

Chair's Review

The Preschool Year September 2023 – 31st August 2024

How the Preschool Met Its Charitable Aims

During the 2023–2024 year the Preschool continued to meet its charitable aim of advancing the education and development of young children by providing a safe, caring and stimulating early years environment.

The staff team consisted of **Annette, Maxine and Chloe**, who continued to provide consistent, high-quality early years education and care. This year the setting also welcomed **Luce**, who joined the team as an apprentice. This provided valuable support within the setting while also contributing to the development of future early years professionals.

Staff worked closely together to ensure children were supported across all areas of learning in line with the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). Strong key person relationships, a play-based approach, and a well-organised environment supported children's confidence, communication and independence.

Trustee and Governance

The Trustee team continued to oversee the governance of the Preschool and ensure the setting remained compliant and focused on its charitable aims. During this year, **Sarah stepped down from the committee**, and the Preschool would like to thank her for her time and support. The remaining Trustees continued to work alongside the staff team to maintain financial stability and support the ongoing development of the provision.

Learning and Development

Children benefited from a rich learning environment both indoors and outdoors. Staff placed strong emphasis on:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Communication and Language
- Physical Development through active and outdoor play

The Preschool maintained strong partnerships with parents, supporting children's learning and development both within the setting and at home.

Community Involvement and Fundraising

The Preschool continued to strengthen its role within the local community and successfully held a variety of events throughout the year.

Fundraising and community events included:

- **Christmas Lights Event**, which brought families together and raised funds for the setting
- **Scarecrow Event** and **Halloween Fundraiser** held in the Preschool garden, which were very well supported
- **Bake Sales** and **Raffles**, which contributed to essential fundraising

These events helped enhance the Preschool's resources while strengthening connections with families.

Toddler Group (Sprouts)

The Preschool's toddler group, **Sprouts**, continued to support families within the community. This year, Sprouts successfully moved to a new venue, allowing the group to continue providing a welcoming space for parents, carers and younger children. This initiative supports early social development for children and strengthens links between families and the Preschool.

Looking Forward

The Preschool looks forward to continuing to develop its provision, supporting staff training and maintaining high standards of early years education. The Trustees remain committed to ensuring the setting continues to provide a nurturing and inclusive environment for all children and families.

The Trustees would like to thank **Annette, Maxine, Chloe and Luce** for their continued dedication, and all Trustees for their ongoing support and commitment to the Preschool.

Simpsonian Playgroup
Income and expenditure account
For the year ended 31 August 2024

	2024		2023	
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Playgroup fees	26,038		28,484	
Playgroup funding	64,576		46,172	
Other	-	90,614	1,141	75,797
Expenditure				
Staff costs	70,794		61,875	
Training	132		1,541	
Building hire	953		720	
Heat and light etc	7,474		5,540	
Waste disposal	777		877	
Cleaning	751		1,476	
General expenditure	5,191		3,023	
Maintenance	1,656		545	
Licences & registrations	926		1,373	
Equipment	-		70	
Uniforms	317	(88,971)	533	(77,573)
Surplus/(Deficit) in year		1,643		(1,776)
Cash funds as at 1 September 2023		5,041		6,817
Cash funds as at 31 August 2024		<u>6,684</u>		<u>5,041</u>
Cash at bank:				
Lloyds Bank Treasurers account 74738368		6,684		5,041
		<u>6,684</u>		<u>5,041</u>



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees	SHIPDHAM PLAYGROUP		
On accounts for the year ended	31 AUGUST 2024	Charity no (if any)	1019292
Set out on pages	3		

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31 August 2021**.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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.

Signed:  Date: 9 APRIL 2025

Name: ROBERT KENDALL

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any): FCCA

Address: 38 HIGH STREET
WATTON
IP25 6AE

Section B**Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.