

# EDALE STEPPING STONES NURSERY AND CHILDCARE CENTRE

England & Wales · Charity number 1190027

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** CIO

**Registered** 2020-06-19

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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**Address** The Old Winery  
Grindsbrook  
Edale  
Hope Valley  
S33 7ZA

**Phone** 07539673572

**Email** [edalesteppingstones.trustees@gmail.com](mailto:edalesteppingstones.trustees@gmail.com)

**Website** [edalesteppingstones.co.uk](http://edalesteppingstones.co.uk)

## Activities

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**Objects:** TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN AGED 1-11 FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT BY THE PROVISION OF A NURSERY PRE-SCHOOL, DAY CARE FACILITIES AND OUT OF SCHOOL PROVISION.

**Activities:** Provide safe and high quality childcare and early learning opportunities to young children in Edale, and those from outside Edale who would benefit from the opportunities.

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training
- **Who:** Children/young People

## Geography

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- Derbyshire

## Finances

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Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-08-31	£1,465	£7,665	-	-
2023-08-31	£115,173	£150,182	-	-
2022-08-31	£105,944	£92,160	-	-
2021-08-31	£76,412	£48,070	-	-

## Trustees

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Name	Role	Appointed
Anita Critchlow		2021-09-13
Catherine Spingys		2020-04-29
Samuel Keating		2020-04-29

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**EDALE STEPPING STONES NURSERY AND CHILDCARE CENTRE**

England & Wales - Charity number 1190027

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# Accounts

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## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

**From** 1 September 2023 **To** 31 August 2024

**Charity name:** Edale Stepping Stones Nursery and Childcare Centre (subsequently referred to as ESS)

**Charity Address:** The Old Winery, Grindsbrook Booth, Edale, S33 7ZA

**Charity registration number:** 1190027

**OFSTED registration number:** 2600983

## Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<p>To advance the education and development of children aged 1-11 for the public benefit by the provision of a nursery pre-school, daycare facilities and out of school provision as set out in the Constitution.</p> <p>The principal purpose in establishing ESS is to provide a much needed safe and high quality childcare and early learning opportunity for young children in Edale and the surrounding area who would benefit from these opportunities. To fulfil its purpose, ESS has to be both affordable and accessible.</p> <p>The activities of the Trustees are guided by a series of governance documents covering such areas as meetings, decision making, trustee appointment, conflict of interest etc.</p>
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>As highlighted in the 2022-2023 report due to difficulty recruiting staff, including management the difficult decision was made to close the nursery provision. This was initially temporary while other options were investigated by the trustees. This included approaching other local nurseries and the local primary school. Despite these contacts there were no positive leads to follow and therefore the trustees decided nursery provision in Edale was not viable.</p>

Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The Trustees have had due regard for all guidance from the Charity Commission with regard to all our work to date and will continue to have regard for the guidance as we continue our work.

## Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
<p>Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.</p>	<p>Para 1.20</p>	<p>The main work of the trustees during this period was closing the nursery provision taking account of our legal responsibilities and duties. Stakeholders were kept informed.</p> <p>Two remaining members of staff were made redundant and we sought specialist legal advice on this matter.</p> <p>All professional, educational and local authority contacts were informed. All refunds and debts were paid and the lease for the building was terminated, with some decorating required.</p> <p>Resources were offered to the local primary school whose teachers were grateful and came and took a lot. Any resources not wanted by the local school was either sold or given to a charity shop or taken to the school jumble sale to raise funds for the school.</p> <p>Along with redundancies there was a staffing matter that needed resolving prior to closing the charity down.</p> <p>17<sup>th</sup> May 2024 two trustees (one was the treasurer) resigned. Shortly after one further trustee resigned, leaving 3 remaining trustees. After reviewing the ESS decision making, resolutions and voting document the Board of Trustees is quorum at 3 trustees as this is more than 2 and more than a third of the total number of trustees as stated in the document.</p> <p>Due to the treasurer resigning and subsequent inadequate handover of financial documents the remaining trustees had no access to the charity accounts. This took time to resolve.</p> <p>In addition the trustees were managing a subject access request requiring support from a Data specialist legal team. This process was concluded August 2024</p>



## Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<p><b>FINANCIAL REPORT</b></p> <p>The trustees are pleased to present the charity's Receipts and Payment Account for the year to 31 August 2024.</p> <p><b>The period closed with a bank balance of £ 917 (2023 £7665) of unrestricted reserves.</b></p> <p>The Charity nursery provision was closed in July 2023, therefore there was no income generated.</p> <p>Expenditure included final payroll and redundancies and included HR legal advice. Along with final premises payments and some refunds to parents.</p>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	N/A as nursery has closed
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	N/A
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	As the nursery provision has closed, the charity is in the process of closing

## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	"Foundation " Model Constitution dated 19/06/2020.
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	<p>Constitution of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) whose only voting members are the Trustees.</p> <p>The management of ESS is overseen by a Board of Trustees made up of six volunteers as detailed later.</p>
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	<p>There is no formal recruitment policy, prospective trustees being identified based on their areas of expertise.</p> <p>The trustees follow relevant governance policies covering such areas as role of trustees, conflict of interest, safeguarding, correct use of funds, terms of reference for meetings and decision making, contracts of staff employment etc. The policies are reviewed as required.</p> <p>Each trustee has a set term of office and any new trustee is provided with the necessary policy documents following a period as an observer.</p> <p>Specific roles include Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, Secretary.</p>

## Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Edale Stepping Stones Nursery and Childcare Centre
Other name the charity uses	N/a
Registered charity number	1190027
Charity's principal address	The Old Winery, Grindsbrook Booth, Edale, S33 7ZA

**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	Anita Critchlow	Chair of Trustees		
2	Sam Keating	Vice Chair of Trustees and Treasurer	Treasurer from 19 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	
3	Liam Gilligan	Treasurer	Resigned 17 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	
4	Jane Acty	Secretary	Resigned 19 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	
5	Cathy Spingys	Secretary	Secretary from 19 <sup>th</sup> May	
6	Nigel Lawford		Resigned 17 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	
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**Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved**

Director name		
N/a		

**Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity**

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
N/a		



## Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	N/A
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	N/A
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	N/A

## Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

Not applicable

## Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

<b>Signature(s)</b>	<i>Anita Critchlow</i>	<i>Sam Keating</i>
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<b>Full name(s)</b>	Anita Critchlow	Samuel Michael Keating
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<b>Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)</b>	Chair of Trustees	Vice Chair of Trustees
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<b>Date</b>	11/04/2026
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# Edale Stepping Stones Nursery and Childcare Centre



Fees Direct

Fees-LA

Donations-organisations

Donations-  
individ

Grants

Refunds

1085 379.98

**Total 1464.98**

Expenditure

Staffing

398.28 274 486.66 542.16 729.4 64.19 395.96

**2890.65**

Premises

59.55 357.31 1772.46

**2189.32**

Fee refund

451 62 71.75 165 264 363 99

2 32.5 **1510.25**

Professional

938.4 35

**973.4**

amazon no inv

Resources

# Edale Stepping Stones Nursery and Childcare Centre



Food/clean	101.06			<b>101.06</b>
		Sept 23-Aug 24	Total	<b>7664.68</b>
<b>Sept 2023 to Aug 24</b>				
<b>Income</b>				

**Bank balance 1/9/2023 £7116.86 plus income £1464.98 = £8581.84**  
**Minus expenditure £ 7664.68**  
**Bank balance 31/08/24 = £917.16**

**EDALE STEPPING STONES NURSERY AND CHILDCARE CENTRE**

England & Wales - Charity number 1190027

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# Accounts

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## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

**From** 1 September 2022 **To** 31 August 2023

**Charity name:** Edale Stepping Stones Nursery and Childcare Centre (subsequently referred to as ESS)

**Charity Address:** The Old Winery, Grindsbrook Booth, Edale, S33 7ZA

**Charity registration number:** 1190027

**OFSTED registration number:** 2600983

## Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<p>To advance the education and development of children aged 1-11 for the public benefit by the provision of a nursery pre-school, daycare facilities and out of school provision as set out in the Constitution.</p> <p>The principal purpose in establishing ESS is to provide a much needed safe and high quality childcare and early learning opportunity for young children in Edale and the surrounding area who would benefit from these opportunities. To fulfil its purpose, ESS has to be both affordable and accessible.</p> <p>The activities of the Trustees are guided by a series of governance documents covering such areas as meetings, decision making, trustee appointment, conflict of interest etc.</p>
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>Objectives set continued into 2023 including increasing the number of children attending, developing staff and continuing to forge links with the local primary school and the community.</p> <p>The Nursery was embedded in the local community and received a useful boost to our finances from the village's charitable car parking fund. A summer fayre was held.</p>

		<p>The nursery provided employment for 3 local young people. The nursery supported their professional development with one gaining a level 3 forest school qualification and supporting a staff member with their PGCE</p> <p>There were members of the wider Edale community who volunteered their time and energy to help support ESS in its day to day running and with upkeep of the premises and supporting special fundraising events. We were very grateful for this support.</p> <p>The Trustees tried to expand the team but had no success in recruiting an additional level 3 childcare practitioner, a cleaner and a cook.</p> <p>There then followed some staff resignations which proved very difficult as it was such a small team.</p> <p>With the difficulty recruiting suitable staff into the various vacant posts including managerial roles the difficult decision was made by the trustees to close the nursery provision. This was initially on a temporary basis while the Trustees explored various options to reopen a nursery in Edale. All stakeholders were kept informed of developments.</p> <p>The nursery closed to children on 28/07/2023 and to employed staff on 08/09/2023</p> <p><u>Public benefit:</u></p> <p>In order to ensure the principles of public benefit are at the forefront of Trustees' actions, this is maintained as a standing agenda item for all formal trustee meetings.</p> <p>Prior to closing the provision the Trustees are satisfied that no harm has arisen from the purposes outlined in the ESS objectives; the main beneficiaries remain the local community, the general public and that no private benefit has arisen from any of the purposes or activities of ESS.</p>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public	Para 1.18	The Trustees have had due regard for all guidance from the Charity Commission with regard to all our work to date and will continue to have regard for the guidance as we continue our work to close the nursery

benefit		provision and the charity.
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## Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
<p>Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.</p>	<p>Para 1.20</p>	<p>Prior to the decision to close the nursery provision ESS continued to be a popular nursery with competitive level of fees.</p> <p>Having a childcare provision in the heart of the village saved parents and children having to travel long distances to access childcare facilities and many families were able to walk to ESS.</p> <p>There was collaboration with the local school to further develop the afterschool provision. This was moved to the school and staffed jointly, it proved very popular.</p> <p>There was a waiting list for babies hoping to attend the nursery, with priority given to those living in Edale. This was an indicator of the quality of service provision on offer and also an indicator of the unmet need for childcare services in the village and wider Hope Valley community.</p> <p>The new management team made various changes. The implementation of Tapestry online learning portal to aid communication with parents/carers which the local school then implemented too.</p> <p>They changed the layout of the classroom to create a calmer environment with neutral colours and more natural furnishings, materials and resources.</p> <p>These changes helped make the centre more accessible and comfortable for all children, but particularly those with SEND.</p> <p>The outdoor environment was developed with the help of the staff member doing the forest school training.</p> <p>The children attended Forest School/Woodland adventure sessions.</p> <p>The children attended the monthly coffee morning to support intergenerational</p>

		<p>relationships and provide children with opportunities to meet and converse with local residents.</p> <p>Despite this being a much needed facility the recruitment of staff, including managerial roles was unsuccessful. This recruitment problem is a national problem but also made more difficult by the remote rural location of the nursery.</p>
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## Financial Review

<p>Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period</p>	<p>Para 1.21</p>	<p><b>FINANCIAL REPORT</b></p> <p>The Trustees present the charity's Receipts and Payment Account for the year to 31 August 2023.</p> <p><b>The period closed with a bank balance of £7116.86 (2022 £42k) of unrestricted reserves.</b></p> <p><b>The detailed finances show the difficulty in balancing income and with increased staffing costs (previous management were voluntary).</b></p> <p>The income derived from fees, charged to parents of children attending and claimed from the local authority (Derbyshire County Council) for eligible childcare hours amounted to £101k (2022 £98k).</p> <p>The charity also benefitted from £10k (2022 £6k) of donations, from individual giving and local organisations.</p> <p>There were £3.5k grant funding receipts this year (2022 £0k). This for for EYTS employer incentive programme</p> <p>Refunds and re-imbursements of expenditure amounted to £217 (2022 £1k).</p> <p><b>The total income from all sources was £115k (2022 £106k).</b></p> <p>The total paid staffing expenditure was £107k (2022 £54k). This increase represents a full year of paid managerial staff. As per previous reports the Manager and Deputy Manager were unpaid volunteers, so when they stepped down the nursery had to employ a paid Manager and Deputy Manager. This meant an increase in staffing expenditure.</p> <p>Premises costs amounted to £19k (2022 £20k).</p> <p>The cost of providing meals, and cleaning the Centre, was £10k (2022 £10k). This included using an outside nursery catering company.</p> <p>Resources amounted to £5k (2022 £3k). Primarily this was to buy materials for the children to use in their learning and play, but also to create a calmer environment with neutral colours and more natural furnishings, materials</p>
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		<p>and resources.</p> <p>Insurance, subscriptions to professional bodies and IT hardware / software servicing cost just under £6k (2022 £3k). This included professional support to manage staff redundancy.</p> <p>The outdoor resource delivered through the year by the Forest School, at £1.5k (2022 £2k)</p> <p><b>The total expenditure was £150k (2022 £92k).</b></p>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	<p>N/A as provision has now closed</p> <p>Any funds left at point of closing the charity will be dealt with as per the constitution</p>
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	<b>£7k</b>
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	N/A Due to the nursery provision closing

## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	"Foundation " Model Constitution dated 19/06/2020.
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Constitution of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) whose only voting members are the Trustees.  The management of ESS is overseen by a Board of Trustees made up of six volunteers as detailed later.
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	There is no formal recruitment policy, prospective trustees being identified based on their areas of expertise.  The trustees follow relevant governance policies covering such areas as role of trustees, conflict of interest, safeguarding, correct use of funds, terms of reference for meetings and decision making, contracts of staff employment etc. The policies are reviewed as required.  Each trustee has a set term of office and any new trustee is provided with the necessary policy documents following a period as an observer.  Specific roles include Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, Secretary.

## Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Edale Stepping Stones Nursery and Childcare Centre
Other name the charity uses	N/a
Registered charity number	1190027
Charity's principal address	The Old Winery, Grindsbrook Booth, Edale, S33 7ZA

**Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity**

	<b>Trustee name</b>	<b>Office (if any)</b>	<b>Dates acted if not for whole year</b>	<b>Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Anita Critchlow</b>	<b>Chair of Trustees</b>		
<b>2</b>	<b>Sam Keating</b>	<b>Vice Chair of Trustees</b>		
<b>3</b>	<b>Liam Gilligan</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>		
<b>4</b>	<b>Jane Acty</b>	<b>Secretary</b>		
<b>5</b>	<b>Cathy Spingys</b>			
<b>6</b>	<b>Nigel Lawford</b>			
<b>7</b>				
<b>8</b>				
<b>9</b>				
<b>10</b>				
<b>11</b>				

**Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved**

<b>Director name</b>		
N/a		

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Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
N/a		

## Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	N/A
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	N/A
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	N/A

## Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

Not applicable

## Declarations

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

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

<b>Signature</b>	<i>Anita Critchlow</i>	<i>Samuel Keating</i>
<b>Full name</b>	<b>Anita Critchlow</b>	<b>Samuel Keating</b>

Position	Chair of Trustees	Vice Chair of Trustees
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Date \_\_11/04/2026

## Edale Stepping Stones Nursery and Childcare Centre



Income 22-23	Sep-22	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan-23	Feb	March	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Total
<b>Fees Direct</b>	9352.5	7352.5	7660.75	4428	7801.5	8351	6698.53	6486.32	7474.74	6254.02	2474.5	428.5	<b>74762.86</b>
<b>Fees-LA</b>	2472.5	1165.3	1978	2451		4106.5	3151.9		5627.73	3379.32	2011.5		<b>26343.75</b>
<b>Donations-organisat</b>			800			3489.02	1000				2896.1		<b>8185.12</b>
<b>Donations-individ</b>	200	200	200	313.28	200	50	350	50	350	200	50		<b>2163.28</b>
<b>Grants</b>					1750		1750						<b>3500</b>
<b>Refunds</b>				76				5	17.97			118.87	<b>217.84</b>
			<b>10638.7</b>			<b>15996.5</b>	<b>12950.4</b>		<b>13470.4</b>				<b>115172.8</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>12025</b>	<b>8717.8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7268.28</b>	<b>9751.5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6541.32</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>9833.34</b>	<b>7432.1</b>	<b>547.37</b>	<b>5</b>

Payments	Sep-22	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan-23	Feb	March	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Total
<b>Staffing</b>	8303.13	8748.29	11424.76	8985.11	9467.47	9182.67	11140.35	7169.86	9780.26	9635.7	7831.61	6062.17	<b>107731.38</b>
<b>Premises</b>	1533.33	1553.33	1533.33	1533.33	1553.33	1533.33	1533	1535	1533	1592.55	1652.1	1652.1	<b>18737.73</b>
<b>Fee refund</b>													
<b>Professional</b>		1170.03				179.5	220		118.39	185		4186.08	<b>6059</b>
<b>amazon no inv</b>	147.21	418.68	165.36	104.78	180.31	128.43	147.15	10.49					<b>1302.41</b>
<b>Resources</b>	871.11	238.17	1269.06	430.73	118	383.4	998.84	249.81	152.51	143.88	78.95		<b>4934.46</b>
<b>Food/clean</b>	290.78	1318.97	716.39	735.64	926.37	977.52	913.97	861.02	719.46	2022.11	434.43		<b>9916.66</b>
<b>Forest</b>		400		400				400	100		200		<b>1500</b>
				<b>12189.5</b>		<b>12384.8</b>					<b>10197.0</b>		
<b>Total</b>	<b>11145.56</b>	<b>13847.47</b>	<b>15108.9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>12245.48</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>14953.31</b>	<b>10226.18</b>	<b>12403.62</b>	<b>13579.24</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>11900.35</b>	<b>150181.64</b>

**Balance            +879.44    -5129.67    -4470.15    -4921.31    -2493.98    +3611.67    -2002.88    -3684.86    +1066.82    -3745.9    -2764.99    -11352.98**

**Bank balance 1/9/2022 £42125.65 plus income £115172.85 = £157298.50**

**Minus expenditure £150181.64**

# Edale Stepping Stones Nursery and Childcare Centre



**Bank balance 31/08/23 = £7116.86**



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name  
Edale Stepping Stones Nursery and Childcare Centre

On accounts for the year  
ended

31/08/2023	Charity no (if any)	1190027
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I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 / 08 / 2023.

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").

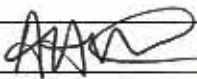
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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: 7/3/2026

Name: Alice Wood

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any): Member of ICAEW

Address: Hall Farm, Green Lane  
Cutthorpe  
Chesterfield, S42 7AR

**EDALE STEPPING STONES NURSERY AND CHILDCARE CENTRE**

England & Wales - Charity number 1190027

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# Accounts

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## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1 September 2021 To 31 August 2022

**Charity name:** Edale Stepping Stones Nursery and Childcare Centre (subsequently referred to as ESS)

**Charity Address:** The Old Winery, Grindsbrook Booth, Edale, S33 7ZA

**Charity registration number:** 1190027

**OFSTED registration number:** 2600983

## Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<p>To advance the education and development of children aged 1-11 for the public benefit by the provision of a nursery pre-school, daycare facilities and out of school provision as set out in the Constitution.</p> <p>The principal purpose in establishing ESS is to provide a much needed safe and high quality childcare and early learning opportunity for young children in Edale and the surrounding area who would benefit from these opportunities. To fulfil its purpose, ESS has to be both affordable and accessible.</p> <p>The activities of the Trustees are guided by a series of governance documents covering such areas as meetings, decision making, trustee appointment, conflict of interest etc.</p>
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>The 2020-2021 Annual Report detailed how ESS was established, how premises were identified and then granted planning permission and listed the various benefits to the local community.</p> <p>Several of the objectives set in 2020-2021 for the future have been built on during 2021-2022, including increasing the number of children attending, successful staff recruitment and continuing to forge links with the local primary school and the community.</p>

		<p>The two senior unpaid volunteer members of staff have been able to retire following the appointment of two permanent paid members of staff as Head and Deputy Head of the Nursery. They were appointed in June and July of 2022 respectively.</p> <p>The Nursery is now embedded in the local community and receives a useful boost to our finances from the village's charitable activities fund.</p> <p>The children attend a Forest School (within the village itself), join in activities with the village primary school and have attended a variety of village events including visits to the railway station in conjunction with Friends of Edale Station organisation.</p> <p>The number of children currently attending ESS stands at 23.</p> <p>The appointment of two senior staff has put pressure on the ESS budget but financial performance is closely monitored and regular financial forecasts are essential to keeping track. Decisions are made based on these and affordability is always at the forefront of considerations before any expenditure is incurred.</p> <p>We have held multiple fundraising public events, including Spring, Summer and Winter fayres on the grounds of ESS, and as mentioned earlier ESS is now a formal recipient of a share of fundraising activities within the Edale community (along with the primary school, village hall and playing field).</p> <p>We have several projects planned to improve and enhance the facilities at current premises, most notably some upgrades to the garden/outdoor environment.</p> <p>We continue to be extremely grateful to members of the wider Edale community who regularly volunteer their time and energy to help support ESS in its day to day running and with upkeep of the premises and supporting special fundraising events.</p>
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		<p><u>Public benefit:</u></p> <p>In order to ensure the principles of public benefit are at the forefront of Trustees' actions, this is maintained as a standing agenda item for all formal trustee meetings.</p> <p>The Trustees are satisfied that no harm has arisen from the purposes outlined in the ESS objectives; the main beneficiaries remain the local community, the general public and that no private benefit has arisen from any of the purposes or activities of ESS.</p>
<p>Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit</p>	<p>Para 1.18</p>	<p>The Trustees have had due regard for all guidance from the Charity Commission with regard to all our work to date and will continue to have regard for the guidance as we continue our work.</p>

## Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
<p>Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.</p>	<p>Para 1.20</p>	<p>ESS continues to provide high quality services at a competitive level of fees.</p> <p>Appointing two senior staff at salaries which are at competitive for industry levels.</p> <p>Having a childcare provision in the heart of the village saves parents and children having to travel long distances to access childcare facilities and many children/families are able to walk to access ESS.</p> <p>Meals are provided by an outside agency following the retirement of the volunteer cook and alternative options are now being assessed. Similarly, since the cook also performed the cleaning duties, we are seeking to appointment a new cleaner as soon as possible. In the interim, the current ESS staff cover all cleaning duties.</p> <p>We now hold a long waiting list for children hoping to attend the nursery, which is an indicator of the high quality of service provision we can offer and also an indicator of the current level of unmet need for childcare services in the village and wider Hope Valley community.</p> <p>An ongoing and particular challenge of a rural nursery is attracting new staff and securing staff cover at short notice where staff need to take an unplanned absence (eg. sick leave). We are currently trying to establish a 'bank' of potential, qualified, personnel, who can provide this sort of cover.</p>

## Financial Review

<p>Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period</p>	<p>Para 1.21</p>	<p><b>FINANCIAL REPORT</b></p> <p>The trustees are pleased to present the charity's Receipts and Payment Account for the year to 31 August 2022.</p> <p><b>The period closed with a bank balance of £42k (2021 £28k) of unrestricted reserves. This represents a net receipt for the year of £14k.</b></p> <p>The income derived from fees, charged to parents of children attending and claimed from the local authority (Derbyshire County Council) for eligible childcare hours amounted to £98k (2021 £60k).</p> <p>The charity also benefitted from £6k (2021 £6k) of donations, from individual giving and local organisations.</p> <p>There were no grant funding receipts this year (2021 £10k).</p> <p>Refunds and re-imbursements of expenditure amounted to £1k (2021 £NIL).</p> <p><b>The total income from all sources was £106k (2021 £76k).</b></p> <p>The total paid staffing expenditure was £54k (2021 £27k). The number of paid staff increased from three childcare practitioners, in September 2021, to three childcare practitioners, a Head and Deputy Head of Centre and a cook/cleaner by August 2022.</p> <p>Premises costs amounted to £20k (2021 £9k). The majority of this cost uplift was due to a full year rental of the dedicated Nursery and Childcare Centre. In 2021 the nursery operated for only 3 months out of the dedicated premises, the remainder of the year used the Village Hall.</p> <p>The cost of providing nutritious and varied meals, and cleaning the Centre, was £10k (2021 £4k). These meals were cooked using fresh ingredients purchased locally. This additional cost was a result of a higher number of children now attending and the</p>
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		<p>cook/cleaner position being paid from December 2021.</p> <p>Resources amounted to £3k (2021 £4k). Primarily this was to buy materials for the children to use in their learning and play, but also included small items of essential furniture and other supplies.</p> <p>Insurance, subscriptions to professional bodies and IT hardware / software servicing cost just under £3k (2021 £2k).</p> <p>The outdoor resource delivered through the year by the Forest School, at £2k (2021 £1k), contributed to the improved learning and personal development outcomes experienced by the children.</p> <p><b>The total expenditure was £92k (2021 £48k).</b></p>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	The reserves are held to fund any short-term fluctuations in the cash flow, due to factors such as reductions in funding (eg reductions in children attending) and increases in costs (eg use of agency staff to cover staff recruitment).
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	<b>£42,126 unrestricted funds</b>
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	<p>At 31 August 2022 the trustees believed that the unrestricted reserves of £42k represented a strong cash position to support the continued growth and daily operation of the Centre and were confident that the charity was a going concern at that date.</p> <p>The nursery has continued to operate in line with it's purposes for almost a full year, to June 2023.</p> <p>Unfortunately, three of the five members of staff have recently submitted their resignations, within the same month. The staff leaving include the Head of Centre, Deputy Head of Centre, and one of the three Childcare Practitioners. The charity has initiated a recruitment process and is in discussion with various agencies to try to identify suitable staff to cover on a temporary basis.</p> <p>As at the date of signing this report, the trustees are uncertain about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.</p>

## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document	Para 1.25	"Foundation " Model Constitution dated 19/06/2020.
How is the charity constituted?	Para 1.25	Constitution of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) whose only voting members are the Trustees.  The management of ESS is overseen by a Board of Trustees made up of six volunteers as detailed later.
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	There is no formal recruitment policy, prospective trustees being identified based on their areas of expertise.  The trustees follow relevant governance policies covering such areas as role of trustees, conflict of interest, safeguarding, correct use of funds, terms of reference for meetings and decision making, contracts of staff employment etc. The policies are reviewed as required.  Each trustee has a set term of office and any new trustee is provided with the necessary policy documents following a period as an observer.  Specific roles include Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, Secretary.

## Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Edale Stepping Stones Nursery and Childcare Centre
Other name the charity uses	N/a
Registered charity number	1190027
Charity's principal address	The Old Winery, Grindsbrook Booth, Edale, S33 7ZA

**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	Anita Critchlow	Chair of Trustees		
2	Sam Keating	Vice Chair of Trustees		
3	Liam Gilligan	Treasurer		
4	Jane Acty	Secretary		
5	Cathy Spingys			
6	Nigel Lawford			
7				
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20				

**Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved**

Director name		
N/a		

**Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity**

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
N/a		

### Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	N/A
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	N/A
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	N/A

### Exemptions from disclosure

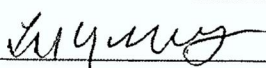
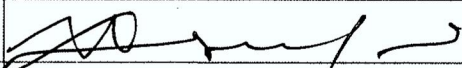
Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

Not applicable
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### Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Liam Gilligan	NIGEL LAWFORD
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Treasurer	TRUSTEE
Date	28 June 2023	28 JUNE 2023



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Edale Stepping Stones Nursery and Childcare Centre

1140027

**Receipts and payments accounts**

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For the period from	01-Sep-21	To	31-Aug-22
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**Section A Receipts and payments**

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Fees - Direct parent funding	74,641	-	-	74,641	44,630
Fees - Local authority funding (DCC)	23,688	-	-	23,688	15,583
Donations - Organisation	-	-	-	-	2,385
Donations - Individual	6,404	-	-	6,404	3,294
Grants	-	-	-	-	10,520
Refunds / Reimbursements of expenditure	1,211	-	-	1,211	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>105,944</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>105,944</b>	<b>76,412</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>105,944</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>105,944</b>	<b>76,412</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Staffing (Wages / Agency / Training / Recruitment etc)	53,955	-	-	53,955	27,082
Premises (Rent / Waste / Outdoor Area Resources)	19,799	-	-	19,799	9,234
Fees Refunded	-	-	-	-	706
Professional / Subscriptions / Insurance	3,334	-	-	3,334	1,683
Resources (eg for activities)	3,312	-	-	3,312	4,384
Food / Cleaning Supplies / Sundries	9,978	-	-	9,978	3,981
Forest School	1,700	-	-	1,700	1,000
Donations	82	-	-	82	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>92,160</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>92,160</b>	<b>48,070</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>92,160</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>92,160</b>	<b>48,070</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>13,784</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>13,784</b>	<b>28,342</b>
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	28,342	-	-	28,342	-
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>42,126</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>42,126</b>	<b>28,342</b>

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

Category	£	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank Balance at 31 August 2022	42,126	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>42,126</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))				
	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £

**B2 Other monetary assets**

		-	-	-
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**B3 Investment assets**

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

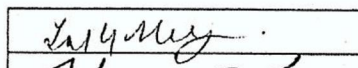
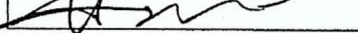
**B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use**

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

**B5 Liabilities**

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

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Liam Gilligan	28/6/23
	NIGEL LAWFORD	28/6/23

# Independent examiner's report on the accounts

## Section A

## Independent Examiner's Report

<b>Report to the trustees/ members of</b>	Edale Stepping Stones Nursery & Childcare Centre		
<b>On accounts for the year ended</b>	31 August 2022	<b>Charity no (if any)</b>	1190027
<b>Set out on pages</b>	1 and 2		
<b>Responsibilities and basis of report</b>	<p>I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 August 2022.</p> <p>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").</p> <p>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.</p>		

**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:

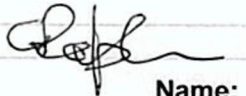
the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or

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: 27 May 2023

Name: Graeme Ralph

Address: 19 Brook Road  
Sheffield  
S8 9FH

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

Previously a Fellow Of The Institute Of Internal Auditors (FIIA). Now retired.

**EDALE STEPPING STONES NURSERY AND CHILDCARE CENTRE**

England & Wales - Charity number 1190027

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# Accounts

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# **Trustee Report of Edale Stepping Stones Nursery and Childcare Centre**

## **Introduction:**

This first Trustee Report of Edale Stepping Stones Nursery and Childcare Centre (referred to as ESS in the following) covers the period from February 2020 until 31 August 2021. (Charitable status was granted in June 2020).

The report is divided into 5 sections:

Section 1 deals with management and governance,

Section 2 answers the question – ‘why has ESS been established?’ and details how this has been managed,

Section 3 describes what has been achieved and who has benefitted,

Section 4 is the Financial Report,

Section 5 provides insight into future plans. Administrative information is provided as an Appendix.

## **SECTION 1: STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

ESS is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, Registration Number: 1190027

OFSTED Registration Number: 2600983

Address: The Old Winery, Grindsbrook Booth, Edale, S33 7ZA

The management and performance of ESS is overseen by a Board of Trustees made up of six volunteers as detailed in the Appendix.

The Trustees follow relevant governance policies covering areas such as role of trustee, training, conflict of interest, Safeguarding, correct use of funds, terms of reference for meetings and decision-making, recruitment, contracts of employment etc

Each Trustee has a set term of office and any new trustees will be provided with the appropriate policy documents. There is no formal recruitment policy, prospective Trustees being identified based on their areas of expertise.

## SECTION 2: WHY ESTABLISH EDALE STEPPING STONES

### Purpose and Objectives

1. The principal purpose in establishing ESS was to provide a much needed safe and high-quality childcare and early learning opportunity for young children in Edale and the surrounding area who would benefit from these opportunities. It had to be affordable and accessible.
2. A public consultation exercise was carried out with the village and local communities in January 2020 which identified positive support for such a venture. There was particular enthusiasm from parents who are critical workers, and who were struggling to find local provision at the times they needed. The consultation was led by two people, one who had experience as a foster carer and childminder and one as a Head teacher. Following the overwhelmingly positive response to the consultation, they both agreed to work together, voluntarily, to establish the nursery and childcare centre and seek trustees to oversee the developments and to gain charitable status.
3. There was a valuable opportunity to forge close links with the successful Edale Primary School and aid its sustainability by increasing the offer to a wider number of local parents with Day-care and After-School provision being high on the agenda.
4. Edale has managed to retain a very strong community but as with many rural villages, this is always under threat. A Nursery was seen as providing an important boost to the vibrancy of the village, encouraging and enabling young families to stay or indeed, move to the area, secure in the knowledge that high-quality childcare was available on the doorstep.
5. Edale is a small rural village. In order to access reliable childcare busy families needed to travel far afield. A Nursery located in the heart of the village would enable families to walk to their childcare facility rather than having to travel by car out of the area. It would contribute to a green environment, enabling parents to drop their children off safely and travel from the village railway station (serving Manchester and Sheffield) for their commute.
6. It would enable parents and carers to return to paid or unpaid employment.
7. There would be opportunities from a new venture for local employment and for training for those wishing to pursue a career in childcare and early learning.
8. A new venture would help sustain local businesses with regular purchases from cafes and the village shop.

## **How was this achieved.**

### *Laying the foundations –*

A Board of Trustees was formed of volunteers, two of whom were to head up the Nursery staff, once it was established.

Edale Stepping Stones Nursery and Childcare Centre was constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation on the 19<sup>th</sup> June 2020.

A detailed project plan was developed together with policies to guide how the Trustees would work together, make decisions and ensure the objectives of a CIO were met.

Other policies were developed to ensure the effective running of the Nursery, to meet Ofsted requirements and to ensure Safeguarding provisions were satisfied.

### *Premises –*

Suitable premises in the village had to be found.

The Primary School did not have spare capacity and the Village Hall could not be used exclusively as a nursery. However, the Old Winery, a building owned locally and needing a new use and requiring little in the way of alteration was identified. Located in the centre of the village, having a garden together with car parking and close to the railway station made it ideal.

Planning Permission and Building Regulation Approval were applied for and granted. A multi-year lease was agreed for ESS to use the building and associated garden. Delays in obtaining approvals for the use of the Old Winery due to the pandemic necessitated a temporary home for the Nursery at the Village Hall, bookings here having been cancelled due to Covid for many months ahead.

Occupation of this temporary location commenced in September 2020. An Ofsted registration was arranged and received a positive outcome with no conditions attached. Finally, in May 2021, ESS was able to relocate to its new home at the Old Winery, having received another positive registration inspection by Ofsted with unconditional approval.

### *Fundraising:*

Key to ESS being able to operate as a successful nursery has been the huge input and support from local people.

Formal funding bids to bodies such as the Big Lottery had to be put on hold as their funds were being diverted to meet Covid demands. However, donations of furniture, toys and equipment poured in from local sources together with volunteer “work days” to create a nursery environment together with a suitable garden area. The latter being funded by a generous donation from a local business.

ESS has also benefitted from a share of Edale Car Park Charity funds and hosting joint fundraising events with Friends of Edale School.

With the easing of Covid restrictions, a very successful outdoor fundraising event by ESS took place in July which was well supported by the community and visitors.

*Communication:*

The enormous input of local residents must be recognised and the Trustees are eager to maintain this very close and important connection. Key to this are monthly updates via the village local magazine, 'Ringing Roger', providing feedback on new developments and plans and highlighting the benefits of a charitable nursery.

A dedicated website is now up and running [www.edalesteppingstones.co.uk](http://www.edalesteppingstones.co.uk)

This was developed by an Edale resident at no cost to the Nursery.

### **SECTION 3: WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED, WHO HAS BENEFITTED?**

There are many things that have been achieved that are not readily quantifiable but referring back to the original aims listed in Section One, a number of the defined objectives and desired benefits have been realised as follows:

Our charitable status means that any profits are ploughed back into the Nursery for the benefit of those children currently attending and their families and this will continue into the future.

1. A maximum of 12 children of ages from 1 to 5 years benefit at any one time and are provided with inclusive, sensory, fun and stimulating learning experiences. Having the unique surroundings of Edale on the doorstep to inspire them, their confidence and skills are enhanced building foundations for a happy childhood.

2. Approximately 20 families have already benefited from a flexible service affordable and in many cases tailored to their specific needs including the additional services after-school club, wrap around care, holiday care etc..

3. Increasing demand for placements confirms both its affordability and accessibility.

4. Key workers have been able to maintain their vital work during the pandemic secure in the knowledge that their children are being looked after in a safe environment.

5. Two paid staff have been recruited who both live in the village together with a number of volunteers who support the two senior volunteer staff.

6. New staff have benefitted from training opportunities and develop practical skills to set them on career paths.

7. Several of the families walk to the nursery, and all those using the after-school facility are collected from the school on foot. Car use associated with the provision of childcare has been reduced.

Links with the Primary School have been cemented and to reinforce this, siblings of school pupils are given priority for entry to the Nursery helping the cohesiveness of the community. Five older children from the nursery will soon join their primary schools following their Graduation Day ceremony. Joint fundraising events are planned to benefit both facilities and focus the attention of the community.

Feedback both verbal and from a formal questionnaire to parents reinforce that ESS offers high quality services which are much appreciated.

#### *Public Benefit*

In order to ensure that the principles of Public Benefit are at the forefront of the Trustees' actions, this is a standard agenda item for Board Meetings.

The Trustees are satisfied that no harm arose from the purposes outlined above, the beneficiaries being the general public and the village community and that no private benefit has arisen from these purposes.

## SECTION 4: FINANCIAL REPORT:

The trustees are pleased to present the charity's Receipts and Payment Account for the period to 31 August 2021. This was an extended period to cover the setting up of the charity through to the end of the first full year of operation.

The period closed with a bank balance of £28k of unrestricted reserves. The trustees believe this represents a strong cash position from which to grow the charity and therefore are confident that the charity is a going concern.

These reserves were held to contribute to funding future objectives, as outlined in section 5, and to cover any temporary shortfall in funding sources over the next year.

The income derived from fees, charged to parents of children attending and claimed from the local authority (Derbyshire County Council) for eligible childcare hours, amounted to £60k.

The charity also benefitted from £6k of donations, from individual giving and local organisations.

A total of £10k was successfully secured from grants, which included:

- £9k awarded by High Peak Borough Council (from Government funding to support the organisation through the Covid pandemic).
- £1k from Breedon Cement Works for provision of Outdoor Resources
- £0.3k from Derbyshire County Council to part fund IT resources (i-pads)
- £0.25k from Alpkit to part fund waders for children to experience outdoor learning

The total income from all sources was £76k.

The paid staffing expenditure, for childcare practitioners, was £27k.

Premises costs amounted to £9k, which include the temporary hire of the local Village Hall (£4k) until the dedicated Centre space was established later in the year (£5k).

The cost of providing nutritious and varied meals, and cleaning the Centre, was £4k. These meals were cooked using fresh ingredients purchased locally.

Resources amounted to £4k. Primarily this was to buy materials for the children to use in their learning and play, but also included small items of essential furniture, waders and the IT hardware (laptop and i-pads).

Insurance and subscriptions to professional bodies and IT software (EY Log) cost just under £2k.

The outdoor resource delivered through the year by the Forest School, at £1k, contributed to the improved learning and personal development outcomes experienced by the children.

The total expenditure was £48k.

## **SECTION 5: LOOKING TO THE FUTURE**

All funding will continue to be used to enhance the nursery's offer whilst ensuring that ESS remains both affordable and competitive.

A number of objectives are currently under consideration;

1. A key objective of the Trustees is to ensure all permanent staff are appropriately paid and that proper work/life balances are established.
2. A plan is being developed in order to enable the 2 senior volunteer staff to plan their retirement whilst ensuring the future sustainability of the nursery. This will involve the recruitment of fully-funded replacements.
3. A marketing plan is currently being developed to ensure that momentum is maintained and opportunities are taken.
4. Continue to ensure that the children benefit from being accepted as an important part of the local community of Edale and of the Hope Valley.
5. Continue to capitalise on the use of outdoor provision and the wonderful environment of the Peak District.
6. Develop positive links with children who live in different environments and encourage a sharing of understanding.

Edale Stepping Stones Nursery and Childcare Centre has quickly built a reputation as being high quality. All the children aged 1-4 years living in Edale attend the provision and families from other areas in the Hope Valley are now choosing ESS as their first preference for childcare.

As of September 2021, there are 14 children aged 1-4 benefitting from the provision. 14 children attend the after-school provision, some regularly and some occasionally. There is currently only a one-day vacancy for a prospective one or two year old, and only one full-time place available for a three or four year old. At the request of families, ESS is now starting a waiting list, which will be helpful in future planning and sustainability of the provision.



### **Summary:**

Edale Stepping Stones has generated very positive feedback, is well-led and supported by an enthusiastic community. Achieving this in the midst of a global pandemic has been very challenging with inevitable setbacks but the staff supported by the Trustees continue to work as a team and have increasing confidence that ESS has a successful and sustainable future ahead.

**DECLARATIONS**

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees Report above.

Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees.

Signatures(s)  -   
Full name(s).... *NIGEL R.S. LAWFORD* *LIAM GILLIGAN*  
Position(s).... *VICE - CHAIR.* *TREASURER*  
Date *31.5.22* *31.5.22*

**Appendix – ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

The founding Trustees were:

- Dr Jane Acty
- Naomi Compton
- Liam Gilligan
- Sam Keating
- Nigel Lawford
- Theresa Skillen
- Cathy Spingys

In August 2021, Naomi Compton and Theresa Skillen stepped down to concentrate on their roles as Head and Deputy Head of ESS with responsibility to manage operational matters. They were replaced as Trustees by Anita Critchlow. In order to familiarise themselves with the activities of the Board, the newly-appointed Trustee had already been acting as an observer since May 2021.

Banking facilities are provided by the Co-op Bank p.l.c., P.O.Box 101, Balloon Street, Manchester, M60 4EP.

Insurers: Pound Gates Chartered Insurance Brokers.



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name  
**Edale Stepping Stones Nursery and Childcare Centre**

No (if any)  
1180027

**Receipts and payments accounts**

**CC16a**

For the period from **19-Jun-20** To **31-Aug-21**

**Section A Receipts and payments**

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Fees - Direct parent funding	44,630	-	-	44,630	-
Fees - Local authority funding (DCC)	15,583	-	-	15,583	-
Donations - Organisation	2,385	-	-	2,385	-
Donations - Individual	3,294	-	-	3,294	-
Grants	8,970	1,550	-	10,520	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>74,862</b>	<b>1,550</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>76,412</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>74,862</b>	<b>1,550</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>76,412</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Staffing	27,082	-	-	27,082	-
Premises	9,234	-	-	9,234	-
Fees Refunded	706	-	-	706	-
Professional / Subscriptions/ Insurance	1,683	-	-	1,683	-
Resources	3,834	550	-	4,384	-
Food / Sundries	3,981	-	-	3,981	-
Forest School	-	1,000	-	1,000	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>46,520</b>	<b>1,550</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>48,070</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>46,520</b>	<b>1,550</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>48,070</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>28,342</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>28,342</b>	<b>-</b>
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>28,342</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>28,342</b>	<b>-</b>

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Bank Balance at 31 August 2021	28,342	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>28,342</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>		-	-	-
	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>		-	-	-
	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>		-	-	-
	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>		-	-	-

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	NIGEL LAWFORD	31.5.22
	LIAM GILLIGAN	31.5.22

# Independent examiner's report on the accounts

## Section A

## Independent Examiner's Report

<b>Report to the trustees/ members of</b>	Edale Stepping Stones Nursery & Childcare Centre		
<b>On accounts for the year ended</b>	31 August 2021	<b>Charity no (if any)</b>	1190027
<b>Set out on pages</b>	1 and 2		

### Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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:

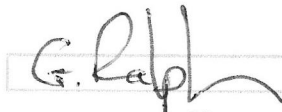
the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or

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: 31 May 2022

Name: Graeme Ralph

Address: 19 Brook Road  
Sheffield  
S8 9FH

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

Previously a Fellow Of The Institute Of Internal Auditors. Now retired.