

# **Vicarage Lodge Preschool Playgroup**

Non-Company Charity Accounts

31 August 2023

**Charity Name**

Vicarage Lodge Preschool Playgroup

**Registered Charity Number**

702025

**Custodian Trustees**

J Owen  
D McDermott  
H Brownbill

**Trustees**

A Edwardson  
P Edwardson (resigned 26.02.2024)  
L Lawless  
L Walker **Chair**  
L Randles  
A Blythe (appointed 11.01.2024)  
A Blythe (appointed 11.01.2024)

**Independent Examiner**

S Walsh  
1 Leyton Close  
Runcorn  
Cheshire  
WA7 4YG

**Address**

1a Highlands Road  
Runcorn  
Cheshire  
WA7 4PS

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## Vicarage Lodge Preschool Playgroup Trustees' Annual Report

### Structure, governance and management

We are a committee managed preschool with a combination of parents and members of the local community totaling 5 on the committee. We have 7 paid members of staff and one volunteer.

### Objectives and activities

We aim to inspire curiosity, supporting all children in developing their potential, at their own pace, by means of appropriate play, activities and a high level of adult input, within a safe, secure and stimulating environment.

### Achievements and performance

- Preschool continues to flourish, with the majority of sessions being full.
- Parental involvement has been key this year, with a variety of events such as coffee mornings, stay and play sessions, parents evenings and a host of new home learning activities on offer.
- The children have enjoyed numerous learning activities including learning about food and growth as they worked hard in the veg patch, which is stocked with plants donated by parents and local businesses. They learnt to care for living things when looking after our new pet tortoise, Shelley, by observing the life cycle of caterpillars and were fascinated with the workings of our ant farm, all of which were part funded by numerous fundraising events through out the year.
- Supporting mental health has also been a focus this year, resources have been purchased to encourage the children to discuss feelings and to learn how to manage them, a new Zen Den has proved popular in providing a peaceful zone for quiet moments.
- Fundraising was once again strong, with income raised from several events including an Easter Bonnet Competition, Easter and Christmas Raffles, a tea party and a Sponsored Dance. In addition to funding various new resources, this also subsidized our annual trip to the theatre.

### Financial review

The preschool remains in high demand and reserves held have enabled the preschool to meet any unexpected outgoing payments. The preschool had a surplus in the year, mainly due to increased funding levels which were offset by increased staff wages. General running costs, including utilities and rates continue to rise, however there is still a healthy surplus and we will continue to fundraise and apply for grants to maintain preschool funds.

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:-

Mandy Blythe

17.4.24

Name HANDY BLYTHE

Position CHAIRPERSON

## Independent examiner's report on the accounts Vicarage Lodge Preschool Playgroup

### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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 section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and

to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

### Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes 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 from the trustees 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 section 130 of the Charities Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities 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.

Signed:  Accountant

Date: 17/4/24

Mr S Walsh ACMA, CGMA  
1 Leyton Close  
Runcorn  
Cheshire  
WA7 4YG

## Receipts & Payments Accounts

Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023

### Unrestricted Funds

	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Direct Receipts</b>		
Fees received	12,155	11,703
Grants received	115,481	76,069
Fundraising received	1,560	804
Refreshment sales	2,062	1,178
Lunch Club	1,405	2,280
Grants Other	828	1,136
Other including interest	1,212	2,114
	<u>134,703</u>	<u>95,284</u>
<b>Direct Payments</b>		
Playgroup equipment and furniture	3,094	4,837
Wages	102,264	81,736
	<u>105,358</u>	<u>86,573</u>
	<u>29,345</u>	<u>8,711</u>
<b>Indirect Payments</b>		
Trips/Excursions	680	-
Light and Heat	5,203	4,354
Rent	1,124	1,074
Rates	2,298	1,634
Repairs and development costs	7,255	1,521
Telephone	1,389	881
Photocopier hire	1,712	1,400
Alarm and security expense	216	216
Insurance costs	2,624	2,304
Training	20	-
Waste Collection	246	345
Sundry expenses/Credit card payments	3,893	4,602
	<u>26,660</u>	<u>18,331</u>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit)/ Funds In The Year</b>	<u>2,685</u>	<u>(9,620)</u>

**Statement of Assets & Liabilities**  
*As at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023*

	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Natwest current account	8,059	5,599
Natwest reserve account	24,240	24,015
Alliance & Leicester current account	75	75
Alliance & Leicester deposit account	91	91
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<b>Net assets</b>	<b>32,465</b>	<b>29,780</b>
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<b>Fund Reserves</b>		
Brought forward	29,780	39,400
Funds in year	2,685	(9,620)
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<b>Surplus Funds Carried Forward</b>	<b>32,465</b>	<b>29,780</b>
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