

Strawberry Tree Playgroup

Northern Ireland · Charity number 106117

Details

Status Received

Registered 2017-04-05

Register [View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register](#)

Contact

Address Strawberry Tree Playgroup
41A Sheeptown Road
Newry
Bt34 2la
BT34 2LA

Phone 07873811272

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) of the area served Saval and its surrounding environs in County Down (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 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 to support the values and principles of the pre-school curriculum.

What the charity does: The advancement of education

How the charity works: Education/training

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

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-06-30	£89,958	£100,543	£0	5

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Mr Daniel Mullan		
Mrs Annabel Mcevoy		
Ms Paula Mcgahan		

Strawberry Tree Playgroup

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106117

Accounts

Strawberry Tree Playgroup
Accounts for the Period Ended 30th June 2024

	£	Restricted fund £	Total
Cash at Bank as at 30th June 2023	39,498		
Cash on Hand as at 30th June 2023	238		
<u>Receipts:</u>			
Grants from SELB / HSC	61,810		61,810
Grants	1,400		1,400
Money from HMRC	3,553		3,553
Registration Fees	520		520
Donations	6,575		6,575
Fundraising	3,054		3,054
Pathway Fund		13,047	13,047
Total Receipts	76,911	13,047	89,958
<u>Payments:</u>			
Salaries	64,790	8,246	73,036
HMRC - PAYE	5,907		5,907
Rent	359	163	522
Heating Oil	19	781	800
Electricity & Water	839	469	1,308
Insurance	1,814	734	2,548
Telephone & Internet	562	166	728
Repairs & Maintenance	1,606	156	1,762
Food & General Expenses	5,722		5,722
Printing / Stationery / Postage	209	313	522
Equipment / Toys	1,628	1,094	2,722
Subscriptions	2,126	550	2,676
Payroll & Book Keeping	1,916	374	2,290
Total Payments	87,496	13,047	100,543
Cash at Bank as at 30th June 2024			29,151
Cash on Hand as at 30th June 2024			-

Strawberry Tree Playgroup

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106117

Accounts

Strawberry Tree Playgroup
Accounts for the Period Ended 30th June 2023

	£	Restricted fund £	Total
Cash at Bank as at 30th June 2022	35,360		
Cash on Hand as at 30th June 2022	311		
<u>Receipts:</u>			
Grants from SELB / HSC	56,621		56,621
Grants	3,712		3,712
Money from HMRC	5,431		5,431
Registration Fees	520		520
Donations	6,312		6,312
Fundraising	3,336		3,336
Pathway Fund		9,908	9,908
Total Receipts	75,932	9,908	85,840
<u>Payments:</u>			
Salaries	49,924	7,545	57,469
HMRC - PAYE	1,835		1,835
Rent	424	98	522
Heating Oil	1,669	281	1,950
Electricity & Water	903	219	1,122
Insurance	2,046	331	2,377
Telephone & Internet	522	91	613
Repairs & Maintenance	2,305	94	2,398
Food & General Expenses	7,060		7,060
Printing / Stationery / Postage	204	250	454
Equipment / Toys	1,761	469	2,229
Subscriptions	1,517	330	1,847
Payroll & Book Keeping	1,700	200	1,900
Total Payments	71,868	9,908	81,776
 Cash at Bank as at 30th June 2023			 39,498
 Cash on Hand as at 30th June 2023			 238

Strawberry Tree Playgroup

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106117

Annual report

Strawberry Tree Playgroup
Trustees' Annual Report
For the period ended 30th June 2023

The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 30th June 2023.

Purpose of Strawberry Tree Playgroup

To promote play based learning environments for all children under statutory school age from the area of Saval and its surrounding environs in County Down.

Summary

Strawberry Tree Playgroup is a community managed pre-school playgroup and is registered to accept a maximum of 26 children each session, five mornings per week from 9.00am to 12.00 noon. The playgroup is managed by a committee. Members of the playgroup (parents or guardians of children attending Strawberry Tree Playgroup) elect trustees of the playgroup annually at its AGM by means of a public vote.

The vast majority of Strawberry Tree Playgroups income is provided by the Southern Education and Library Board (SELB). Additional funding is provided by way of registration fees, donations and fundraising events.

The playgroup is registered by The Charity Commission. Inspections are carried out yearly by a Social Worker from Early Years. The report is displayed on the Parent's Notice Board.

Strawberry Tree Playgroup has been inspected by Social Services and ETI (Education Training Inspectorate). The full report is available to read from Strawberry Tree Playgroup.

Notable events that took place during the period reported on include:

1. *Table quiz and raffle Sep 22*
2. *Two Bonus Ball raffles Oct/Dec 23*
3. *Santa Letters Dec 22*
4. *Table quiz and raffle Jun 23*

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

The objective of the playgroup is to prepare the children for entering into the school environment. The playgroup has a common effort to advance education and in particular the education of the children by the provision of safe and satisfying group play, to promote the preservation of health of the beneficiaries and to support the values and principles of the pre-school curriculum.

Financial Summary

26 children attended Strawberry Tree Playgroup during the period of this report and the SELB provided funding totalling £54,515 and funding received for a 1 to 1 workers from Short Breaks team and also from Education Authority of £2,105. Money was received from Education Authority for additional costs in relation to Engage II totalling £2,912. Families of children attending the playgroup are asked to make a voluntary financial contribution towards some of the running costs, and during the year, registration fees and weekly donations totalling £6,832 and also were received giving a total of £66,365 of income directly related to the children.

Strawberry Tree Playgroup was awarded a grant from Early Years for heating oil totalling £800. We also received maternity pay from HMRC of £5,431 during the year.

During the year we were successful with our application to the Pathway Fund and we were granted funds of £7,299 for period 1st July 2022 to 31st March 2023 and £2,609 for period 1st April 2023 to 30th June 2023.

The following fundraising events were organised during the year:

Quiz and Raffle September 2022	£1,057
Bonus ball draw October 2022	£590
Bonus ball draw December 2022	£440
Santa letters December 2022	£99
Quiz and Raffle June 2023	£920
	£3,336

Total income received for the financial year was £85,840.

The total running costs for the financial year were £81,776 which included staff wages, rent, heating, insurance, telephone and internet, premises costs, general playgroup expenses, uniforms and subscriptions. Costs were closely managed during these period.

The Trustees of Strawberry Tree Playgroup throughout the period of this report were:

Registered Person: Emma McConville

Chairperson: Catherine Digney

Vice Chairperson: Treasurer: Annette O'Sullivan

Treasurer: Fionnuala McCarthy

Vice Treasurer: Lisa Kearney

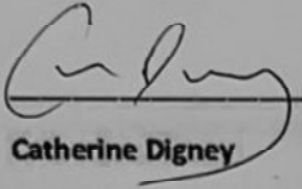
Secretary: Lisa Rocks

Vice Secretary: Sara Bogues

Staff Liaison Office: Gearldine Doran

Trustee Members: Gavin Walsh, Amanda Kearns, Natalie Collins, Anne McNally, Teresa Quinn, Riona Canavan

The Trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



Catherine Digney

Chairperson

Dated: 26/09/2023

Strawberry Tree Playgroup

41a Sheeptown Road, Newry, Co. Down, BT34 2LA

Registered Charity Number: NIC106117

Strawberry Tree Playgroup

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106117

Annual return

Strawberry Tree Playgroup

Independent Examiner's Report to the Charity Trustees of Strawberry Tree Playgroup

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Strawberry Tree Playgroup (the charity) for the year ended 30 June 2023.

Respective responsibilities of the charity trustees and the Independent Examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law, and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008;
- 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;
- State whether particular matters have come to our 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.

My 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 you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

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

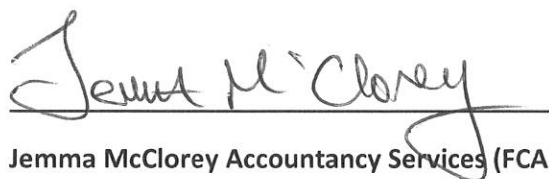
1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
4. That there is further information needed for proper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

Strawberry Tree Playgroup

Independent Examiner's Report to the Charity Trustees of Strawberry Tree Playgroup (Continued)

Independent Examiner's Statement

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



Jemma McClorey Accountancy Services (FCA)

20 Shinn Road

Newry

Co. Down

BT34 1PE

Date:

11/9/23

Strawberry Tree Playgroup

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106117

Accounts

Strawberry Tree Playgroup
Accounts for the Period Ended 30th June 2022

	£	Restricted fund £	Total
Cash at Bank as at 30th June 2021	26,775		
Cash on Hand as at 30th June 2021	189		
<u>Receipts:</u>			
Grants from SELB / HSC	56,305		56,305
Grants for Covid	13,237		13,237
Money from HMRC	4,422		4,422
Registration Fees	520		520
Donations	5,942		5,942
Non iunded fees	-		-
Fundraising	2,238		2,238
Pathway Fund		18,246	18,246
Total Receipts	82,664	18,246	100,910
<u>Payments:</u>			
Salaries	43,090	14,740	57,830
HMRC - PAYE	2,688		2,688
Rent	359	163	522
Heating Oil	238	313	550
Electricity & Water	420	313	733
Insurance	1,489	461	1,950
Telephone & Internet	376	150	526
Repairs & Maintenance	5,301	156	5,457
Food & General Expenses	9,751		9,751
Printing / Stationery / Postage	-	62	94
Equipment / Toys	6,869	625	7,494
Subscriptions	1,197	545	1,742
Payroll & Book Keeping	1,150	313	1,463
Staff Uniforms	-		-
Clenaing	1,061	313	1,373
New canopy/fence	-		-
Total Payments	73,926	18,246	92,172
Cash at Bank as at 30th June 2022			35,391
Cash on Hand as at 30th June 2022			311

Strawberry Tree Playgroup

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106117

Annual report

Strawberry Tree Playgroup
Trustees' Annual Report
For the period ended 30th June 2022

The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 30th June 2022.

Purpose of Strawberry Tree Playgroup

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Summary

Strawberry Tree Playgroup is a community managed pre-school playgroup and is registered to accept a maximum of 26 children each session, five mornings per week from 9.00am to 12.00 noon. The playgroup is managed by a committee. Members of the playgroup (parents or guardians of children attending Strawberry Tree Playgroup) elect trustees of the playgroup annually at its AGM by means of a public vote.

The vast majority of Strawberry Tree Playgroups income is provided by the Southern Education and Library Board (SELB). Additional funding is provided by way of registration fees, donations and fundraising events.

The playgroup is registered by The Charity Commission. Inspections are carried out yearly by a Social Worker from Early Years. The report is displayed on the Parent's Notice Board.

Strawberry Tree Playgroup has been inspected by Social Services and ETI (Education Training Inspectorate). The full report is available to read from Strawberry Tree Playgroup.

Notable events that took place during the period reported on include:

1. *Easter raffle*
2. *Two Bonus Ball raffles*
3. *Santa Letters*
4. *Sponsored Sports day*

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

The objective of the playgroup is to prepare the children for entering into the school environment. The playgroup has a common effort to advance education and in particular the education of the children by the provision of safe and satisfying group play, to promote the preservation of health of the beneficiaries and to support the values and principles of the pre-school curriculum.

Financial Summary

26 children attended Strawberry Tree Playgroup during the period of this report and the SELB provided funding totalling £52,026 and funding received for a 1 to 1 workers from Short Breaks team and also from Education Authority of £4,279. Money was received from Education Authority for additional costs in relation to Covid totalling £4,368. Families of children attending the playgroup are asked to make a voluntary financial contribution towards some of the running costs, and during the year, registration fees and weekly donations totalling £6,474 were received giving a total of £67,147 of income directly related to the children. Money was received from HMRC for SSP of £270 and Maternity pay of £4,140.

Strawberry Tree Playgroup was awarded a grant from Early Years for outdoor equipment totalling £1,000. Grants were also received from Department for Communities for unavoidable costs in relation to Covid of £4,035. We also received grants from Early years of £2,496 throughout the year. We also received Sustainability grants from Early years of £1,338.

With these grants the committee installed new outdoor equipment and matting. Outdoor resources were also purchased as majority of play was outside.

During the year we were successful with our application to the Pathway Fund and we were granted funds of £18,246 for period 1st July 2021 to 31st March 2022 and £3,649 for period 1st April 2022 to 30th June 2022.

The following fundraising events were organised during the year:

Fundraiser	Amount raised
Easter Raffle - Various prizes	£750
Bonus ball draw October 2021	£580
Bonus ball draw December 2021	£570
Santa letters December 2021	£188
Sponsored sports day	£150
	£2,238

Total income received for the financial year was £100,910.

The total running costs for the financial year were £92,172 which included staff wages, rent, heating, insurance, telephone and internet, premises costs, general playgroup expenses, uniforms and subscriptions. Costs were closely managed during these period and especially during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Trustees of Strawberry Tree Playgroup throughout the period of this report were:

Registered Person: Emma McConville

Chairperson: Catherine Digney

Vice Chairperson: Treasurer: Amanda Kearns

Treasurer: Fionnuala McCarthy

Vice Treasurer: Lisa Kearney

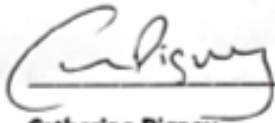
Secretary: Lisa Rocks

Vice Secretary: Natalie Sands

Staff Liaison Office: Helen O'Callaghan

Trustee Members: Edel Cunningham, Caoimhe Moore, Mary Jo Rivet, Serena Ward, Leanne Digney, Emma Malley, Gavin Walsh, Claire Kelly, Keri Doran, Denise Cunnuningham

The Trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



Catherine Digney

Chairperson

Dated:

Strawberry Tree Playgroup

41a Sheeptown Road, Newry, Co. Down, BT34 2LA

Registered Charity Number: NIC106117

Strawberry Tree Playgroup

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106117

Annual return

Strawberry Tree Playgroup

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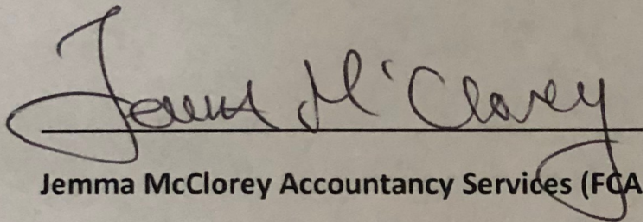
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Strawberry Tree Playgroup

Independent Examiner's Report to the Charity Trustees of Strawberry Tree Playgroup (Continued)

Independent Examiner's Statement

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Jemma McClorey Accountancy Services (FCA)

20 Shinn Road

Newry

Co. Down

BT34 1PE

Date:

3/08/22