

HOLMWOOD PRESCHOOL WALLINGTON

England & Wales - Charity number 1196919

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2021-12-03

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

Contact

Address Wallington United Reformed Church
Stanley Park Road
Wallington
SM6 0EU

Phone 02096698163

Email holmwood.preschool@gmail.com

Website www.holmwoodpreschool.com

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECT OF THE CIO IS: TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF CHILDREN OF PRE-SCHOOL AGE BY THE PROVISION OF SAFE AND SATISFYING LEARNING THROUGH PLAY BY: I. PROVIDING A SAFE STIMULATING ENVIRONMENT ENSURING EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL CHILDREN REGARDLESS OF RACE, CULTURE, RELIGION, GENDER, HOME CIRCUMSTANCES AND MEDICAL BACKGROUND II. PROMOTING PUBLIC INTEREST IN AND RECOGNITION OF THE NEEDS OF PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES. III. ADHERING TO NATIONAL AND LOCAL REQUIREMENTS FOR EARLY YEARS SETTINGS. NOTHING IN THIS CONSTITUTION SHALL AUTHORISE AN APPLICATION OF THE PROPERTY OF THE CIO FOR THE PURPOSES WHICH ARE NOT CHARITABLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CHARITIES ACT 2011.

Activities: The preschool will continue to provide early years education in Wallington, London SM6 as it has done since its first iteration as Holmwood Playschool in 1972. We provide safe, stimulating learning through play for each unique child in small key-worker groups with suitably qualified experienced staff. Each child will feel happy and valued as we work with their families on their learning journey.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Education/training
- **Who:** Children/young People

Geography

- Sutton

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£79,082	£80,492	-	-
2024-03-31	£82,430	£73,070	-	-
2023-03-31	£0	£0	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Sheila Janet Cruchley	Chair	2021-08-22
Christopher Mark Adrian Jackson		2021-08-22
Karen Susan Green		2022-01-09
Lynn Christine Skelton		2021-08-29
Rev Craig Bowman		2021-08-29

HOLMWOOD PRESCHOOL WALLINGTON

England & Wales - Charity number 1196919

Accounts

HOLMWOOD PRESCHOOL WALLINGTON

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 01/04/2024 TO 31/03/2025

Holmwood Preschool Wallington
Wallington URC
20 Stanley Park Road,
Wallington
SM6 0EU
Charity Commission number: 1196919
Companies House number: CEO27452
Trustees:

Sheila Cruchley (Chair)
Lynn Skelton (Secretary)
Craig Bowman (Minister of WURC, ex officio)
Karen Green (day to day Manager, ex officio)
Christopher Jackson

Bookkeeping: Prepared Ltd
Payroll Services: Essential Payroll

Objectives

The object of the CIO is:

To advance the education of children of pre-school age by the provision of safe and satisfying learning through play by:

- i. providing a safe stimulating environment ensuring equal opportunities for all children regardless of race, culture, religion, gender, home circumstances and medical background
- ii. promoting public interest in and recognition of the needs of pre-school children and their families.
- iii. adhering to national and local requirements for early years settings.

Holmwood Preschool Wallington

This period covers the first full financial year of operation as a CIO, the preschool having previously been an activity of Wallington United Reformed Church for many years. The preschool now operates under a signed Licence to Occupy and pays rent to Wallington United Reformed Church at an agreed rate. We also have a separate agreement relating to the storage of equipment on the premises.

Trustees

The Trustees meet quarterly by zoom. Occasional discussions are held via email if an urgent matter needs addressing.

Our constitution provides for potential Trustees to be nominated by the church, by the preschool staff and by the parents or carers of children attending the preschool. The Trustees may also appoint others who they feel would bring relevant skills and expertise to the operation of the CIO. The current Trustees are members of the church, the Minister and the Preschool Manager.

Parents and Carers are eligible to become Trustees but we have not yet managed to attract anyone to take this on. This is partly because children often only stay for one year now and not for two as used to happen before. All Trustees are appointed in accordance with our Constitution.

Management structure

In addition to the staff who directly look after the children, directed day to day by our Manager, we have a paid bookkeeper and a paid administrator who is the primary contact with the local authority and prospective parents. We also buy in payroll and accountancy services which had been provided by a volunteer until 2022.

The Chair of Trustees manages the HR functions and is also the primary contact for the Manager for all issues ranging from outbreaks of infectious diseases, premises problems, supporting families in need, and staffing needs. The Chair also liaises with the bookkeeper to form a Finance Sub-Committee, which makes financial decisions that are reported to the Trustees, or, where appropriate, seeks permission from the Trustees. The Secretary may also be involved in Finance Sub-Committee discussions.

Finances and Banking

Income

As an Ofsted registered preschool, we receive funding for each child's place from the government via the Local Authority. This takes account of children's ages, number of sessions attended, social situation and any special educational needs. The government funding for two-year olds is higher than for three- and four- year olds but when parents of a two-year old child do not meet the criteria for funding we ask them to pay at the lower rate. We have held our fees from parents at the lower rate in order to make the preschool more accessible for parents, and we sometimes provide additional subsidies to children whose families are in need.

Local authority funding is increased each April; the 2023-24 and 24-25 increases were greater than in previous years. That has made a big difference to the financial health of the preschool, as can be seen in our accounts.

Expenditure

Our expenditure is primarily on staff wages, administrative services, payment for use of the premises, public liability insurance and membership of the Early Years Alliance. The increase in government funding has meant that we were able to award the staff a bigger annual pay increase than usual, from April 2024. Wages will be reviewed annually to ensure that our staff are remunerated fairly and sustainably to help us to retain and attract high quality staff.

We subscribe to the Tapestry secure online reporting system to track each child's progress and engagement. Staff regularly upload photos and observations, and each family can access their own child's records at any time. This system is excellent value for money and is included in the accounts under Support Costs.

Equipment is sometimes bought new and sometimes via online channels such as Facebook Marketplace; materials are occasionally provided by staff, or other friends of the preschool. Each December we identify specific projects on which to focus the available resources, e.g. refreshing the home corner, water play, cosy seating for the book corner etc.

Banking

Holmwood Preschool has three accounts with the Trustee Savings Bank. The Main Account is used for all day-to-day transactions, including paying the wages each month. Funding payments from the Local Authority are also made into this account. The Reserve Account holds sufficient funds to cover three months of costs in case we have to suspend operations for a catastrophic event such as flooding. This account earns a small amount of interest. The third account is kept for card payments, and is mostly used to facilitate online procurement. The card is held by the Preschool Manager and money is transferred into the account as requested to cover specific purchases.

We are very cautious about spending, and as a result the preschool finances are very healthy.

Our Activities

Holmwood Preschool provides a nurturing environment for young children before they reach statutory school age. It runs morning sessions on Monday to Friday during term time for 38 weeks of the year. Each session lasts for 3 hours and there is an optional Lunch Club for a further hour, three times per week. Eighteen children attend each session, and there are usually four staff, which means that our staff/children ratio exceeds the required level. We have five staff who are all qualified in Early Years provision (Early Years teacher, Diploma, NVQ 3 and NVQ2). Safeguarding the children is our highest priority, and all daily routines take this into account as the children use the toilet and play inside and out. They also have use of the large hall, which can be accessed from the preschool garden and internal stairs within the premises. This is tucked away from routes used by other users of the Church buildings. This year the stairwell was redecorated and updated with new carpet and wall stickers, as it enables quicker and more secure transfer between the main preschool areas and the large hall.

How is Holmwood Preschool CIO's purpose beneficial?

The Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. Holmwood Preschool CIO benefits the children on its roll and their families by giving nurturing and stimulating educational experiences with the well-being of the children as the first priority.

Parental satisfaction is high. They say that they find the staff nurturing, knowledgeable and professional and feel reassured by the fact they are always around to respond to any questions or concerns. This has been achieved even with parents who were not able to visit or introduce their child to preschool by being there with them. From the way the children talk to their parents/carers about their day and the way they are eager to come to preschool, parents comment that it is clear that our staff have strong relationships with all the children.

Who benefits from the CIO's purpose?

The beneficiaries are the children, their parents and their wider family.

The benefit to the children is that they thrive and develop their curiosity, their engagement with their learning, their relationships with other children, their language and through that, their understanding of the world. Staff value the home experiences of each child and build on the partnership with each family.

All parents benefit by having confidence in the setting, that the preschool will cherish their child and keep them safe as well as providing educational experiences that will develop their child's social, emotional, physical and intellectual development.

Parents who find the separation from their child a difficult process are helped to manage this; they find that the evident happiness of their child and good communication from the preschool settles their own anxiety.

Parents with a child whose development is giving concern benefit from additional communication. Plans are made in partnership with the parents so the child benefits by having their parents and the preschool working on the same strategies. If further intervention is needed meetings are brokered by the staff with expert advice from the local authority early years SEND advisors.

In addition to the funding adjustments referred to earlier, we look for opportunities to support families in need both practically and financially.

Providing for Children with Additional Needs

During this reporting period there were two children on roll who had an Education Health & Care Plan (EHCP). These were drafted in conjunction with parents and the Local Authority Adviser by our Manager, who is also our Special Needs & Disabilities Coordinator (SENDCO). Two other children had a smaller degree of Special Educational Needs. The high level of needs during the summer term of this reporting period required a great amount of extra work by the Manager and one assistant. A staff change during the year meant that we needed to recruit a new suitably qualified and very experienced Early Years Level 3 assistant who was able to be with us from March 24 until those children went to their Primary schools in the summer of 2024.

One of the families whose child has an EHCP negotiated with the Local Authority for her to stay at Holmwood for her school Reception year (Sept 2023 to July 2024), because of the great progress she was making at preschool, and she blossomed.

The following academic year starting in September 2024 brought a new cohort of children several of whom have speech, language and communication problems and English as an additional language. These children are being supported in their development by carefully planned focused activities identified in Individual Education Plans. These were prepared by our SENDCO/Manager after taking advice from the Local Authority Adviser.

Parent and Carer Involvement

At the beginning of this reporting period, in the summer of 2024, we had a number of parents/carers who had long-standing links with Holmwood as their older children had previously passed through the preschool. It was particularly special for them to be able to bid farewell in July to a member of staff who retired after 29 years working at Holmwood. There was a great deal of appreciation from the parents for her very strong relationships with their children especially at first when the children started shy and sometimes tearful.

Several mothers dropping off children do not speak English and the Manager has worked hard to communicate with them in a variety of ways.

One child's grandmother joined the staff at preschool after her grandchild transferred to school which is a testament to the sense of belonging engendered at Holmwood.

In the Autumn term of 2024 we attempted to begin building a sense of community amongst the parents. A coffee morning was arranged but only one parent came. It established useful links between that parent, the Chair and Secretary, but clearly did not achieve the aim of developing a parent community. This has been the only attempt to date due to ill-health. It was recognised

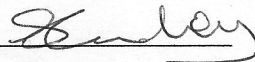
that many of the parents go to work as soon as they drop off their child so no further attempt has been made this year.

With backing from the Manager and staff, the new cohort of parents and carers supported the children's Christmas performance of songs telling the Nativity story by providing mince pies, cakes, teas and coffees. This was a very popular event with the relatives and friends of the families attracting about 50 adults.

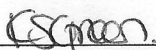
Agreed at the Trustees meeting on the 13th January 2026

Role/Name /Signature

Date

Chair SHEILA CRUCHLEY 

13/01/2026

Trustee KAREN GREEN 

13/01/2026,

**Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025
for
HOLMWOOD PRESCHOOL WALLINGTON**

HOLMWOOD PRESCHOOL WALLINGTON

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1196919

Principal address

20 Stanley Park Road

Wallington

Surrey

SM6 0EU

Trustees

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 13th Jan 2026 and signed on its behalf by: SHEILA CRUCHLEY

Trustee
CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

HOLMWOOD PRESCHOOL WALLINGTON

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	31.3.25	£	Unrestricted	31.3.24	£	Total	funds
	78,682		400	82,141			
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM							
Charitable activities							
Preschool							
Investment income							
Total	79,082		82,430				
EXPENDITURE ON							
Charitable activities							
Preschool							
Other							
Total	80,492		73,070				
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(1,410)		9,360				
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS							
Total funds brought forward	38,265		28,905				
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	36,855		38,265				

The notes form part of these financial statements

HOLMWOOD PRESCHOOL WALLINGTON

Balance Sheet
31 March 2025

	Unrestricted fund	Total funds
FIXED ASSETS	£	£
Tangible assets	627	207
5		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Debtors	-	75
6		
Cash at bank and in hand	38,484	43,118
CREDITORS	38,484	43,193
Amounts falling due within one year	(2,256)	(5,135)
7		
NET CURRENT ASSETS	36,228	38,058
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	36,855	38,265
NET ASSETS	36,855	38,265
FUNDS		
Unrestricted funds	36,855	38,265
8		
TOTAL FUNDS	36,855	38,265

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on and were signed on its behalf by:

Trustee

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income
All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure
Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets
Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Taxation
The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees. Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes. Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits
The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charity's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

2. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Interest receivable - trading		£ 400
			£ 289
			<u>31,325</u>
			<u>31,324</u>

HOLMWOOD PRESCHOOL WALLINGTON

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

3. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2025 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2025 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

4. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

Unrestricted
fund
£

INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM

Charitable activities
Preschool

82,141

Investment income

289

Total

82,430

EXPENDITURE ON

Charitable activities
Preschool

72,350

Other

720

Total

73,070

NET INCOME

9,360

RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS
Total funds brought forward

28,905

TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD

38,265

continued...

HOLMWOOD PRESCHOOL WALLINGTON

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued

for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	At 1 April 2024	At 31 March 2025
5. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS		
COST		
At 1 April 2024	1,940	2,569
Additions		629
At 31 March 2025		2,569
DEPRECIATION		
At 1 April 2024	1,733	1,942
Charge for year		209
At 31 March 2025		1,942
NET BOOK VALUE		
At 31 March 2025	627	207
6. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR		
Prepayments	31,325	75
7. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR		
Trade creditors	345	245
Taxation and social security	1,238	1,200
Other creditors	673	3,690
	2,256	5,135
8. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		
Unrestricted funds		
General fund	38,265	36,855
TOTAL FUNDS	38,265	36,855
	(1,410)	(1,410)
	31,325	31,324
	£	£
	Net movement in funds	At
	At 1,4,24	31,3,25
	£	£

HOLMWOOD PRESCHOOL WALLINGTON

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

8. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incomeg resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds	161,512	(153,562)	7,950
General fund	161,512	(153,562)	7,950
TOTAL FUNDS	161,512	(153,562)	7,950

9. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2025.

HOLMWOOD PRESCHOOL WALLINGTON

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

31,325 £
31,324 £

INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS

Investment income	400	289
Interest receivable - trading		
Charitable activities	2,457	5,207
Fees from parents	75,446	76,102
Fees from LBS	579	192
Lunch Club	200	640
Fundraising	78,682	82,141
Total incoming resources	79,082	82,430

EXPENDITURE

Charitable activities	61,289	56,170
Wages	636	1,065
Pensions	9,438	8,620
Insurance	650	627
Postage & stationery	111	636
Administration	2,816	1,666
Cleaning	27	27
Freelance services	360	261
Consumables	622	1,333
Training	124	499
Subscriptions	1,381	1,168
Travel & subsistence	257	-
Repairs & renewals	1,491	-
Advertising	240	-
Equipment	109	174
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	209	104
Support costs	79,760	72,350
Governance costs	732	720
Accountancy and legal fees		
Total resources expended	80,492	73,070
Net (expenditure)/income	(1,410)	9,360

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Page	
1	Report of the Trustees
2	Statement of Financial Activities
3	Balance Sheet
4 to 8	Notes to the Financial Statements
9	Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1196919

**Examination of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025, for
HOLMWOOD PRESCHOOL WALLINGTON**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. It included a review of the accounting records kept by the organisation and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and the pursuit of explanations from Trustees about such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit. Consequently, no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view', and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention: (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements (a) to keep accounting records and (b) to prepare accounts which accord with those accounting records, have not been met; or (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Philip Hyde, CPFA

18 December 2025

HOLMWOOD PRESCHOOL WALLINGTON

England & Wales - Charity number 1196919

Accounts

HOLMWOOD PRESCHOOL WALLINGTON

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 01/04/2023 TO 31/03/2024

Holmwood Preschool Wallington
Wallington URC
20 Stanley Park Road,
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SM6 0EU
Charity Commission number: 1196919
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Lynn Skelton (Secretary)
Craig Bowman (Minister of WURC, ex officio)
Karen Green (day to day Manager, ex officio)
Christopher Jackson

Bookkeeping: Prepared Ltd
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Objectives

The object of the CIO is:

To advance the education of children of pre-school age by the provision of safe and satisfying learning through play by:

- i. providing a safe stimulating environment ensuring equal opportunities for all children regardless of race, culture, religion, gender, home circumstances and medical background
- ii. promoting public interest in and recognition of the needs of pre-school children and their families.
- iii. adhering to national and local requirements for early years settings.

Holmwood Preschool becomes a Functioning CIO

During the 2023-24 financial year, Holmwood Preschool Wallington has finally begun to operate as a functioning Charitable Incorporated Organisation, concluding a long drawn-out process to separate the preschool activities from those of Wallington United Reformed Church.

For many years, Holmwood Preschool operated as an activity of the church. For various reasons, it was agreed that the preschool should be established as a charitable body in its own right. Holmwood Preschool Wallington was officially recognised as a CIO by the Charity Commission on 3rd December 2021 with a new constitution.

However, the CIO was not able to operate as intended for the following two years. As the preschool is an Ofsted-registered early years provision, its activities could not be transferred to the CIO until Ofsted had made an inspection and re-registered the operation. That process was finally completed when the preschool was re-registered by Ofsted on 5th December 2023.

Until that time, Wallington URC continued to operate the preschool under its previous Ofsted registration, with the long-standing team of experienced employees continuing to provide high quality care and education for the under-fives.

The CIO has therefore only been fully operational with effect from 5th December 2023. Despite the formal change of status, the leadership team and staff essentially remain the same.

Upon re-registration on 5th December 2023, the preschool finances were immediately separated from those of WURC through a formal transfer from the church to the CIO. The preschool had been keeping its own bank accounts for many years, preparing its own annual accounts and reporting to the Elders' Meeting of WURC and to preschool parents at an AGM. However, as the preschool was a church activity its accounts were also required to be reported in the church's annual accounts. This is no longer the case.

Whereas the preschool had previously made regular donations to WURC for the use of church premises, the CIO now operates under a signed Licence to Occupy and pays rent at an agreed rate. We also have a separate agreement relating to the storage of equipment on the premises.

Trustees

Our constitution provides for potential Trustees to be nominated by the church, by the preschool staff and by the parents or carers of children attending the preschool. The Trustees may also appoint others who they feel would bring relevant skills and expertise to the operation of the CIO.

Initial Trustees had been put in place as part of the process of establishing the CIO, being drawn from existing supporters of the preschool within the church. However, they did not meet regularly until the preschool became operational as a CIO on 5th December 2023. Because of the Christmas season, the first Trustees' meeting following the formal transfer of operations was held on 19th January 2024. Since then, the Trustees have met quarterly by zoom. Occasional discussions are held via email if an urgent matter needs addressing.

Approaches have been made to various parents and carers to become trustees, but those who had expressed interest at the outset were no longer in a position to take on a two-year term of office by the time the Ofsted re-registration had been completed, mainly because their children were moving on and would soon be starting school. Now that we are a functioning CIO we will endeavour to attract other individuals to become trustees, but this will probably be more effective after the start of each school year in September when the new cohort starts at preschool. All potential trustees will be appointed in accordance with our Constitution.

Management structures

In addition to the staff who directly look after the children, directed day to day by our Manager, we have a paid bookkeeper and a paid administrator who is the primary contact with the local authority and prospective parents.

The Chair of Trustees manages the HR functions and is also the primary contact for the Manager for all issues ranging from outbreaks of infectious diseases, premises problems, supporting families in need, and staffing needs. The chair also liaises with the bookkeeper to form a Finance Sub-Committee, which makes financial decisions that are reported to the Trustees, or, where appropriate, seeks permission from the Trustees. The Secretary may also be involved in Finance Sub-Committee discussions.

Finances and Banking

In May 2024 we took advice from the Charity Commission and submitted a nil return covering the period from the CIO being registered on 3rd December 2021 until 31st March 2023, because the CIO was not operational during that period.

This Annual Return covers the whole financial year from 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024, even though Holmwood Preschool only began to operate as a CIO from 5th December 2023. Recent advice from the Charity Commission and our accountant is that this return should show the income and expenditure for the entire reporting period.

Income

As an Ofsted registered preschool, we receive funding for each child's place from the government via the Local Authority. This takes into account children's ages, number of sessions attended, social situation and any special educational needs. A small number of parents of two year olds who do not meet the funding criteria pay fees at the lower 3 and 4 year old rate. We have held our fees at the lower rate provided by the LA in order to make the preschool more accessible for parents, and we sometimes provide additional subsidies to any children whose families are in need.

Local authority funding is increased each April, and those increases were greater in 2023-24 than in recent years. That has made a big difference to the financial health of the preschool, as can be seen in our accounts.

Expenditure

Our expenditure is primarily on staff wages, payment for use of the premises, public liability insurance and membership of the Early Years Alliance which supports early years provisions. The increase in government funding has meant that we been able to award the staff a bigger annual pay increase than usual, and we decided to implement the increase from April, rather than the start of the academic year. This will be reviewed annually to ensure that staff are remunerated fairly and sustainably to help us to retain and attract high quality staff.

We subscribe to the Tapestry secure online reporting system about a child's progress and engagement, where staff regularly upload photos and observations and each family can access their own child's records at any time. It is excellent value for money and is included in the accounts under Support Costs.

Equipment is sometimes bought new and sometimes via online channels such as Facebook marketplace; materials are occasionally provided by staff, or other friends of the preschool. Each December we identify specific projects to focus resources on refreshing e.g. the home corner, water play, cosy seating for the book corner etc.

Banking

Holmwood Preschool has three accounts with the Trustee Savings Bank. The Main Account is used for all day-to-day transactions, including paying the wages each month. Funding payments from the Local Authority are also made into this account. The Reserve Account holds sufficient funds to cover three months of costs in case we have to suspend operations for a catastrophic event such as flooding. This account earns a small amount of interest. The third account is kept for card payments, and is mostly used for online purchases. The card is held by the Preschool Manager and money is transferred into the account as requested to cover specific purchases.

We are very cautious about spending, and as a result the preschool finances are very healthy.

Our Activities

Holmwood Preschool provides a nurturing environment for young children before they reach statutory school age. It runs morning sessions on Monday to Friday during term time for 38 weeks of the year. Each session lasts for 3 hours and there is an optional Lunch Club for a further hour, three times per week. Eighteen children attend each session, and there are usually four staff, which means that our staff/children ratio exceeds the required level. We have five staff who are all qualified in Early Years provision (Early Years teacher, Diploma, NVQ 3 and NVQ2). Safeguarding the children is our highest priority, and all daily routines take this into account as the children use the toilet and play inside and out. They also have use of the large hall, which is accessed by a corridor and internal stairs within the premises. These areas are shared with other premises users, and the staff are rigorous in ensuring that the children are accompanied as they go to and from the hall.

How is Holmwood Preschool CIO's purpose beneficial?

The Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. Holmwood Preschool CIO benefits the children on its roll and their families by giving nurturing and stimulating educational experiences with the well-being of the children as the first priority. Parental satisfaction is high, and they say that they find staff nurturing, knowledgeable and professional and feel reassured by the fact they are always around to respond to any questions or concerns. This has been achieved even with parents who were not able to visit or introduce their child to preschool by being there with them. From the way the children talk to their parents/carers about their day and the way they are eager to come to preschool, parents state that it is clear that staff have strong relationships with all the children.

Who benefits from the CIO's purpose?

The beneficiaries are the children, their parents and their wider family.

The benefit to the children is that they thrive and develop their curiosity, their engagement with their learning, their relationships with other children, their language and through that, their understanding of the world. Staff value the home experiences of each child and build on the partnership with each family.

All parents benefit by having confidence in the setting, that it will cherish their child and keep them safe as well as providing educational experiences that will develop their child's social, emotional, physical and intellectual development.

Parents who find the separation from their child a difficult process are helped to manage this and find that the evident happiness of their child and good communication from the preschool settles their own anxiety.

Parents with a child whose development is giving concern benefit from additional communication and plans are made in partnership with the parents so the child benefits by having the parents and preschool working on the same strategies. If further intervention is needed meetings are brokered by the staff with expert advice from the local authority early years SEND advisors.

In addition to the funding adjustments referred to earlier, we look for opportunities to support families in need both practically and financially.

Providing for Children with Additional Needs

During this reporting period there were two children on roll who had an Education Health & Care Plan (EHCP). These were drafted in conjunction with parents and the Local Authority Adviser by our Manager, who is also our Special Needs & Disabilities Coordinator (SENDCO). Two other children had a smaller degree of Special Educational Needs. The high level of needs during this reporting period required a great amount of extra work by the manager and one assistant who had excellent skills for supporting these children. During the year, that assistant left the preschool for another job, and recruiting a suitable replacement proved very challenging. Other staff took on extra sessions to maintain the high quality of provision while several attempts were undertaken to recruit a replacement. During the Spring Term of 2024 we finally found and appointed a suitably qualified and very experienced Early Years Level 3 assistant.

One of the families whose child has an EHCP negotiated with the Local Authority for her to stay at Holmwood for her school Reception year (Sept 2023 to July 2024), because of the great progress she was making at preschool, and she has blossomed.

Parent and Carer Involvement

During this period, we have been fortunate in having a number of parents/carers who already knew each other quite well, as their older children had previously passed through the preschool.

With backing from the Manager and staff, these parents and carers supported the children's Christmas performance of songs telling the Nativity story by providing mince pies, cakes, teas and coffees. This is a very popular event with the relatives and friends of the families attracting 60+ adults.

In January 2024, a parent who is a professional film-maker produced – at no charge – a video to go on the preschool website. This shows the preschool facilities and the various activities that the children enjoy from day to day. This has been used by prospective parents as an alternative to coming to visit. All of the families of the children involved were asked for permission before the filming and the video project has been a great success.


Agreed at the Trustees meeting on the 14th with amendments approved by email.

Role/Name /Signature

Date

Chair Sheila Cruchley 

24/01/25

Trustee Lynn Skelton 

24/01/25

**Examination of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024, for
HOLMWOOD PRESCHOOL WALLINGTON**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. It included a review of the accounting records kept by the organisation and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and the pursuit of explanations from Trustees about such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit. Consequently, no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view', and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention: (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements (a) to keep accounting records and (b) to prepare accounts which accord with those accounting records, have not been met; or (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'PH' or similar initials, written in a cursive style.

Philip Hyde, CPFA

21 January 2025

HOLMWOOD PRESCHOOL WALLINGTON

England & Wales - Charity number 1196919

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 3rd December 2021 Period start date To 31st March 2023
Period end date

Charity name: Holmwood Preschool

Charity registration number: 1196919

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	n/a
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	n/a
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	n/a

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	n/a
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	n/a
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	n/a
Other		n/a

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Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
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.	Para 1.20	n/a

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	n/a
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	n/a
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	n/a
Other		n/a

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	n/a
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	n/a
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	n/a

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	n/a
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	n/a
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	n/a
Other		n/a

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		n/a
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	n/a
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	n/a
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	n/a

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	n/a
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	n/a
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	n/a
Other		n/a

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Holmwood Preschool
Other name the charity uses	Holmwood Preschool Wallington
Registered charity number	1196919
Charity's principal address	Wallington United Reformed Church Stanley Park Road Wallington SM6 0EU

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

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

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

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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Other optional information

Holmwood Preschool got its charitable status 3rd December 2021 which was to give the group independence from Wallington United Reformed Church where there had been a preschool of the same name functioning as an activity of the church for over 30 years.

However, the preschool could not operate as a CIO until Ofsted re-registered it, so it continued to provide a service to families as an activity of the church. Ofsted re-registered the group on 5th December 2023 so the period covered by this report is wholly in the period when Holmwood Preschool could not yet function as a charity.

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

Sheila Cruchley

Full name(s)

Sheila Cruchley

Position (eg Secretary,
Chair, etc)

Chair of Trustees

Date

10/05/2024

Accounts For Holmwood Preschool Wallington CIO for Period 3/12/2021 till 31/03/2023

Charity Number 1196919

Nil return

Reason for Nil Return as shown in the Optional Information above.