

# Cloughmills Early Years

Northern Ireland · Charity number 102192

## Details

Known as	Cloughmills Playgroup
Status	Received
Registered	2015-06-02
Register	<a href="#">View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register</a>

## Contact

Address	213 Cushendall Road Ballymena Bt43 6pp BT43 6PP
Phone	07525743172
Email	<a href="mailto:cloughmillsearlyyears@hotmail.co.uk">cloughmillsearlyyears@hotmail.co.uk</a>

## Activities

**Purposes:** 3.1 The Group is established to promote play based learning environments for all children under statutory school age (hereinafter referred to as the beneficiaries) of the Cloughmills and its surrounding environs 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 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 parents/carers to take responsibility for and to become involved in the activities of the group; and to promote the preservation of health of the 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
2025-08-31	£60,697	£56,468	£0	3

## Trustees

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Name	Role	Appointed
Mrs Alex Henderson		
Mrs Jamie Lorimer		
Mrs Jennifer Houston		
Mrs Karen Forsythe		
Mrs Kirsty Elliott		
Mrs Louise Gorvin		
Mrs Nicola Anderson		
Mrs Nicola Tafts		
Ms Lauren Mcconaghy		

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**Cloughmills Early Years**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102192

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# Accounts

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**NAME OF GROUP: CLOUGHMILLS EARLY YEARS  
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2025**

<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
FEES/BREAK MONEY/ENROLEMENT FEES	£	8098.43
PEAGS FUNDING	£	18928.68
FUNDRAISING	£	3928.68
SWEATSHIRTS	£	179.05
BANK INTEREST	£	587.79
DONATIONS	£	1079.00
EA GRTL	£	900.00
JOHN MOORES GRANT	£	1970.00
TESCO GRANT	£	1450.00
PATHWAY GRANT	£	13426.80
OUTDOOR LEARNING FUNDING	£	2000.00
EASY FUNDRAISING	£	209.40
NICCSS	£	1227.47
EA ASSISTANT GRANT	£	6011.35
EA Grant	£	700.00
		<b><u>60696.65</u></b>
 <b>PAYMENTS</b>		
SALARIES	£	34297.02
HMRC - PAYE	£	3901.68
PENSION	£	1925.65
VERITY PENSION FEES	£	360.00
EARLY YEARS	£	1452.60
EARLY YEARS PAYROLL	£	586.09
RESOURCES	£	1738.67
BREAK COSTS	£	1591.44
RENT	£	4560.00
INSURANCE	£	595.50
CLEANING ETC	£	135.84
OUTINGS	£	234.00
BANK CHARGES	£	59.72
POST AND STATIONERY	£	302.08
MOBILE PHONE	£	137.26
BOOKKEEPER	£	540.00
UNIFORMS	£	397.74
GrIT GRANT EXPENDITURE	£	850.50
TRAINING COURSES/HEALTH & SAFETY	£	328.38
ARC COSTS	£	141.00
RECRUITMENT COSTS	£	112.00
MICROSOFT	£	89.38
HEATING COSTS	£	470.40
SHED	£	730.00
OUTDOOR EXPENDITURE	£	848.11
MARKETING/LOGO	£	82.80
	£	<b><u>56467.86</u></b>
 <b>REPRESENTED BY</b>		
OPENING BALANCE	£	36225.11
SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR	£	<b>4228.79</b>
CLOSING BALANCE	£	40453.90

TREASURER

13th October 2025

*P. Forsythe*

**Cloughmills Early Years**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102192

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# Accounts

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**NAME OF GROUP: CLOUGHMILLS EARLY YEARS**

**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024**

**RECEIPTS**

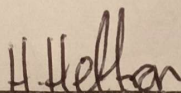
BREAK MONEY	£	1697.80
FEES	£	2539.80
ENROLEMENT FEES	£	1060.00
PEAGS FUNDING	£	29885.00
FUNDRAISING	£	5886.52
SWEATSHIRTS	£	417.85
BANK INTEREST	£	534.13
OUTINGS	£	97.00
HALIFAX GRANT	£	5000.00
		<u>47118.10</u>

**PAYMENTS**

SALARIES	£	35539.30
HMRC - PAYE	£	564.59
PENSION	£	3091.48
EARLY YEARS	£	2870.00
EARLY YEARS PAYROLL	£	468.97
RESOURCES	£	877.36
INSURANCE	£	519.68
PETTY CASH SPENT	£	1457.91
CLEANING ETC	£	143.53
OUTINGS	£	198.00
BANK CHARGES	£	90.74
POST AND STATIONERY	£	79.33
MOBILE PHONE	£	175.51
BOOKKEEPER	£	540.00
UNIFORMS	£	62.10
TRAINING COURSES/ARC/HEALTH & SAFETY	£	364.20
FUNDRAISING EXPENSES	£	682.82
RECRUITMENT COSTS	£	116.00
MICROSOFT/MCAFEE/TWINKL	£	283.76
MARKETING/LOGO	£	198.60
	£	<u>48323.88</u>

**REPRESENTED BY**

OPENING BALANCE	£	37430.89
LOSS FOR THE YEAR	£	-1205.78
CLOSING BALANCE	£	36225.11



TREASURER

19th November 2024

**Cloughmills Early Years**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102192

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# Annual report

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## **Cloughmills Early Years Chairperson AGM report 2023/2024 submitted by Karen Forsythe**

The 23/24 year in playgroup was a busy one. We began the year with our AGM in September where our committee was voted on. Our outgoing Chairperson Abigail Loughridge stepped down from her role and Aimee Logan was elected as Chair in her place. Sarah McNeill was re-elected as Secretary and Karen Forsythe was elected as Treasurer.

Of our committee members, Laura McFaul and Julie-Anne Alexander stepped down and Pamela Forsythe, Kathryn Forsythe and Hannah Heffron took up additional committee member posts.

We thank Abigail and all our outgoing committee members for their time and dedication to their roles and for everything they have done for the playgroup.

With the new committee elected, our first task was to organise our Halloween fundraiser at the Mill. A fantastic afternoon was organised with crafts, pumpkin painting, fancy dress competition, chocolate apple making and soft play and we managed to raise a fantastic total of £1,100.

In November we welcomed our new Leader Jill to playgroup and were delighted to have her join us after some time without a permanent leader. Jill has proved to be a fantastic addition to the Cloughmills Early Years team. We held some further fundraisers in December including a Christmas Hamper fundraiser which raised £573 and a Christmas disco for the school children in the Primary School hall.

Unfortunately due to cuts, we had to say goodbye to Diane at the end of December and we genuinely wish her all the best and thank her for everything she has done for the playgroup over the years.

After a much needed Christmas break, we received the fantastic news that we had secured a grant of £5,000 from Halifax which was received in January 24. We also set about planning our February table quiz and raffle fundraiser. The evening was a brilliant success with a full house in Pattons of Cloughmills and we raised a fantastic total of £1,060.

February also saw some committee changes with Aimee Logan stepping down as Chairperson. Karen Forsythe took up the Chairperson post and Hannah Heffron stepped into the Treasurer role.

In March we sadly said goodbye to Lizzie as she moved on to a new role and again, we thank her for everything she has done for playgroup over the years.

March proved to be a challenging month as we had to close for 2 weeks due to staff sickness but we were all glad to get back to routine at the start of April. We also received the news in April that we would be entering the in-store vote for the Tesco Stronger Starts grant scheme. Voting was held in 4 local Tesco stores from April to June and we were delighted when we heard that we had won the vote, securing a grant of £1,450 to be spent on outdoor play resources.

Our final fundraiser of the year was our raffle to win a £250 Ballymena Means voucher and we raised £820 through ticket sales. Our committee and staff also attended the Spring Fair at the Mill where we did crafts with the children and sold some raffle tickets too. I would like to thank everyone at the Mill and within the Cloughmills Community Action Team for their support throughout the year and for allowing us to use their meeting rooms for committee meetings. They have also provided us with fresh fruit and break snacks throughout the year when items became available through the community fridge. Again, we thank them for their donations and support.

The year came to a close with an end of term party where it was also sadly communicated that Elaine would be leaving after 22 years service. We thank Elaine for everything she has done for the playgroup and wish her well for the future.

Over the summer months there was little time for rest – Mr Crabbe, the Principal of Cloughmills Primary School came on board the playgroup team and he and Jill (with some committee input) worked tirelessly over the summer to give the playgroup a much needed revamp. New paint on the walls, new blinds and new furniture were all put in place and I think you'll all agree the place is looking absolutely fantastic right now and is such a great space for our children.

We finished off the summer months on a high when we recruited our 2 fabulous new members of staff, Kirsty and Clodagh. I think you'll all agree that we have a brilliant team here and I'm excited to see what we can achieve in the year ahead.

**Cloughmills Early Years**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102192

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# Annual return

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**NAME OF GROUP: CLOUGHMILLS EARLY YEARS**

Auditor's Report

I have examined the records of the above organisation and hereby certify, that to the best of my information and belief, this is a true record of receipts and payments for the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024.

Signed: *Kerry E Martin*

Name:-

Kerry Martin

68 Moyan Road

Stranocum

Ballymoney

Co Antrim

BT53 8NX

Date 18/11/2024

Occupation/Profession: Book-Keeper

**Cloughmills Early Years**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102192

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# Accounts

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NAME OF GROUP: CLOUGHMILLS EARLY YEARS

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2023

RECEIPTS

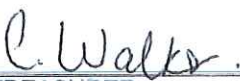
BREAK MONEY	£	1417.22
FEEs	£	1142.90
ENROLEMENT FEES	£	900.00
PEAGS FUNDING	£	34637.10
FUNDRAISING	£	3123.51
SWEATSHIRTS	£	147.50
BANK INTEREST	£	173.59
		<u>41541.82</u>

PAYMENTS

SALARIES	£	42803.55
RENT	£	2280.00
HMRC - PAYE	£	491.72
PENSION	£	2439.60
VERITY PENSION (FEES FOR PENSION SCHEME PROVIDER)	£	180.00
EARLY YEARS	£	11.66
EARLY YEARS PAYROLL	£	544.57
RESOURCES	£	342.45
INSURANCE	£	472.00
PETTY CASH SPENT	£	1322.84
OUTINGS	£	255.00
BANK CHARGES	£	90.80
POST AND STATIONERY	£	517.22
MOBILE PHONE	£	225.24
BOOKKEEPER	£	540.00
UNIFORMS	£	661.63
OUTDOOR WORK	£	1392.00
RECRUITMENT COSTS	£	348.14
TRAINING COURSES/HEALTH & SAFETY	£	526.76
		<u>55445.18</u>

**REPRESENTED BY**

OPENING BALANCE	£	51334.25
LOSS FOR THE YEAR	£	-13903.36
CLOSING BALANCE	£	37430.89



TREASURER

21st September 2023

**Cloughmills Early Years**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102192

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# Annual report

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## **Cloughmills Early Years Chairperson AGM report 2022/2023 submitted by Abigail Loughridge**

Thank you all for coming to our AGM, I know it's often hard to get time to come to these things so I appreciate you taking time to come.

For those of you who don't know me I'm Abigail Loughridge and I have been the Chairperson for Cloughmills Early Years for the past 2 years. I have had two children come through the Playgroup and currently have one attending here. I have been on the committee for the last 6 years.

The AGM is an important part of our school year when we can look back at the previous year of Playgroup but also start looking forward to the year that has just started. Playgroup is run to an extremely high standard and children are taught and looked after with professionalism and care. I want to thank Elaine, Lizzie and Diane for all their hard work this past year, especially given all the changes in staffing and uncertainty that they have dealt with.

Playgroup would not be able to run without the Committee working with them. The Committee is made up of parents and co-opted volunteers and we meet every three months or so to discuss different things, for example, fundraising, staffing, pay and any other issues that need to be dealt with. I would really encourage you to think about joining the committee as it is a really good way to get involved in your child's education and be able to influence how Playgroup is run.

In the last academic year Playgroup had 15 full time preschool children and 5 pre-pre school children. Thankfully we had no complaints or safeguarding issues to be dealt with.

In November, Elaine celebrated 20 years working in Cloughmills Early Years. Elaine did not want any "fuss" made about this so as a committee we marked this with a small gift. We congratulate Elaine again on this milestone and thank her for her commitment to Cloughmills Early Years.

We received further Engage III funding and with it we employed Mrs Barbara Donnelly as a temporary assistant. She worked Wednesday- Friday from November to the end of March. Barbara was able to work alongside children who were having difficulty integrating in class and this was of real benefit to those children. We want to thank Barbara for all her hard work and dedication to Playgroup.

We were also able to use some of this funding and some of our committee fundraising to patio part of the area outdoors, we thank Forsythe's Contractors for their work.

We interviewed for a new Playgroup Leader in September and October with no successful candidates. In November we interviewed again and the job of Playgroup leader was offered to Mrs Pamela Brown, who accepted. Appropriate checks were carried out and Pam started her role on 5th January. I met with Pam at the end of each month for her first 6 months for support and supervision. As issues arose I sought to support Pam through these and encourage her to lead the staff. Pam was encouraged regularly, by myself and Karen Cook, our Early Years Specialist, to apply for external funding for playgroup but despite much encouragement and reassurance of support and help, Pam did not apply for any Early Years funding or have any successful grant applications. This has had a big

impact on our finances this year. This will be explained further in the treasurer's report. On 24th July Mrs Pamela Brown sent an email of resignation as Playgroup leader and her employment ended on 24th August.

At the start of September we again interviewed for Playgroup leader and Ms Jill Hyndman was offered the post. She accepted and we are currently in the process of collecting all the appropriate paperwork to send to Social Services. Jill has 2 months of notice to work in her current playgroup but we are working to 20th November for Jill to start here. It is lovely to have Jill here tonight and I will introduce her later. But we are really looking forward to having her start with us.

As we will see in the Treasurer's report, Playgroup finances have taken a real hit this year due to low numbers of pre school and pre-pre school children attending, and no successful grant applications to balance this out. We have had a few years of low numbers attending playgroup and so we have to think about ways of boosting our numbers or ways of improving our finances in order to maintain the viability of playgroup. I encourage the committee to take up this challenge over the next year.

As a committee we held two big fundraising events last year. In December we held the "Beauty Raffle" with generous donations from local beauticians and hairdressers, and in June we had our signed Northern Ireland football top raffle, "Guess the number of sweets" and our general raffle. We thank the parents, families and community for their generosity as we were able to raise over £3,000 for Playgroup. I encourage the committee to continue with their fundraising efforts.

Thank you again to Elaine, Lizzie and Diane for all their work last year, especially through all the challenges they faced with and without a leader. Your professionalism throughout this was extremely helpful to us me as your chairperson and to the committee, knowing that Playgroup was safe in your hands. I want to say a special thank you to Elaine, for stepping up into Playgroup leader and doing such a great job. Many people have commented to me on the good job you have done and we want to thank you.

Claire Walker, Laura McFall and Lauren Gilpin have all resigned from the Playgroup committee. I want to thank them for all their work for the Playgroup, especially over the last year.

In May I informed the committee that I planned to step down at the AGM from my Chairperson role as my oldest son is starting his transfer years in Primary school and I feel I need time to help him through this. While this last year has been particularly challenging, I have really enjoyed my time on this committee and thank you to the committee and staff for their support and patience over the last 2 years in particular. I look forward to being able to support Playgroup as a parent this year!

**Cloughmills Early Years**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102192

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# Annual return

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NAME OF GROUP: CLOUGHMILLS EARLY YEARS

Auditor's Report

I have examined the records of the above organisation and hereby certify, that to the best of my information and belief, this is a true record of receipts and payments for the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023.

Signed: *Kerry E Martin*

Name:-

Kerry Martin

68 Moyan Road

Stranocum

Ballymoney

Co Antrim

BT53 8NX

Date 22/09/2023

Occupation/Profession: Book-Keeper

