

Little Orchids

Company Limited by Guarantee

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

Year ended 31 March 2025

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 2025.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name Little Orchids
Charity registration number 100096-0
Company registration number NI 071926
Principal office and registered office Woodlea House
Gransha Park
L'Derry
BT47 6TF
N Ireland

The trustees

Emma McDaid
Gregory Sloane
Chloe Dunne
Amanda Scanlon
(Appointed 4 April 2025)
(Appointed 14 October 2025)

Independent examiner 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.

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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.

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Achievements and performance

In the Year 2024/25 we ran morning and afternoon sessions from September 2024 until June 2025 and we operated a 3 week summer scheme in July. 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

- " Nonverbal
- " Genetic Conditions
- " 4 Limb Cerebral Palsy
- " Bilateral Cerebral Palsy
- " Multifocal Epilepsy
- " Hypoxic Ischaemic Encephalopathy
- " Dystonia
- " Pallister Killian Syndrome
- " Visual Impairment
- " Sensory Neural hearing loss
- " Respiratory failure requiring oxygen therapy
- " Obstructive sleep apnea
- " Polymicrogyria
- " NG Tube fed
- " Chronic lung disease
- " Behavioural challenges
- " No danger awareness
- " High pain threshold
- " Sleep issues
- " Hyperactivity
- " Poor communication and social skills
- " Concerns about possible ASD and ADHD
- " Poor play skills
- " 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
- " Toileting issues
- " Smearing

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 We review all our work annually by seeking the views of Parents via a questionnaire. Feedback from June 2025 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:- "My child has made so much

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progress, I am very confident in their capabilities. I am so comfortable having my child in Little Orchids." "The staff are always there to listen and talk to if needed." "Fab support, staff go above and beyond." "I am grateful for the support I received while my child was at Little Orchids." "My child came on so much during her time here."

"All the staff have been extremely helpful to us, supporting us with the transition onto preschool. It's been a safe, accepting environment for my child. She has had her needs met and his has helped her develop so much." "Amazing staff, always time to answer questions. Will miss them all. Such a great Centre." "The support that my child received is unbelievable, I couldn't recommend the help enough. It's like home, a family, she thoroughly enjoyed her time here and we will really miss it." "The standard of care our child received was amazing. We felt very included in our child's daily aspects of school. The staff are amazing and have such a high standard of personal care and love towards each child going through their doors." "Couldn't ask for better support for my child." "Helpful staff, my child has flourished here any question I asked the staff I always received an answer on ways to support my child." "The best place, my child and I both needed it desperately. So helpful and such a personalised approach." "Staff are fabulous. Their patience and learning support strategies have been great for my child." "The support we received was great. We understand now why our child acts a certain way and how to manage his behaviours." "Amazing support to both my child and myself the whole time at Little Orchids. Verbally and from the home school diary from everyone." Achievements this year · Over the past year we secured funding from the Public Health Agency for a 8th 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. 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 2024 until March 2025. · 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 the Halifax Foundation and John Moores towards our running costs from December 2024 until December 2025. · We secured funding from Downtown Cash for Kids to offer Sensory sessions in Aspace on a Friday for the children who attend the Centre and those on the waiting list. · We secured a grant from the Credit Union to refurbish a donated shed into a playhouse for the children. · We secured funding from Clothworkers to renovate our outdoor area. · Many Parents and friends of the Centre held fundraisers.

Concerns

· We are dependent on fundraising to contribute to the Staff salaries and running costs. · The high number of children who are referred to the Centre and we are unable to offer places to all children.

How we will overcome this

· We will continue to encourage parents to support any fundraising events. · We will continue to make applications for funding. · 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.

Financial review

The Charity had a deficit for the year to 31 March 2025 of £17,780 (2024: surplus £4,464), and at 31 March 2025 had net assets of £96,193 (2024: £113,973)

Small company provisions

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

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The trustees' annual report was approved on 4 December 2025 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke.

Emma McDaid
Trustee