



# Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	01	04	2024		31	03	2025

## Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any)

Charity's principal address   
  
  

Postcode	LL11 1ND
----------	----------

### Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	SARAH JANE BERRY	Treasurer	18/10/2024	Board of Trustees
2	Penelope Mary Dunn Wilson			
3	Helen Stephenson			
4	Anne-Marie Mackin			
5	Margaret Anne Stobart			
6	SIMON JOHN BAZLEY			
7	ALISON WOOD	Secretary		
8	Simon Rix			
9	Julia Green			
10	Siôn Lewis Edwards	Chair		
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				

--	--	--	--

**Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)**

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

**Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)**

Type of adviser	Name	Address

**Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)**

--

## Section B Structure, governance and management

### Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (Foundation Model)
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Elected by the Board of Trustees

### Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

The Playwork Foundation is governed by a Constitution and is registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (Foundation Model). During the year the trustees continued work to transition to an Association Model CIO, reviewing quorum requirements, trustee terms, election processes and member involvement. A revised draft constitution was developed and will be finalised and adopted in the coming year.

Trustee recruitment remained a priority. A skills audit identified the need for additional capacity, particularly in financial oversight, and the Foundation successfully appointed a new Treasurer during the year. Further recruitment activity took place to strengthen representation across the UK, including outreach to Northern Ireland and Scotland.

The trustees met regularly throughout the year, including an in-person Away Day in Birmingham, England, in January 2025 to review governance, constitutional reform, strategic priorities and the organisational workplan. A formal actions log was introduced to support continuity between meetings, and work continued on updating key organisational policies including Social Media, Environmental Impact,

Conflict of Interest, GDPR and Safeguarding. The Safeguarding Policy was updated to reflect current statutory guidance.

The Foundation continued to participate in multi-national sector structures, including the UK Playwork National Occupational Standards (NOS) Consortium convened by Play Wales and the Playwork Education and Training Councils (PETCs) for England, Wales and Scotland respectively. Trustees contributed to the NOS Writing Group and Advisory Groups, and acted as Secretariat for PETC England while monitoring developments in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Work also continued to develop the Adventure Playground Network for Great Britain and Northern Ireland, including the development of draft Terms of Reference and renewed communication processes.

Administrative governance was strengthened through the opening of a new bank account with the Co-operative Bank and updates to Charity Commission records. Trustees also began planning a rebrand and relaunch to align with the forthcoming constitutional change.

## Section C

## Objectives and activities

### Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The Playwork Foundation's object is to advance and promote education, for the public benefit, in children's play and playwork. This is achieved in particular by:

- providing information
- raising awareness
- facilitating discourse
- carrying out research
- building capacity across the playwork sector.

For the purposes of the constitution, children's play is defined as freely chosen, personally directed and intrinsically motivated activity, and playwork is defined as the profession guided by the Playwork Principles.

### Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The Playwork Foundation exists to advance and promote education, for the public benefit, in children's play and playwork. In planning and delivering the charity's activities during the year, the trustees had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

The Foundation undertook a range of activities aligned with its charitable objects, including:

- Providing information and raising awareness through sector events, public engagement and contributions to multi-national discussions on playwork, qualifications and policy.
- Facilitating discourse through Playwork in Progress, a weekly reflective practice space attended by practitioners across Great Britain and internationally.
- Building capacity by designing and delivering a 12-session online training programme for the out-of-school (OOS) sector, offering accessible, high-quality professional development in core playwork theory and practice.
- Supporting sector infrastructure through active participation in the UK Playwork National Occupational Standards (NOS) Consortium and the Playwork Education and Training Councils (PETCs) for England, Wales and Scotland respectively.
- Strengthening practice and collaboration by supporting the

Adventure Playground Network for Great Britain and Northern Ireland, which received external recognition in a peer-reviewed academic article during the year.

- Advocating for playwork through engagement with the Department for Education (England), local authorities, and campaigns relating to playwork pay, conditions and sustainability.

These activities directly further the Foundation's charitable purpose by improving understanding of playwork, supporting practitioners, and contributing to the development of national frameworks, standards and networks.

### **Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)**

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

During the year the Foundation delivered a wide range of activities designed to strengthen playwork practice and support those working with children in community, out-of-school and adventure playground settings. A major focus was the development and launch of a new programme of online training for the OOS sector. Trustees designed and delivered a 12-session covering core playwork theory and practice, attracting strong attendance and repeat engagement. Sessions were recorded and made available online, and a feedback process was introduced to support ongoing improvement.

Playwork in Progress continued throughout the year, providing a weekly reflective practice space that fostered discussion, peer support and sector learning. The sessions contributed to wider engagement with issues such as play sufficiency, playwork identity and sector challenges.

The Foundation played an active role in national sector infrastructure. Trustees contributed to the UK Playwork NOS Consortium, supporting the development of a new Functional Map and participating in the Writing Group and Advisory Groups. The Foundation also supported PETC England as Secretariat and monitored developments through participation in the equivalent bodies in Scotland and Wales, including qualification changes, workforce planning and regulatory reviews.

The Foundation continued to support the development of the Adventure Playground Network for Great Britain and Northern Ireland. This work was recognised externally during the year: a peer-reviewed article in the International Journal of Play (Wragg & Edwards, 2024) highlighted the Network as an encouraging example of sector resilience and noted the Foundation's role in helping to establish a UK-wide platform for adventure playgrounds. Trustees contributed to Network meetings, supported data collection on insurance and closures, and participated in discussions in England relating to the Play Commission and the Children and Built Environment Inquiry.

The Foundation also engaged with the Department for Education (England), introducing the organisation's work and exploring issues relating to playwork training, qualifications and the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme. Trustees continued to explore the implications of CIMSPA's interest in supporting playwork qualifications and professional standards, gathering information and facilitating open discussion within the sector.

The Foundation contributed to sector events including the English National Playwork Conference in Eastbourne, where trustees delivered workshops and plenary sessions, and the Club Central Conference, where trustees facilitated workshops, hosted a stall and presented the Playwork Award. Trustees also attended the Welsh National Play conference - Playing and Being Well - in Cardiff.

The Foundation supported advocacy efforts relating to playwork pay and conditions, including engagement with the Islington Play Association and local campaigns in Leicester and Dudley. Trustees also contributed to discussions about the development of a new Children's Plan and the potential introduction of a Play Sufficiency Duty in England.

## Section D

## Achievements and performance

## Section D

## Achievements and performance

### Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

The year saw significant achievements across the Foundation's work. The launch of the OOS webinar programme represented a major expansion of the Foundation's training offer, with strong attendance, repeat engagement and positive feedback from practitioners. The programme strengthened the Foundation's visibility and provided accessible, high-quality training for those working with children in out-of-school settings.

The Foundation strengthened its multi-national influence through active participation in the UK Playwork NOS Consortium, contributing to the development of new National Occupational Standards and supporting sector engagement across Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Trustees also supported PETC England as Secretariat and monitored developments in Scotland and Wales through representation on their respective PETCs.

The Foundation's contribution to the development of the Adventure Playground Network was recognised externally during the year. A peer-reviewed article in the International Journal of Play described the Network as an encouraging example of sector resilience and highlighted the Foundation's role in supporting its establishment and coordination. This recognition reflects the Foundation's growing influence in supporting multi-national infrastructure for playwork.

The Foundation played a key role in sector advocacy, supporting playworkers facing pay and funding challenges, contributing to discussions with local authorities and national bodies, and participating in campaigns relating to adventure playground closures and playwork pay. Trustees also engaged with the Department for Education and explored the potential implications of CIMSPA's involvement in playwork qualifications.

The Foundation delivered a strong presence at sector events, including the English National Playwork Conference and the Club Central Conference, where trustees delivered workshops, facilitated discussions and promoted the Foundation's work. Playwork in Progress continued to provide a valued reflective space for practitioners, and the Foundation supported the development of a Skills Bootcamp pilot in Devon, contributing to training delivery and evaluation.

The January Away Day provided an opportunity for trustees to reflect on achievements, review governance and agree priorities for the coming year. A comprehensive organisational workplan was developed, including plans for constitutional reform, rebranding, training development, sector engagement and advocacy.

## Section E

## Financial review

**Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves**

The Playwork Foundation maintains modest unrestricted reserves to support its core activities and meet essential operational costs. Given the charity's volunteer-led structure and low expenditure, the trustees consider the current level of reserves sufficient for its scale and risk profile. The trustees review the reserves position annually and aim to build capacity for future growth through fundraising and partnership development.

**Details of any funds materially in deficit**

The charity held no funds in deficit during the financial year.

**Further financial review details (Optional information)**

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The charity's principal source of funds remains voluntary contributions and small-scale partnership income. No income was received during the reporting period, and total expenditure amounted to £985, covering bank charges, accountancy fees and conference-related costs. These costs supported the Foundation's charitable objectives by enabling trustee governance, sector engagement and public benefit activities.

The Foundation held £2,917.46 in unrestricted cash funds at year-end. No restricted or endowment funds were held, and the charity had no liabilities or assets other than cash.

The trustees did not operate an investment portfolio during the year. Should investments be considered in future, the trustees will adopt an ethical investment policy aligned with the Foundation's charitable objects and values.

**Section F****Other optional information**

During the year the trustees developed a comprehensive workplan for 2025-26, including plans to transition to an Association Model CIO, rebrand and relaunch the Foundation, strengthen multi-national representation, develop a playwork archive, expand training offers and enhance sector engagement. The Foundation also plans to continue supporting the Adventure Playground Network, monitor the development of the Play Sufficiency Duty in England, and deepen engagement with the Department for Education (England) on playwork qualifications and policy.

The publication of a peer-reviewed article in the International Journal of Play during the year provided further evidence of the growing recognition of the Foundation's role in supporting sector infrastructure and collaboration, particularly in relation to the Adventure Playground Network.

The trustees wish to record their thanks to all volunteers, partners and members who contributed to the Foundation's work during the year, and to acknowledge the significant contribution of trustees who stepped down during the period.

**Section G****Declaration**

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

**Signed on behalf of the charity’s trustees**

<b>Signature(s)</b>		
---------------------	--	--

<b>Full name(s)</b>	Siôn Lewis Edwards	
---------------------	--------------------	--

<b>Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)</b>	Chair	
--	-------	--

<b>Date</b>	29/01/2026
-------------	------------





CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

The Playwork Foundation

No (if any)

## Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period  
from

1-Apr-24

To

31-Mar-25

### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b> (Gross income for AR)	-	-	-	-	-
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total receipts</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Bank charges	61	-	-	61	-
Accountants Fees	324	-	-	324	-
Conference Fees	600	-	-	600	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	985	-	-	985	-
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total payments</b>	985	-	-	985	-
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	- 985	-	-	- 985	-
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	- 985	-	-	- 985	-

## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
		to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank current account	2,917	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>2,917</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error	OK	OK

	Details	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
		to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
SJ Berry	Sarah Berry	