throughout the period due to careful use of reserves.

During this period, no staff were furloughed and apart from the ongoing EYE funding no government grants were applied for or schemes used.

At the start of the 2021 school year, lockdown restrictions had ceased and the school was operating within government guidelines. Based on the level of liquid reserves and continued funding it is believed that the charity will be able to continue to operate into the foreseeable future despite any new lockdown measures which may be announced.

Signed by order of the Trustees:

Mrs. Lisa Hollis - Chairperson

Date: **25 January 2023.**

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Independent Examiners Report

I report to the charity on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2022, which are set out on pages 4 to 9.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees 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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and 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 Act;
2. the accounts do not accord with those records, or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of 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 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.

K.J. Maggs B.A., F.C.A.
Moore Thompson
Chartered Accountants
Spalding

Date: **30 January 2023.**

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 August 2022

	Notes	2022			2021
		Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Total £
Income from					
Investments		1	-	1	-
Charitable activities	2	83,679	-	83,679	70,770
Total income		83,680	-	83,680	70,770
Expenditure					
Costs of charitable activities:	3	78,445	-	78,445	66,725
Total expenses		78,445	-	78,445	66,725
Net income		5,235	-	5,235	4,045
Fund balances brought forward		36,579	211	36,790	32,745
Fund balances carried forward		41,814	211	42,025	36,790

All income and expenditure in both the current and prior year are regarding unrestricted funds.

The notes on pages 6 - 9 form a part of these accounts

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Assets and Liabilities Statement
at 31 August 2022

	Notes	2022		2021	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	6		10,714		6,714
Current assets					
Debtors:					
Prepayments		221		834	
		<u>221</u>		<u>834</u>	
Cash at bank and in hand:					
Current account		28,337		27,861	
Reserve account - General fund		3,208		1,792	
- Restricted fund		211		211	
Petty cash		36		62	
		<u>31,792</u>		<u>29,926</u>	
Current assets			32,013		30,760
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year:					
Accruals		702		684	
			(702)		(684)
Net current assets			<u>31,311</u>		<u>30,076</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u><u>42,025</u></u>		<u><u>36,790</u></u>
Income funds					
Unrestricted funds			41,814		36,579
Restricted funds			211		211
			<u>42,025</u>		<u>36,790</u>

We approve these accounts and confirm that we have made available all relevant records and information for their preparation.

These accounts were approved by the trustees on **25 January 2023**.

Mrs. Anne Cook

Mrs. Lisa Hollis - Chairperson

The notes on pages 6 - 9 form a part of these accounts

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 August 2022

1. Accounting policies

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis and are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

Funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund.

The **restricted fund** relates to the balance remaining to be spent of a Grant received from Lincolnshire County Council in respect of Interactive Play for Children.

Expenditure which complies with these criteria is identified to the fund.

Income recognition

All income is recognised in the statement of financial activities when the conditions for receipt have been met and there is reasonable assurance of receipt. Where a claim for repayment of income tax has or will be made, such income is grossed for the tax recoverable.

Grants are recognised in the statement of financial activities when the conditions for receipt have been met.

Investment income is accounted for in the period in which the charity is entitled to receipt.

Donations and all receipts from charitable activities are reported gross and are accounted for on a receivable basis.

Expenditure recognition

Expenditure is included in the statement of financial activities on an accruals basis and has been allocated as detailed below:

Charitable activities include the costs of the activities defined by the charity's aims for the benefit of the persons sited in the charity objects. Costs of charitable activities includes the direct costs of the activities and depreciation on related assets. Where such assets relate to more than one functional cost category, they have been allocated on either an estimate time or floor space basis, as appropriate.

Within charitable activities, governance costs include the costs which relate to the general running of the charity as opposed to the direct management function inherent in generating funds, service delivery and programme or project work.

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL

Notes to the accounts (continued)

for the year ended 31 August 2022

1. Accounting policies (continued)

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Cost includes costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended.

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost, less estimated residual value, of all tangible fixed assets over their expected useful lives. The rates generally applicable are:

Games, toys and equipment 10% reducing balance

Debtors and creditors receivable / payable within one year

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

2. Incoming resources from charitable activities:

	2022			2021
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Fees	82,393	-	82,393	69,800
Fundraising	1,286	-	1,286	970
	<u>83,679</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>83,679</u>	<u>70,770</u>

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL

Notes to the accounts (continued)

for the year ended 31 August 2022

3. Costs of charitable activities:

	2022		Total £	2021 Total £
	Unrestricted £	Restricted £		
Wages and salaries	63,948	-	63,948	56,317
Uniform and other clothing	26	-	26	22
Computer costs	63	-	63	259
Milk purchases	136	-	136	170
Training and course fees	9	-	9	222
Repairs and maintenance	2,815	-	2,815	113
Cleaning materials and waste disposal	1,247	-	1,247	1,854
Telephone and internet	555	-	555	699
Rent paid and hall hire	733	-	733	800
Rates	176	-	176	107
Licences	182	-	182	62
Entertainer	165	-	165	-
Photocopier	-	-	-	333
PLA insurance	610	-	610	631
Building insurance	252	-	252	360
Electricity	1,424	-	1,424	1,563
Refreshments and fund raising	213	-	213	91
Purchases of equipment, books and similar items	3,587	-	3,587	1,324
Postage and stationery	140	-	140	350
Subscriptions	13	-	13	-
(Profit)/loss on sale of assets	-	-	-	34
Depreciation	1,190	-	1,190	746
Independent examiners fees	810	-	810	684
Accountancy fees	-	-	-	(132)
Legal and professional	105	-	105	110
Bank charges	46	-	46	-
Interest on late payments	-	-	-	6
	<u>78,445</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>78,445</u>	<u>66,725</u>

4. Employee emoluments

There are no employees who received emoluments exceeding £60,000.

	2022 No.	2021 No.
Average number of employees during the year	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>

5. Payments to trustees

No trustee has been paid in respect of their position as a trustee. All trustee work has been on a voluntary basis only.

Due to the nature of the charity's activities several trustees are also employees. However, no element of their remuneration is linked to their role as trustees.

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL

Notes to the accounts (continued)

for the year ended 31 August 2022

6. Fixed assets

	2022			2021		
	Cost £	Depr'n £	NBV £	Cost £	Depr'n £	NBV £
Portacabin	1,227	1,110	117	1,227	1,097	130
Extension	2,819	2,550	269	2,819	2,521	298
Computer	374	338	36	374	334	40
Fridge	81	74	7	81	73	8
Fence and gate	576	521	55	576	515	61
Outdoor equipment	3,284	2,971	313	3,284	2,937	347
Computer	499	451	48	499	446	53
Police car, dumper truck :	353	296	57	353	290	63
Filing cabinet	30	26	4	30	25	5
Henry Hoover	99	84	15	99	82	17
Skills compact discs	94	80	14	94	78	16
Camera	90	74	16	90	72	18
Computer	1,830	1,502	328	1,830	1,466	364
Chairs	169	139	30	169	135	34
Play shelter	1,126	902	224	1,126	877	249
Paint "n" Store tray units	515	388	127	515	374	141
2 Sophia armchairs	326	246	80	326	237	89
2 book / toy storage units	187	141	46	187	136	51
5 tables and 21 chairs	630	418	212	630	394	236
Laptop	189	71	118	189	57	132
Playhouse	200	54	146	200	38	162
Laptop	300	81	219	300	56	244
2 Oil heaters	100	19	81	100	10	90
3 Room dividers	346	66	280	346	35	311
High wooden fence	3,560	676	2,884	3,560	356	3,204
Outside sink	390	74	316	390	39	351
Water dispenser	166	16	150	-	-	-
Post box	20	2	18	-	-	-
LED lighting	987	99	888	-	-	-
New rectangular table	352	35	317	-	-	-
Six new radiators	2,990	299	2,691	-	-	-
New laminate floor	676	68	608	-	-	-
	<u>24,587</u>	<u>13,870</u>	<u>10,714</u>	<u>19,394</u>	<u>12,680</u>	<u>6,714</u>

All the assets above are used by the charity in the furtherance of its objectives.

7. Related parties and control

The trustees consider that there are no related parties to the charity requiring disclosure.

The charity is controlled by the Board of Trustees and no individuals can or do exert control.

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1173988

Accounts

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
CHARITY COMMISSION REGISTERED NO. 1173988
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended
31 August 2021

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Annual Report
for the year ended 31 August 2021

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ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Trustees' Annual Report
for the year ended 31 August 2021

The trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 August 2021.

The Acorn Pre-School was originally constituted by deed of gift and was a registered charity, No. 518623. The charity is now registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation in England and Wales, registered number 1173988.

The registered address is Acorn Preschool, The Portacabin, Whaplode Primary School, Mill Lane, Whaplode, Spalding, Lincs, PE12 6TS

This is also the principal address for the operation of the preschool.

The charity's trustees and committee members during the year to 31 August 2021 were:

Mrs. Lisa Hollis	Chairperson	
Mrs. Anne Cook		
Ms. Samantha Clover		Appointed March 2021
Mr. Paul Chapman		Resigned September 2020
Mrs. Diane Briggs		Resigned March 2021
Mrs. Shelley Flounders		Resigned September 2020
Non Committee Members		
Mrs. Rebecca Parks	Treasurer	Resigned September 2020
Mr. M. Hollis	Treasurer	Appointed September 2020

Bank: National Westminster Bank Plc, 1 Market Place, Wisbech, Cambs, PE12 1DT.

Independent Examiner: Moore Thompson Chartered Accountants, Bank House, Broad Street, Spalding.

Aims and objectives:

To enhance the development and education of children primarily under statutory school age by encouraging parents to understand and provide for the needs of their children through community groups and by offering appropriate facilities and training courses, encouraging the study of needs of the children and instigating and adhering to and furthering the aim of the Pre-school Learning Alliance.

The trustees will normally be volunteers from parents of children attending the pre-school and therefore their tenure will be relatively short-term. Nominations are agreed at the Annual General Meeting and will be those persons willing to offer the skills and experience required by the charity.

The pre-school may further the aims by providing accommodation, equipment and engage staff, raise money, make payments as necessary, fix and collect fees, control the admission of children to the groups, take up membership of the Pre-school Learning Alliance and take such other action as may benefit the pre-school.

Public benefit:

The trustees consider that the objectives and activities of the charity are in accordance with the Charity Commissions' general guidance on public benefit because the children leaving the pre-school are considered to be well placed for the furtherance of their education.

Change of constitution

On 27 July 2017, the trustees adopted a new constitution converting the current unincorporated charity into a Charitable Incorporated Organisation and registering this with Charity Commission.

Although a separate legal charity the new formation is the same charity in all but number. The trustees feel that the separate legal entity status has allowed the charity to move forward with subsidiary trading activities protecting the charity assets from business factors, risk and taxation.

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Trustees' Annual Report (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2021

Reserves policy

The charity does not have a specific reserves policy in place as the trustees have decided that holding reserves is currently unnecessary to the charity.

Review of the year:

During the year ended 31 August 2021, the charity provided the pre-school facility to children in the area.

The Charity received OFSTED permission to operate as a CIO and therefore ceased being a dormant entity on 31 March 2020.

The reserves of the unincorporated charity were transferred over to the Incorporated organisation, which then commenced operation on 1 April 2020. The financial figures therefore reflect an operating period from 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021, however the comparatives reflect a dormant period to 31 March 2020 and an operating period of 1 April 2020 to 31 August 2021

As at 31 August 2021, the current account amounted to £27,861, the savings accounts amounted to £2,003 and the petty cash £62.

Going concern

Prior to the commencement of operation a National Lockdown was announced which remained in force for the remainder of the School year. This significantly affected the level of income from fees; however the charity was able to operate throughout the period due to careful use of reserves.

During this period, no staff were furloughed and apart from the ongoing EYE funding no government grants were applied for or schemes used.

At the start of the 2021 school year, lockdown restrictions had ceased and the school was operating within government guidelines. Based on the level of liquid reserves and continued funding it is believed that the charity will be able to continue to operate into the foreseeable future despite any new lockdown measures which may be announced.

Signed by order of the Trustees:

Mrs. Lisa Hollis - Chairperson

Date: 17 January 2022

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Independent Examiners Report

I report to the charity on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2021, which are set out on pages 4 to 9.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees 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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and 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 Act;
2. the accounts do not accord with those records, or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of 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 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.

K.J. Maggs B.A., F.C.A.
Moore Thompson
Chartered Accountants
Spalding

Date: 23 January 2022

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 August 2021

	Notes	2021			2020
		Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Total £
Income from					
Donations		-	-	-	-
Investments		-	-	-	2
Charitable activities	2	70,770	-	70,770	25,181
Transfer of reserves		-	-	-	33,215
Total income		70,770	-	70,770	58,398
Expenditure					
Costs of charitable activities:	3	66,725	-	66,725	25,653
Total expenses		66,725	-	66,725	25,653
Net income		4,045	-	4,045	32,745
Fund balances brought forward		32,534	211	32,745	-
Fund balances carried forward		36,579	211	36,790	32,745

All income and expenditure in both the current and prior year are regarding unrestricted funds.

The charity was dormant for the whole of 2019 and commenced its activities on 1 April 2020. The comparative figures therefore only represent a 5 month period of operation with the prior 7 months being included in the charity of the same name, registered number 518623.

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Assets and Liabilities Statement
at 31 August 2021

	Notes	2021		2020	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	6		6,714		3,138
Current assets					
Debtors:					
Charitable activities' debtors		-		318	
Prepayments		834		694	
		<u>834</u>		<u>1,012</u>	
Cash at bank and in hand:					
Current account		27,861		25,566	
Reserve account - General fund		1,792		4,759	
- Restricted fund		211		211	
Petty cash		62		2	
		<u>29,926</u>		<u>30,538</u>	
Current assets			30,760		31,550
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year:					
Other taxes and social security		-		523	
Accruals		684		1,420	
			(684)		(1,943)
Net current assets			<u>30,076</u>		<u>29,607</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>36,790</u>		<u>32,745</u>
Income funds					
Unrestricted funds			36,579		32,534
Restricted funds			211		211
			<u>36,790</u>		<u>32,745</u>

We approve these accounts and confirm that we have made available all relevant records and information for their preparation.

These accounts were approved by the trustees on 17 January 2022.

Mrs. Anne Cook

Mrs. Lisa Hollis - Chairperson

The notes on pages 6 - 9 form a part of these accounts

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 August 2021

1. Accounting policies

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis and are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

Funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund.

The **restricted fund** relates to the balance remaining to be spent of a Grant received from Lincolnshire County Council in respect of Interactive Play for Children.

Expenditure which complies with these criteria is identified to the fund.

Income recognition

All income is recognised in the statement of financial activities when the conditions for receipt have been met and there is reasonable assurance of receipt. Where a claim for repayment of income tax has or will be made, such income is grossed for the tax recoverable.

Grants are recognised in the statement of financial activities when the conditions for receipt have been met.

Investment income is accounted for in the period in which the charity is entitled to receipt.

Donations and all receipts from charitable activities are reported gross and are accounted for on a receivable basis.

Expenditure recognition

Expenditure is included in the statement of financial activities on an accruals basis and has been allocated as detailed below:

Charitable activities include the costs of the activities defined by the charity's aims for the benefit of the persons sited in the charity objects. Costs of charitable activities includes the direct costs of the activities and depreciation on related assets. Where such assets relate to more than one functional cost category, they have been allocated on either an estimate time or floor space basis, as

Within charitable activities, governance costs include the costs which relate to the general running of the charity as opposed to the direct management function inherent in generating funds, service delivery and programme or project work.

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL

Notes to the accounts (continued)

for the year ended 31 August 2021

1. Accounting policies (continued)

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Cost includes costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended.

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost, less estimated residual value, of all tangible fixed assets over their expected useful lives. The rates generally applicable are:

Games, toys and equipment 10% reducing balance

Debtors and creditors receivable / payable within one year

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

2. Incoming resources from charitable activities:

	2021			2020
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Fees	69,800	-	69,800	25,131
Fundraising	970	-	970	50
	<u>70,770</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>70,770</u>	<u>25,181</u>

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL

Notes to the accounts (continued)

for the year ended 31 August 2021

3. Costs of charitable activities:

	2021		Total £	2020
	Unrestricted £	Restricted £		Total £
Wages and salaries	56,317	-	56,317	22,622
Outings	-	-	-	-
Photographs		-	-	-
Uniform and other clothing	22	-	22	-
Computer costs	259	-	259	256
Milk purchases	170	-	170	-
Training and course fees	222	-	222	-
Repairs and maintenance	113	-	113	465
Cleaning materials and waste disposal	1,854	-	1,854	114
Telephone and internet	699	-	699	248
Advertising	-	-	-	-
Rent paid and hall hire	800	-	800	400
Rates	107	-	107	70
Licences	62	-	62	43
Photocopier	333	-	333	214
PLA insurance	631	-	631	354
Building insurance	360	-	360	-
Electricity	1,563	-	1,563	189
Refreshments and fund raising	91	-	91	-
Purchases of equipment, books and similar items	1,324	-	1,324	160
Postage and stationery	350	-	350	18
(Profit)/loss on sale of assets	34	-	34	-
Depreciation	746	-	746	140
Independent examiners fees	684	-	684	360
Accountancy fees	(132)	-	(132)	-
Legal and professional	110	-	110	-
Interest on late payments	6	-	6	-
	<u>66,725</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>66,725</u>	<u>25,653</u>

4. Employee emoluments

There are no employees who received emoluments exceeding £60,000.

	2021 No.	2020 No.
Average number of employees during the year	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>

5. Payments to trustees

No trustee has been paid in respect of their position as a trustee. All trustee work has been on a voluntary basis only.

Due to the nature of the charity's activities several trustees are also employees. However, no element of their remuneration is linked to their role as trustees.

ACORN PRE-SCHOOL
Notes to the accounts (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2021

6. Fixed assets

	2021			2020		
	Cost £	Depr'n £	NBV £	Cost £	Depr'n £	NBV £
Portacabin	1,227	1,097	130	1,227	1,083	144
Extension	2,819	2,521	298	2,819	2,487	332
Computer	374	334	40	374	330	44
Fridge	81	73	8	81	72	9
Fence and gate	576	515	61	576	508	68
Outdoor equipment	3,284	2,937	347	3,284	2,898	386
Computer	499	446	53	499	440	59
Police car, dumper truck &	353	290	63	353	283	70
Filing cabinet	30	25	5	30	25	5
Henry Hoover	99	82	17	99	79	20
Skills compact discs	94	78	16	94	77	17
Camera	90	72	18	90	70	20
Computer	1,830	1,466	364	1,830	1,425	405
Chairs	169	135	34	169	132	37
Play shelter	1,126	877	249	1,126	849	277
Shed	-	-	-	270	196	74
Paint "n" Store tray units	515	374	141	515	358	157
2 Sophia armchairs	326	237	89	326	228	98
2 book / toy storage units	187	136	51	187	130	57
5 tables and 21 chairs	630	394	236	630	368	262
Laptop	189	57	132	189	43	146
Playhouse	200	38	162	200	20	180
Laptop	300	56	244	300	29	271
2 Oil heaters	100	10	90	-	-	-
3 Room dividers	346	35	311	-	-	-
High wooden fence	3,560	356	3,204	-	-	-
Outside sink	390	39	351	-	-	-
	<u>19,394</u>	<u>12,680</u>	<u>6,714</u>	<u>15,268</u>	<u>12,130</u>	<u>3,138</u>

All the assets above are used by the charity in the furtherance of its objectives.

7. Related parties and control

The trustees consider that there are no related parties to the charity requiring disclosure.

The charity is controlled by the Board of Trustees and no individuals can or do exert control.