

# Little Oaks Nursery, Acomb

(A Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 29 August 2025



# Little Oaks Nursery, Acomb

## Contents

1	Reference and Administrative Details
2	Strategic Report
3 to 4	Trustees' Report
5	Independent Examiner's Report
6	Statement of Financial Activities
7	Balance Sheet
8 to 13	Notes to the Financial Statements

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees

A R Johnson

R Webb

L Taylor

J Wilson

G Cowperthwaite

C Watson

E Earnshaw

Charity Registration Number

1175448

Company Registration Number

CE011911

Registered Office

Acomb First School

Bishops Hill

Acomb

Hexham

NE46 4PL

Accountants

TyneRede Accountancy Ltd

Lloyds House

Bellingham

Northumberland

NE48 2AZ

Strategic Report for the Year Ended 29 August 2025

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present their strategic report for the year ended 29 August 2025, in compliance with s414C of the Companies Act 2006.

Achievements and performance

During 2024/25, Little Oaks Nursery continued to operate in a challenging environment for early years providers, with lower local birth rates and funding levels remaining below the true cost of delivery. Despite these pressures, the nursery remained stable and continued to provide safe, high-quality, child-centred care for local families.

Although the year began with lower enrolment, numbers increased steadily over the course of the year, with a greater proportion of children accessing funded hours. Our breakfast and after-school provision also remained an important part of the setting's offer, supporting families and contributing to the nursery's overall sustainability. Standards remained high throughout the year, with continued investment in staff training, safeguarding, policy review and the day-to-day quality of provision.

Financial oversight remained a key priority for the trustees. Careful management of expenditure, strengthened financial systems, and strong community fundraising helped support the charity during a demanding year. The trustees remain extremely grateful to our staff team, volunteers, parents and wider community for their continued support, commitment and hard work.

Financial review

Policy on reserves

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to between three and six months' expenditure. The trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This level of reserves has been maintained throughout the year. Approximately £15,000 is held in a Reserve account to cover two to three months of fixed costs (staffing and rent) as well as possible redundancy pay of the nursery ever had to suddenly close.

The strategic report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 22/5/26 and signed on its behalf by:

R Webb  
Trustee

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 29 August 2025.

## Objectives and activities

### Objects and aims

The principal activity of the charity is that of a pre-school nursery. The objectives are to enhance the development of children under the statutory school age.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

## Structure, governance and management

### Nature of governing document

Little Oaks Nursery, Acomb, registered as a charity on 27th September 2002 and then incorporated as a company limited by guarantee on 19th April 2006. On 30th August 2018, the charity converted to a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO). On this date the entire funds held by Little Oaks (Acomb) Ltd were transferred to Little Oaks Nursery, Acomb.

Trustees are appointed by the Board of Trustees and serve continuously until such time as they step down or are voted out of office.

The CIO has regular management committee meetings once a month. The trustees and Co-opted Members of the committee attend these meetings to discuss the position of Little Oaks Nursery, with specific reference to numbers of children, activities, finances and any fundraising events which need organisation.

## Financial instruments

### Objectives and policies

The charity's activities expose it to a number of financial risks including credit risk, cash flow risk and liquidity risk. The use of financial derivatives is governed by the charity's policies approved by the board of trustees, which provide written principles on the use of financial derivatives to manage these risks. The charity does not use derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes.

### Cash flow risk

The charity's activities expose it primarily to the financial risks of changes in foreign currency exchange rates and interest rates. The charity uses foreign exchange forward contracts and interest rate swap contracts to hedge these exposures.

## Credit risk

The charity's principal financial assets are bank balances and cash, trade and other receivables, and investments. The charity's credit risk is primarily attributable to its trade receivables. The amounts presented in the balance sheet are net of allowances for doubtful receivables. An allowance for impairment is made where there is an identified loss event which, based on previous experience, is evidence of a reduction in the recoverability of the cash flows.

The credit risk on liquid funds and derivative financial instruments is limited because the counterparties are banks with high credit-ratings assigned by international credit-rating agencies.

The charity has no significant concentration of credit risk, with exposure spread over a large number of counterparties and customers.

## Trustees' Report

### Liquidity risk

In order to maintain liquidity to ensure that sufficient funds are available for ongoing operations and future developments, the charity uses a mixture of long-term and short-term debt finance.

Further details regarding liquidity risk can be found in the Statement of accounting policies in the financial statements.

### Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

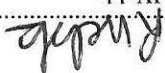
The trustees (who are also the directors of Little Oaks Nursery, Acomb for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, 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 in the Charities SORP;
- 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 business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They 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.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 22/5/26 and signed on its behalf by:

  
R Webb  
Trustee

# Little Oaks Nursery, Acomb

## Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Little Oaks Nursery, Acomb ("the Company")

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 29 August 2025.

### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of Little Oaks Nursery, Acomb are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

### Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of Little Oaks Nursery, Acomb as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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.

*Chris Gillie*

.....  
Christopher Gillie  
FCCA  
Lloyds Bank House  
Bellingham  
Northumberland  
NE48 2EH  
Date:.....

**Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 29 August 2025**  
**(Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)**

<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>	3	Donations and legacies	6,281	6,281
		Charitable activities	123,192	123,192
	4	Investment income	343	343
		Total income	129,816	129,816
<b>Expenditure on:</b>	5	Charitable activities	(119,794)	(119,794)
		Total expenditure	(119,794)	(119,794)
		Net income	10,022	10,022
		Net movement in funds	10,022	10,022
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
		Total funds brought forward	45,560	45,560
	14	Total funds carried forward	55,582	55,582

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The notes on pages 8 to 13 form an integral part of these financial statements.




	2025	2024
Fixed assets		
Tangible assets	9	3,583
Current assets		
Debtors	10	4,552
Cash at bank and in hand	11	49,689
		54,241
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	12	(1,379)
		51,999
Net current assets		55,582
Net assets		55,582
Funds of the charity:		
Unrestricted income funds		
Unrestricted funds		
Total funds	14	55,582

For the financial year ending 29 August 2025 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The financial statements on pages 6 to 13 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 22/5/26 and signed on their behalf by:

  
R Webb  
Trustee

**1 Charity status**

The charity is limited by share capital, incorporated in England & Wales.

The address of its registered office is:

Acomb First School  
Bishops Hill  
Acomb  
Hexham  
NE46 4PL

**2 Accounting policies**

**Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates**

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

**Statement of compliance**

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 (FRS 102)) (issued in October 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

**Basis of preparation**

Little Oaks Nursery, Acomb meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

**Going concern**

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

**Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement**

The charity opted to early adopt Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

**Income and endowments**

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of the income receivable can be measured reliably.

**Donations and legacies**

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charity before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

*Grants receivable*

Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

*Investment income*

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due.

**Expenditure**

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

*Charitable activities*

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

**Support costs**

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

**Government grants**

Government grants are recognised based on the accrual model and are measured at the fair value of the asset received or receivable. Grants are classified as relating either to revenue or to assets. Grants relating to revenue are recognised in income over the period in which the related costs are recognised. Grants relating to assets are recognised over the expected useful life of the asset. Where part of a grant relating to an asset is deferred, it is recognised as deferred income.

**Taxation**

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

**Tangible fixed assets**

Individual fixed assets costing £100.00 or more are initially recorded at cost.

**Depreciation and amortisation**

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 29 August 2025

**Asset class**  
Fixtures and fittings  
Outdoor equipment  
  
Depreciation method and rate  
25% reducing balance basis  
15% reducing balance basis

**Trade debtors**  
Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

**Cash and cash equivalents**  
Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

**Fund structure**  
Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

**3 Income from donations and legacies**

Unrestricted funds General funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
5,252	5,252	6,281
1,000	1,000	-
6,252	6,252	6,281

**4 Investment income**

Unrestricted funds General funds £	Total funds £
355	355
355	355
343	343

Interest receivable and similar income;  
Interest receivable on bank deposits

Total for 2025

Total for 2024

5 Expenditure on charitable activities

Unrestricted funds	General	£	Note	Allocated support costs
Total	2025	£		
		110,719		
Total	2024	£		
		119,794		

6 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

7 Staff costs

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

Staff Numbers	
2025	No
	6
2024	No
	6

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

8 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

<b>9 Tangible fixed assets</b>		
<b>Furniture and equipment</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Cost</b>		
At 30 August 2024	8,080	8,080
At 29 August 2025	8,080	8,080
<b>Depreciation</b>		
At 30 August 2024	4,497	4,497
Charge for the year	606	606
At 29 August 2025	5,103	5,103
<b>Net book value</b>		
At 29 August 2025	2,977	2,977
At 29 August 2024	3,583	3,583
<b>10 Debtors</b>		
<b>Trade debtors</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>2025</b>
Prepayments	555	
Other debtors	1	
	4,652	
	500	
	2	
	4,050	
	<b>£</b>	<b>2024</b>
	4,050	
	500	
	2	
	4,552	
<b>11 Cash and cash equivalents</b>		
<b>Cash on hand</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>2025</b>
Cash at bank	198	
	43,065	
	43,263	
<b>12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>		
<b>Other taxation and social security</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>2025</b>
Other creditors	-	
Accruals	(1)	
	1,380	
	1,320	
	922	
	<b>£</b>	<b>2024</b>
	922	
	-	
	1,320	
	2,242	

### 13 Commitments

## Capital commitments

The total amount contracted for but not provided in the financial statements was £1,665 (2024 - £1,500).

## 14 Funds

Unrestricted funds	General	Balance at 30 August 2024	£	55,582	Incomeing resources	£	105,206	Resources expended	£	(110,719)	Balance at 29 August 2025	£	50,069
Unrestricted funds	General	Balance at 30 August 2023	£	45,560	Incomeing resources	£	129,816	Resources expended	£	(119,794)	Balance at 29 August 2024	£	55,582

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 29 August 2025

	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<i>Donations and legacies</i>		
Donations & Gifts	5,252	6,281
Grant Income	1,000	-
	<u>6,252</u>	<u>6,281</u>
<i>Charitable activities</i>		
Services Income	35,706	42,556
Service Income - Funding	62,893	80,636
	<u>98,599</u>	<u>123,192</u>
<i>Investment income</i>		
Interest on cash deposits	355	343
	<u>355</u>	<u>343</u>
<i>Charitable activities</i>		
Consumables & Food	(3,409)	(10,609)
Repairs and maintenance	(303)	(687)
Licences & Subscriptions	(375)	(1,046)
Sundry expenses	(882)	(1,711)
Advertising	(377)	-
Accountancy fees	(2,035)	(1,877)
Bank charges	(145)	(128)
Wages and salaries	(93,229)	(95,310)
Subcontract cost	(375)	-
Staff training	(1,167)	(508)
Rent	(6,605)	(6,000)
Insurance	(1,211)	(1,179)
Depreciation of fixtures and fittings	(606)	(739)
	<u>(110,719)</u>	<u>(119,794)</u>