

# Trustees Annual Report - 2024/25

**Charity:** LITTLE ACORNS PRE-SCHOOL FOLKESTONE CIO

**Charity number:** 1204181

**Ofsted URN:** 2774263 **Category:** Childcare and Early Education / Pre-School

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

**Trustees:** David A. Hudson (Chair), Tracy Neilly, Lulu Truss, Eve Button (nee Neilly)

## 1. Structure and Management

We are primarily a family run business, non-judgemental, inclusive, open pre-school that has been running for over 30yrs. Catering for children from age 2 years until entering primary school. The pre-school's facilities and activities aim to enable children to gradually learn to become independent at their own pace, with good nutrition, play and rest. The objective is for children to become self-assured, good communicators and to have reached their full potential by the time they leave and have a lifelong love for learning.

We welcome all children into our pre-school whatever their social, medical, or educational needs. Staff members are fully trained to work with all children and follow the Special Educational Needs (SEND) code of practise (2015) for children deemed to have additional needs. Staff are also trained in Speech and Language Therapy (SALT). We use Makaton sign language in our everyday activities, helping promote an inclusive practise.

The day-to-day operation of the setting is managed by Tracy and her deputy Vicki, both qualified fulltime practitioners, along with 6 other fulltime pre-school practitioners, who have regular (once every half term = 6 pa) supervision.

Trustees meet regularly (once every half term) to ensure the smooth running of the pre-school. Trustees are recruited from within the local community.

We are now registered and regulated as a **CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation)** as of **August 2023** and have successfully transferred the previous charity **LITTLE ACORNS PRE-SCHOOL (FOLKESTONE)** and its assets to this new entity.

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## 2. Objectives and Activities

**Indoor & Outdoor Learning:** Children develop crucial early learning skills in our safe dedicated Preschool building and main play/learning area. Children are encouraged to explore nature and develop motor skills in our secure gated garden and woods along with our bespoke log cabin classroom. Trained staff provide tailored support for each child's unique needs, including SEND requirements, in our purpose-built facilities.

**Key Person/Group:** Each child is assigned a key person and becomes part of a key group. The key group staff member will be these children's primary care/educator whilst they are in attendance.

**Tapestry:** We use an online learning journal, Tapestry. It is a log of observations, photos, videos, and characteristics of your child's learning. Tapestry captures children's experiences whilst monitoring development and learning. It helps educators and parent's record, track and celebrate each child's progress. It details each child's individual interests, progress, and next steps within the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (2021)

**Cultural Capital:** Our children regularly visit the local library, shops, and parks. This is an important part of your child's learning. These walks will familiarize your child with their local environment and community and is important for their personal, social and communication development skills. Research shows that children benefit from being in their local environment and experiencing everyday activities. All of which builds on children's early experiences and provides other new opportunities to be curious, explore try new things and experience "awe and wonder".

**Events:** Over the year we have special events according to the season with their associated activities:

- **Christmas,** Father Christmas visit and carol service plus a Nativity and Christmas party with entertainers and bouncy castles.
- **Easter,** egg hunt and bonnet parade tea coffee and hot cross buns for parents
- **End of year,** party with entertainers and bouncy castles
- **Various fundraising,** fun days for families and local community
- **Leavers Outing,** for children going on to primary School.
- **Photographer,**
- **Harvest festival,** sing along with tea coffee and refreshments for parents.
- **Regular progress update,** between key person and families

## 3. Achievements and Performance

**OFSTED:** our current rating as of 7<sup>th</sup> June 2023 is as follows:

- Overall effectiveness at previous inspection **Good**
- The quality of education Good
- Behaviour and attitudes Good
- Personal development Good
- Leadership and management Good
- Overall effectiveness at current inspection **Good**

Our next inspection is due early 2026, this will be based upon the newly published Ofsted guidelines and ratings.

# Trustees Annual Report - 2024/25

## 4. Financial review

**Capital Costs:** during 204/25 we incurred, approx. £40k, Building and Landscaping costs to the improve and renovate both our Internal and Outdoor facilities:

- Internal Redecoration of, Entrance, Toilets, Kitchen, Office, and main play/room
- Internal Sensory room, redecoration and new flooring
- External Soft play area refurbishment, sand pit, safety rubber matting etc..
- External Woodland Cabin Classroom installation of flushing toilet and hot water

**Wages:** have been increased in line with inflation 4.3%

**Income:** has increased by 31.32% due to a significant rise in the number of child places being taken up. As of July 2025, we had forty-six children registered of which twenty-six children will be leaving to go to Infant School in September 2025

**Reserves:** have increased by 1.17% from £ 93,500.52 to £ 94,597.12

Signed :



Name: David A. Hudson

Position: Chair of Trustees

Date: 20<sup>th</sup> May 2025



**Independent Examiners Report**  
**Little Acorns Preschool (Folkestone)**  
**Financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025**

I set out below for good measure the process of examination regarding this, my second year's examination of the preschool accounts. This is on the basis members and the committee can understand how the audit has been conducted. The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is required.

The treasurer for the accounts this year was Dawn Kellers.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts
- To follow procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under the 2011 Act; and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of Independent Examiner's Report.**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations concerning any such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and 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.

**Independent Examiner's Statement.**

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:

- To keep accounting records in accordance with the 2011 Act; and
- To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting records of the 2011 Act.

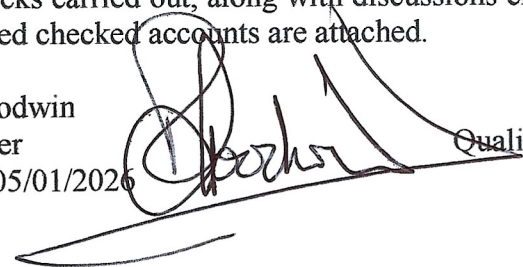
Have not been met; or

- (2) To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

The checks carried out, along with discussions enable me to confirm an "unqualified" report; the signed checked accounts are attached.

Phil Goodwin  
Examiner

Dated: 05/01/2026



Qualifications: Phil Goodwin  
Qualified by experience, retired Manager NatWest  
and School Bursar (CSBM)

**LITTLE ACORNS PRE-SCHOOL FOLKESTONE**  
**CIO REGISTRATION NUMBER 1204181**

**SOFA**

	Note	Total Funds 2024/2025 £	Total Funds 2023/2024 £
<b>Income from:</b>			
Funds Transferred from Charity	1		86,839
Charitable Activities	2	186,213	138,694
Income from investments	3	1,197	1,518
<b>Total receipts</b>		<b>187,410</b>	<b>227,051</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Charitable Activities	4	183,555	133,482
Other	5	1,424	1,871
<b>Total payments</b>		<b>184,979</b>	<b>135,353</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>2,431</b>	<b>91,698</b>
<b>Closing balance funds as at 31st August</b>		<b>2,431</b>	<b>91,698</b>

**Balance Sheet as at 31st August 2025**

	2024	
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash at bank and in hand	94,597	93,500
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>94,597</b>	<b>93,500</b>
<b>Current Liabilities falling due &lt;1 year</b>		
Sundry creditors	468	1,802
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>468</b>	<b>1,802</b>
<b>Net Current Assets</b>	<b>94,129</b>	<b>91,698</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>94,129</b>	<b>91,698</b>
<b>Income Funds</b>		
Unrestricted Funds	94,129	91,698
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>94,129</b>	<b>91,698</b>

**Little Acorns Pre-School (Folkestone) charity number 1088575**  
 incorporated as Little Acorns Pre-School Folkestone CIO number 1204181  
 on 1st August 2023 and with the Charity Commission's permission the assets  
 were transferred to the the new entity.

	£	£
<b>Income from Charitable Activities</b>		
Fees	186,213	138,694
	<u>186,213</u>	<u>138,694</u>

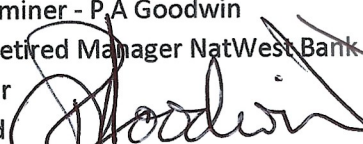
<b>Income from Investments</b>		
Bank/ Building Society Interest	1,197	1,518
	<u>1,197</u>	<u>1,518</u>

<b>Expenditure on Charitable Activities</b>		
Wages and Salaries	127,166	117,640
Training	834	350
Insurance	1,531	672
Activity Expenses	4,756	4,693
Light & Heat	6,930	6,300
Building & Landscaping	39,206	723
Telephone	863	880
Sundries	2,267	1,155
Uniform		1,070
	<u>183,555</u>	<u>133,483</u>

<b>Other</b>		
Administration Costs	666	1,198
Accounting Services	581	460
Bank & Currency Charges	112	163
Independent Examination	65	50
	<u>1,424</u>	<u>1,871</u>

<b>Staff Costs</b>		
Salary	123,223	113,419
Employers NI	562	736
Employers Pension	3,381	3,484
	<u>127,166</u>	<u>117,640</u>

<b>Creditors</b>		
Amounts falling due within one year		
Pension Payment		798
H M Revenue & Customs	468	1,004
	<u>468</u>	<u>1,802</u>

Independent Examiner - P.A Goodwin  
 Qualifications - Retired Manager NatWest Bank  
 and School Bursar  
 Signed and Dated 

05/01/2026



# LITTLE ACORNS PRESCHOOL (FOLKESTONE)

## CASH ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 01 September 2024 - 31 August 2025

		Sept 2024 to August 2025	Median Budget	
<u>2023/24</u>	<u>INCOME &amp; EXPENDITURE</u>	<u>2024/25</u>	<u>2024/25</u>	
<u>INCOME</u>				
138,694.36	Fees (KCC)	182,127.26 )	143,850	129.45%
	Other Fees	4,085.82 )		
1,517.86	Interest	1,196.68	1,250	95.73%
0.00	Miscellaneous			
<u>140,212.22</u>	<u>TOTAL INCOME</u>	<u>187,409.76</u>	<u>145,100</u>	129.16%
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>				
108,505.18	Salaries & Nat. Insurance	117,799.98	110,000	107.09%
7,332.31	Pension Payments	9,365.99	7,500	124.88%
350.00	Training	834.00	1,000	83.40%
671.96	Insurance	1,531.47	1,600	95.72%
2,020.79	Equipment	2,245.69	2,000	112.28%
1,682.25	Administration	1,424.27	1,700	83.78%
2,009.83	Consumables	2,100.63	1,500	140.04%
6,300.00	Rent	6,930.00	6,930	100.00%
1,763.66	Sundries (Inc unallocated item:	2,267.07	2,000	113.35%
480.00	Outing	410.00	500	82.00%
1,069.54	Uniforms			
880.43	Phone	863.37	900	95.93%
485.00	Building & Landscaping	39,206.33	10,000	392.06%
<u>133,550.95</u>	<u>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</u>	<u>184,978.80</u>	<u>145,630</u>	127.02%
<u>6,661.27</u>	<u>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</u>	<u>2,430.96</u>	<u>(530)</u>	

### MOVEMENT OF FUNDS

86,839.25	Banks/Cash b/f	93,500.52
	Plus Sundry Debtors b/f	
	Less Sundry Creditors b/f	1,802.00
<u>86,839.25</u>	<u>Sub-total (Net assets b/f)</u>	<u>91,698.52</u>
<u>6,661.27</u>	<u>Plus Surplus/Less (Deficit) for y</u>	<u>2,430.96</u>
<u>93,500.52</u>	<u>Sub-total (Net assets c/f)</u>	<u>94,129.48</u>
	Less Sundry Debtors c/f	830.44
1,802.00	Plus Sundry Creditors c/f	1,298.08
<u>91,698.52</u>	<u>Banks/Cash c/f</u>	<u>94,597.12</u>

Independent Examiner - P A Goodwin  
Qualifications - Retired Manager NatWest Bank  
and School Bursar  
Signed and Dated

05/01/2026

