

Vicarage Lodge Preschool Playgroup

Non-Company Charity Accounts

31 August 2024

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Charity Name

Vicarage Lodge Preschool Playgroup

Registered Charity Number

702025

Custodian Trustees

J Owen
D McDermott
H Brownbill

Trustees

A Edwardson
L Lawless
L Walker (resigned as chair 15.05.2024)
L Randles
A Blythe **Chair** (elected as Chair 15.05.2024)
A Blythe

Independent Examiner

S Walsh
1 Leyton Close
Runcorn
Cheshire
WA7 4YG

Address

1a Highlands Road
Runcorn
Cheshire
WA7 4PS

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

- Our preschool continues to offer high quality care and early years education for children aged 2 - 4 years, employing 7 staff and supporting 1 volunteer.
- Demand remains high and all places were filled for the academic year 2023-2024.
- A new manager was appointed in December 2023 who has continued to lead the team forward. Staffing levels remain consistent, and all statutory training is up to date.
- We continue to promote staff training to maintain and strengthen professional development.
- We have raised funds through a variety of events to further advance the activities and opportunities for the children. These have included events such as a Bug Hunt, Pyjama Party, Valentine Disco, sponsored Bunny Hop and Easter raffle. We are very grateful to staff and volunteers involved in our fundraising.

Financial review

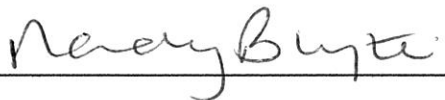
General running costs including utilities and wages continue to rise however our financial position remains stable, we will carry on with fundraising activities and prudent financial management to ensure any future increases can be met.

The charity's policy on reserves:

As an educational setting we must ensure we have reserves to cover one terms running costs. The reserves are held to meet unforeseen expenditure, losses and to cover legal obligations if the preschool were to close permanently. At the end of August 2024, the funds in the reserve account were £33,081

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:-



Name AMANDA BLITHE

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 Acthave 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: _____

18/1/25

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

Receipts & Payments Accounts

Year ended 31st August 2024

Unrestricted Funds

	2024 £	2023 £
Direct Receipts		
Fees received	15,286	12,155
Grants received	122,650	115,481
Fundraising received	1,960	1,560
Refreshment sales	2,692	2,062
Lunch Club	886	1,405
Grants Other	2,642	828
Other including interest	2,621	1,212
	<u>148,737</u>	<u>134,703</u>
Direct Payments		
Playgroup equipment and furniture	3,874	3,094
Wages	107,415	102,264
	<u>111,289</u>	<u>105,358</u>
	<u>37,448</u>	<u>29,345</u>
Indirect Payments		
Trips/Excursions	-	680
Light and Heat	6,720	5,203
Rent	1,124	1,124
Rates	2,095	2,298
Repairs and development costs	2,511	7,255
Telephone	1,769	1,389
Photocopier hire	1,176	1,712
Alarm and security expense	246	216
Insurance costs	3,372	2,624
Training	826	20
Waste Collection	255	246
Sundry expenses/Credit card payments	4,589	3,893
	<u>24,683</u>	<u>26,660</u>
Surplus Funds In The Year	<u>12,765</u>	<u>2,685</u>

Statement of Assets & Liabilities
As at 31st August 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
Unrestricted Funds		
Current Assets		
Natwest current account	11,983	8,059
Natwest reserve account	33,081	24,240
Alliance & Leicester current account	75	75
Alliance & Leicester deposit account	91	91
Net assets	45,230	32,465
Fund Reserves		
Brought forward	32,465	29,780
Funds in year	12,765	2,685
Surplus Funds Carried Forward	45,230	32,465