

Banana Bunch Playgroup

Northern Ireland · Charity number 101429

Details

Status	Received
Registered	2015-04-14
Register	View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register

Contact

Address	Whitehead Presbyterian Church 8 Kings Road Whitehead Co. Antrim BT38 9pu BT38 9PU
Phone	07749623945
Website	https://www.facebook.com/bananabunchpg

Activities

Purposes: The Group is established to promote play based learning environments for all children under statutory school age(hereinafter referred to as the beneficiaries) within whitehead, carrickfergus and the surrounding environments in county Antrim(hereinafter called the "area of benefit") without distinction of age ,gender, marital status,disability, sexual orientation, nationality, ethnic identity, political or religious opinion, by association the statutory authorities, community and voluntary organisations and the inhabitants in a common effort to advance education and in particular: a. to advance the education of the beneficiaries by the provision of safe and satisfying group play, with the right of parents/carers to take reesponsibility for and to become involved in the activities of the group, and to promote the preservation of health of he beneficiaries; and b. to support the values and principles of Early Years

What the charity does: The advancement of education

How the charity works: Playgroup/after schools

Who the charity helps: Preschool (0-5 year olds)

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-08-31	£50,147	£43,929	£0	6

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Mrs Dolores Cuss		
Ms Alanna Hasler		
Ms Angela Macdonald		
Ms Chitalu Chisambo		
Ms Claire Shields		
Ms Rebekah Clarke		

Banana Bunch Playgroup

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101429

Accounts

BANANA BUNCH
INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31/08/2024

INCOME	2023/24	2022/23
DENI Funding	22,385	15,723
Playgroup fees	24,576	6,854
Subscriptions	410	260
Polo shirts/jumpers	1,434	360
Fundraising	1,122	1,400
Voluntary Contributions	25	500
HMRC JRS Grant	-	-
Other	186	625
Bank Interest Received	9	15
TOTAL INCOME	50,147	25,737
EXPENSE		
Staff Wages	35,739	30,656
Early Yrs specialist	-	908
Early Years Membership	13	89
Book-keeping & Accounts	-	80
Rent	3,000	3,000
Insurance	542	492
Play Resource Membership	85	45
Sweatshirts / Polo's	886	-
Equipment / Materials / Craft	1,536	557
Books & Publications	30	-
Training	-	229
WPC Photocopying	-	50
Dizzy Kids	45	225
Break	845	654
Phone	80	-
Postage / Stationary	97	269
Misc	981	1,274
Bank Interest	51	41
TOTAL EXPENSE	43,929	38,570
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) for the year	6,218 -	12,833
CLOSING BANK BALANCE	12,929	7,733
CLOSING BALANCE PETTY CASH	1,022	-

Banana Bunch Playgroup

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101429

Accounts

BANANA BUNCH PLAYGROUP
INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31/08/2023

INCOME	2022/23	2021/22
	£	£
DENI Funding	15,723	22,922
Playgroup fees	6,854	11,047
Subscriptions	260	425
Polo shirts/jumpers	360	442
Fundraising	1,400	496
Voluntary Contributions	500	1,200
HMRC JRS Grant	0	7,261
Other	625	598
Bank Interest Received	15	28
TOTAL INCOME	25,737	44,419
EXPENSE		
Staff Wages	30,656	34,408
Early Yrs specialist	908	995
Early Years Membership	89	152
Book-keeping & Accounts	80	960
Rent	3,000	2,850
Insurance	492	485
Play Resource Membership	45	0
Sweatshirts / Polo's	0	700
Equipment / Materials / Craft	557	2,281
Books & Publications	0	144
Training	229	230
WPC Photocopying	50	44
Dizzy Kids	225	180
Break	654	81
Phone	0	30
Postage / Stationary	269	250
Misc	1,274	1,332
Bank Interest	41	30
TOTAL EXPENSE	38,570	45,149
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) for the year	-12,833	-730
CLOSING BANK BALANCE	7,733	20,565

Banana Bunch Playgroup

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101429

Annual report

Banana Bunch Playgroup

Trustees' Report for the year ended 30 June 2024

The trustees present their report and unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30 June 2024

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name Banana Bunch Playgroup

Registered Office

Whitehead Presbyterian Church Hall, Kings Road,
Whitehead,
Carrickfergus,
Co Antrim,
BT38 9PU

The trustees

Mrs Hazel McWilliams
Mrs Caroline Ashe
Mrs Penny Darragh
Mr Mark Torbitt
Ms Chitalu Chisambo
Ms Alana Hasler

Professional advisors Bankers

Danske Bank
27 Upper Galwally
Belfast
BT8 6FX

Reporting Accountants

Mr Peter Gilmour
18 Middleton Park
Islandmagee
Larne
BT40 3XA

Objectives and Activities

The object of the group as stated in the constitution is 'to promote play based learning environments for all children under statutory school age (the beneficiaries) of Banana Bunch and its surrounding environs in Mid East Antrim and Newtownabbey (the area and benefit) without the distinction of age, gender, marital status, disability, sexual orientation, nationality, ethnic identify, political or religious opinion, by associating the statutory authorities, community and

voluntary organisations and the inhabitants in a common effort to advance education, and in particular:

- A) To advance the education of the beneficiaries by the provision of safe and satisfying group play, with the right of the parents/carers to take responsibility for and to become involved in the activities of the group; and to promote the perseverance of health of the beneficiaries; and
- B) To support the values and principles of the Early Years.

Structure, governance and management

During the process of registration with the Charities Commission Northern Ireland Banana Bunch Playgroup issued formal constitution document which was formally adopted on the 1st of September 1989. The constitution is readapted and revised yearly.

Banana Bunch Playgroup is managed by a committee comprising of the Trustees, with the help and support of the employees and parents of the children attending. The day to day running of the charity rests with Sophie Conn the playgroup leader. Election of the committee takes place at the AGM. The committee is made up of parents and Associate members, with their nomination put forward for approval by committee. The maximum term of office is three years. Induction and training of trustees is provided in house and via Early Years.

Trustees responsibilities in relation to the financial statement

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustee report and statement of accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and irregularities.

Public Benefit Statement

In setting objective and planning activities for the year, the Trustees have given careful consideration of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit and are confident that the activities have helped to achieve the charity's purpose and provide benefit to the beneficiaries.

Achievements and performance and results for the year

Banana Bunch Playgroup is a long-established care and education provider for children aged 2years 10 months to 4years for 3 hours per week day. We have

seven fully qualified dedicated staff some with over twenty four years of experience working with children.

We deliver Education through Fun based Play. Learning through Play following a curriculum is fundamental to young children's Personal, Social Emotional Development, their Physical , Language Early Maths, arts and World Around Us Development. We also provide Outdoor Learning in our fully enclosed safe, stimulation outdoor play area.

All children develop at different rates, to ensure all children reach their full potential we operate a Key Worker System: each child has their own key worker who observes and plans around the child's individual needs to help each child become confident, eager, enthusiastic learners having lots of fun along their journey and preparation for transition to Primary School with friends they have made in pre-school. We have a health visitor who works closely with the playgroup and parents.

Our staff have regular meetings with parents to provide updates. Parents are encouraged to speak to staff if they have any concerns and all aspects of the playgroup are reviewed yearly in an anonymous manor with our evaluation forms.

We are a registered charity run by an excellent Parents Committee which parents are encouraged to join to become more involved with the group and contribute towards the child's education. We offer equal access of all children in our community.

We ensure that children who are from all backgrounds develop confidence and self-esteem through a variety of play activities such as art and craft, physical play , construction, storytelling, basic science activities and much more to enhance their overall holistic development. Each year we aim to give each child which attends our playgroup a high-quality pre-school education in line with the Northern Ireland Pre-School curriculum.

Banana Bunch Playgroup

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101429

Annual return

Banana Bunch Playgroup
Independent Examiners Report year ended 31st August 2023

I report on the financial statements for the year ended 31st August 2023.

Respective responsibilities of trustee and examiner

As the charity's trustee you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission

for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. 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 included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustee concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

- 1) That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act
- 2) That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
- 3) That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
- 4) That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect to matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Peter Gilmour
Management Accountant
17th January 2024

Banana Bunch Playgroup

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101429

Accounts

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31/08/2022

INCOME	2021/22	2020/21
DENI Funding	22922	35457.32
Playgroup fees	11047	6933
Subscriptions	425	1055
Polo shirts/jumpers	442	674
Fundraising	496	420.37
Voluntary Contributions	1200	1200
HMRC JRS Grant	7261.2	8557.34
Other	597.95	235.75
Bank Interest Received	27.82	37.21
TOTAL INCOME	<u>44418.97</u>	<u>54569.99</u>
EXPENSE		
Staff Wages	34407.93	36178.1
Early Yrs specialist	994.68	1100.74
Early Years Membership	152	141.5
Book-keeping & Accounts	960	855
Rent	2850	2215.65
Insurance	484.85	484.85
Sweatshirts / Polo's	699.5	0
Equipment / Materials / Craft	2280.95	6195.13
Books & Publications	143.99	0
Training	230	0
WPC Photocopying	43.9	0
Dizzy Kids	180	0
Break	80.77	81.5
Phone	30	20
Postage / Stationary	249.51	76.1
Misc	1331.65	1184.46
Bank Interest	29.64	12.49
TOTAL EXPENSE	<u>45149.37</u>	<u>48545.52</u>
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) for the year	-730.4	6024.47
CLOSING BALANCE	<u>20565.31</u>	<u>21295.71</u>

Prepared by: R Kernaghan

Banana Bunch Playgroup

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101429

Annual report



Whitehead Presbyterian Church, 8 Kings Road, Whitehead, Co Antrim BT38 9PU

Mobile: 07749 623 945 email: bananabunchpg@gmail.com

Facebook: BBunch Playgroup

Trustees Annual Report for 2021/2022 Charity No: NIC101429

History

Banana Bunch playgroup is a registered charity and has been operating for over 33 years. We are a cross community organisation, with five members of staff and a Parents management committee, who are responsible for making decisions about the group. Banana Bunch Playgroup is governed by a constitution. Our playgroup is registered to cater for 26 children aged between 2 yrs 10 months and 5 years in pre school / pre pre school for 5 mornings sessions. We are based in Whitehead Presbyterian church, which we rent for ten months during term time- September to June.

During 2021 the playgroup was required to close from time to time in accordance with government lock down rules resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. The playgroup re-opened when it was permitted to do so, and put appropriate measures in place to comply with health and safety protocols as set by the government as part of the wider effort to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

Aims and Approach

Banana Bunch Playgroup aims to advance the education of young children through the provision of an appropriate, safe and satisfying programme of play and activities, which meet the requirements of the Department of Education's Curriculum. Throughout the year, at each session, the playgroup provided activities through which the children can learn through play : table top and floor toys; painting , art and craft; water play; play dough; physical play ; home corner (roleplay);books and story telling; music , song and rhymes. These activities improve each child's abilities over the course of the year- hand/eye co-ordination, talking, listening, concentration, muscle development, agility and

.Charity Commission for Northern Ireland Registration Number NIC101429



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Mobile: 07749 623 945 **email:** bananabunchpg@gmail.com

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strength. Our Admissions Policy states that Banana Bunch Playgroup welcomes every family in the community irrespective of social class, religion, race, culture, disabilities and special educational needs. We provide access for all children to a broad and balanced child-led curricular experience which is tailored to the learning needs of each individual child. We believe “interaction and play are the main channels through which children learn and develop.”

We are supported by an early years advisor, and inspected annually by the Health and Social Care Trust to ensure we meet the requirements set out in the minimum standards. The Education Authority also carry out an inspection which can be viewed online by the general public.

Financial Position

The report covers the financial year to 31st August 2022. Banana Bunch Playgroup receives money from the Education Authority for each Pre school child. This money is used to pay staff wages and the running of the playgroup. We also apply for Grants during the year and fundraising events are organised by the Management Committee.

The Trustees are grateful to all the parents for their support and help throughout the year and to several local businesses that help also with our fundraising efforts donating gifts and vouchers.

At the close of the 202102 financial year there was £20,565.31 in the current account.

Banana Bunch Playgroup

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101429

Annual return

**Banana Bunch Playgroup
Independent Examiners Report year ended 31st August 2022**

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Peter Gilmour
Management Accountant
31st March 2023