

# Little Orchids

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)

#### Year ended 31 March 2023

---

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023.

#### Reference and administrative details

<b>Registered charity name</b>	Little Orchids
<b>Charity registration number</b>	100096-0
<b>Company registration number</b>	NI 071926
<b>Principal office and registered office</b>	Woodlea House Gransha Park L`Derry BT47 6TF N ireland

#### The trustees

Paula McConway	
Gregory Sloane	
Deborah Sheehan	
Sarah McGill	(Appointed 10 February 2023)
Anne Marie Kavanagh	(Appointed 10 February 2023)

<b>Independent examiner</b>	Keith McElhinney 42A Clooney Terrace Waterside Londonderry BT47 6AP
-----------------------------	---

#### Structure, governance and management

The Charity is managed by an Executive Committee which consists of all the appointed trustees, and the selection of any new Trustees is dealt with by that Committee.

# **Little Orchids**

## **Company Limited by Guarantee**

### **Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)***

**Year ended 31 March 2023**

---

#### **Objectives and activities**

We provide therapeutic intervention and support for children 2-4 years with special needs and those who may require additional support. We cater for children who have a wide variety of specific needs. All staff are highly experienced and committed to ongoing training to provide the best outcomes for children and their families. We are located at Gransha Park, L'Derry and have no specific catchment area. Referrals are usually made by professionals involved with the child. Parents can also self refer. We We run 2 sessions per day and have a high adult child ratio. Observations are used to assess each child's individual needs, strengths, interests and abilities and to plan experiences that will encourage further learning. Throughout the daily routine we promote each child's social skills, communication skills, self help skills, play skills and independence. We liaise closely with Health and Education Professionals involved with each child to share information to achieve common goals for the benefit of the child.

# Little Orchids

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

#### Year ended 31 March 2023

---

##### Achievements and performance

In the Year 2022/23 we ran morning and afternoon sessions from September 2022 until June 2023. All the children were offered 2 days due to the high numbers of referrals. 32 children finished with us in June. All children who attended were in their pre preschool year. Some reasons for referrals were:- " Early Developmental impairment " Speech and Language delay

- " Behavioural challenges
- " Sleep issues
- " Hyperactivity
- " Poor communication and social skills
- " Concerns about possible ASD and ADHD
- " Poor play skills
- " Downs Syndrome
- " Feeding difficulties
- " Sensory processing difficulties
- " Repetitive behaviours
- " Attention and concentration difficulties and difficult to engage
- " Very self-directed
- " Poor inconsistent response to name
- " Inconsistent eye contact
- " Delayed self-help skills
- " Doesn't understand simple commands
- " Finds transitions very difficult when leaving place or activity
- " Non mobile
- " Visual impairment

We have used different ways to monitor and measure the impact of our service these include observation records, behaviour monitoring forms, task analysis, and critical communication list. We continue to have 3 monthly reviews to meet with parents to discuss each child's progress and monitoring forms are completed. We use information from parents gathered before the child begins as a baseline. Other information gathered is from planning, evaluation, action plans and feedback from other professionals. We review all our work annually by seeking the views of Parents via a questionnaire. Feedback from June 2023 was extremely positive with all Parents strongly agreeing with all questions including that their child is gaining confidence and independence as a result of his/her experience at Little Orchids. Comments from Parents included:-

"Fantastic support giving advice, helping basics, lending books, and giving support"

"Amazing! Always willing to help and could not have been more supportive"

"The support my child and I had was brilliant, they met his needs 100% and was very supportive towards myself"

"Reassurance regarding my anxieties and how my child was getting on/ coping. Receiving the reassurance and updates about my child helped to ease my anxieties and made me realise she was in excellent care"

"Advice, signposting, to other groups, written information, books, leaflets"

"couldn't have asked for anymore. Any help I needed about anything was dealt with and given"

"So much help and support in different areas of her development that we were struggling with"

---

## Little Orchids

### Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

### Year ended 31 March 2023

---

"The staff are so supportive always willing to listen and give us advice and strategies to use at home"

"I was kept up to date regularly and gained insight into the care and strategies my son was receiving each day"

"Lovely and friendly group of ladies"

"Ongoing and realistic goals set"

"Any time have asked or inquired support is given 100%"

"The support of Little Orchids is amazing the girls do brilliant work am so pleased with the support we were given"

"There's not enough space to put in writing how amazing the staff is so easy to talk to, go above and beyond for the Parents and children"

"The support is amazing. The team are unbelievable and everyone is simply inspiring. Thank you all for everything"

"I couldn't ask for more support everyone really showed so much love and care for him and helped us with new things to try at home"

"When the staff are asked questions or for support they have gone above and beyond to help"

#### Achievements this year

" Over the past year we secured funding from the Public Health Agency for a sixth year to run a Making Mums and Dads lives better Project. This project ran for 1.25 hours per week for 4 weeks in December/January and an additional 2 weeks in March. The feedback was extremely positive. We have also secured funding to run the project again. " We secured funding from the Pathway fund to contribute towards the Playroom staff salaries from April 2023 until March 2024. " We secured one to one funding from HSCB Fair Play Regional Small Grants Scheme to support those children referred with very high complex needs who required one to one support. " We secured funding from National Lottery Awards for all towards our running costs and this has also been secured for the incoming year." We held 2 Charity nights throughout the year which were well supported by Parents and the local community. Concerns

" We are dependent on fundraising to contribute to the running costs.

" The high number of children who are referred to the Centre and we are unable to offer places to all children. " Difficulty in recruiting childcare staff.

How we will overcome this

" We will encourage parents to support any fundraising events.

" We continue to source funding to allow additional one to one support staff which means we can continue to offer 8 additional places in the incoming year. " We will advertise all vacant posts online, including social media.

#### Financial review

The Charity incurred a deficit for the year to 31 March 2023 of £19,889 (2022: surplus £5,617), and at 31 March 2023 had net assets of £109,509 (2022: £129,398)

# **Little Orchids**

## **Company Limited by Guarantee**

### **Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)***

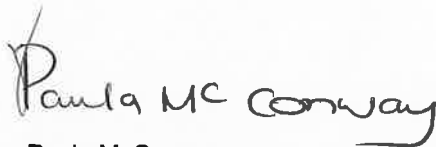
**Year ended 31 March 2023**

---

#### **Small company provisions**

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 14 November 2023 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paula McConway". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'P'.

Paula McConway  
Trustee