

Little Acorns Community Playgroup

Northern Ireland · Charity number 106324

Details

Status	Received
Registered	2017-06-08
Register	View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register

Contact

Address
Little Acorns Community Playgroup
5 Tamnamore Road
Dungannon
BT71 6Rj
BT71 6RJ

Phone 07810000641

Email littleacornsplaygroup@gmail.com

Activities

Purposes: The aims of the Group is to enhance the development and education of children under statutory school age by encouraging parents/guardians to understand and provide for the needs of their children by:-
a) Offering appropriate play facilities, with the right of parents/carers to take responsibility for and to become involved in the activities of the Group, ensuring that the Group offers opportunities for all children regardless of religion, culture, race or means. b) Encouraging the study of the needs of such children and their families and promoting public interest in and recognition of such needs of such children and their families in the local area. c) 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	£65,209	£64,385	£0	4
2024-08-31	£41,305	£60,128	£0	4

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Mrs Cathy Crockett		
Mrs Claire Campbell		
Mrs Kathy Devlin		
Mrs Kayleigh Gates		
Mrs Noeleen Rice		
Mrs Rachel Mc Alinden		
Mrs Sarah Leathem		
Mrs Tracey Owens		

Little Acorns Community Playgroup

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106324

Accounts

Little Acorns Community Playgroup

Accounts

for the year ended 31 August 2025

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Little Acorns Community Playgroup

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees on the unaudited financial statements of Little Acorns Community Playgroup

I report on the accounts of Little Acorns Playgroup for the year ended 31 August 2025 set out on pages 2 to 5.

Respective responsibilities of their and 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. It is my responsibility to

- " examine the accounts under section 65 of the Act,
- " follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the Act, and
- " to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

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 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 includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as their concerning any such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

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 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.

Ethna Grimley

Ethna Grimley
E A Grimley & Co

Chartered Accountants
16 Clonoe Village Business Park
98 Washingbay Road
Dungannon, Co. Tyrone
BT71 4PU

11 June 2026

Little Acorns Community Playgroup

**Income & Expenditure Account
for the period ended 31 August 2025**

	2025		2024	
	£	£	£	£
Fundraising		4,947		1,428
SELB Income		38,680		24,850
Small Regional Grants		8,807		4,220
Early Years		5,333		-
Bank Interest Received		128		294
School Fees		4,037		8,020
HMRC - Employment allowance		3,277		2,493
		65,209		41,305
Administrative expenses				
Wages and salaries	46,875		45,693	
Milk, Consumables etc	987		925	
Staff pension costs	802		511	
Insurance	775		748	
Day Trips and Fun Days	320		-	
Toys	224		757	
Light and heat	524		235	
Cleaning/PPE	127		-	
Repairs and maintenance	1,136		3,062	
Printing, postage and stationery	339		140	
Telephone and fax	568		623	
Activities	-		762	
Legal and professional fees	-		1,250	
Accountancy and Payroll Costs	950		981	
Bank charges	419		321	
Sundry expenses	954		361	
Fundraising expenses	19		-	
Project Costs	6,665		-	
Depreciation on freehold property	904		1,064	
Depreciation on FF & Equipment	1,797		2,695	
		(64,385)		(60,128)
Net (Deficit) Surplus		824		(18,823)

Little Acorns Community Playgroup

**Balance sheet
as at 31 August 2025**

		2025		2024	
Notes	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	2		8,716		11,417
Current assets					
Debtors	3	2,614		4,721	
Cash at bank and in hand		17,759		9,862	
		20,373		14,583	
Current liabilities (note)					
Trade creditors		276		396	
PAYE control account		1,435		-	
Accruals		2,058		1,108	
Capital Grant - new build		11,435		10,000	
		15,204		11,504	
Net current assets			5,169		3,079
Total assets less current liabilities			13,885		14,496
Capital account					
Brought forward at 1 September 2024			14,496		33,319
Net Surplus for the year			824		(18,823)
			15,320		14,496

We approve these accounts and confirm that we have made available all relevant records and information for their preparation.

N Rice
Noeleen Rice (Jun 12, 2026 08:53:24 GMT+1)

Noeleen Rice
Chairperson

Date: 11th June 2026

Little Acorns Community Playgroup
Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 31 August 2025

1. Accounting policies

1.1. Accounting convention

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention modified when necessary to include the revaluation of certain fixed assets.

1.2. Sales

Sales represents the total invoice value, excluding value added tax, of sales made during the year.

1.3. Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation less residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

- Land and buildings - Straight Line over 15% Reducing Balance years
- Fixtures, fittings and equipment - 33% Reducing Balance

2. Tangible assets

	Land and buildings freehold	Equipment	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 September 2024	9,200	33,103	42,303
At 31 August 2025	9,200	33,103	42,303
Depreciation			
At 1 September 2024	3,174	27,712	30,886
Charge for the year	904	1,797	2,701
At 31 August 2025	4,078	29,509	33,587
Net book values			
At 31 August 2025	5,122	3,594	8,716
At 31 August 2024	6,026	5,391	11,417

3. Debtors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Payroll refund due	2,614	4,721
	2,614	4,721









06 11 email Noleen Final accounts for signing

Final Audit Report

2026-06-12

Created:	2026-06-11
By:	Ethna Grimley (ethna@eagrimley.com)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAA3c7XRvt5oPbhGdfZTL6T_Uxif3OmVIQ-

"06 11 email Noleen Final accounts for signing" History

-  Document created by Ethna Grimley (ethna@eagrimley.com)
2026-06-11 - 5:17:16 PM GMT
-  Document emailed to Noleen Rice (noleenrice1@hotmail.co.uk) for signature
2026-06-11 - 5:17:20 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by Noleen Rice (noleenrice1@hotmail.co.uk)
2026-06-11 - 5:46:57 PM GMT
-  Document e-signed by Noleen Rice (noleenrice1@hotmail.co.uk)
Signature Date: 2026-06-12 - 7:53:24 AM GMT - Time Source: server - Signature Appearance Selected: MOBILE_DRAW
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-  Document e-signed by Ethna Grimley (ethna@eagrimley.com)
Signature Date: 2026-06-12 - 9:07:18 AM GMT - Time Source: server - Signature Appearance Selected: IMAGE
-  Agreement completed.
2026-06-12 - 9:07:18 AM GMT

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Independent examiner's report to the Trustees on the unaudited financial statements of Little Acorns Community Playgroup

I report on the accounts of Little Acorns Playgroup for the year ended 31 August 2024 set out on pages 2 to 5.

Respective responsibilities of their and 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. It is my responsibility to

- " examine the accounts under section 65 of the Act,
- " follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the Act, and
- " to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

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 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 includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as their concerning any such matters.

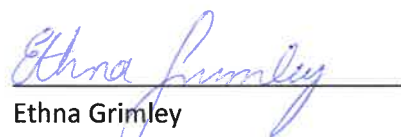
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1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
4. 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 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.



Ethna Grimley
E A Grimley & Co

Chartered Accountants
16 Clonoe Village Business Park
98 Washingbay Road
Dungannon, Co. Tyrone
BT71 4PU

20 May 2025

Little Acorns Community Playgroup

**Income & Expenditure Account
for the period ended 31 August 2024**

	2024		2023	
	£	£	£	£
Fundraising		1,428		317
SELB Income		24,850		22,221
Small Regional Grants		4,220		1,824
Bank Interest Received		294		67
School Fees		8,020		5,310
HMRC - Employment allowance		2,493		1,481
Other income		-		558
		<u>41,305</u>		<u>31,778</u>
Administrative expenses				
Wages and salaries	45,693		36,737	
Milk, Consumables etc	925		1,322	
Gifts to Staff	-		200	
Training	-		155	
Staff pension costs	511		275	
Insurance	748		678	
Toys	757		392	
Light and heat	235		305	
Repairs and maintenance	3,062		9,216	
Printing, postage and stationery	140		415	
Telephone and fax	623		829	
Activities	762		961	
Legal and professional fees	1,250		949	
Accountancy and Payroll Costs	981		978	
Bank charges	321		328	
Sundry expenses	361		143	
Depreciation on freehold property	2,695		1,251	
Depreciation on FF & Equipment	1,064		4,043	
		<u>(60,128)</u>		<u>(59,177)</u>
Net (Deficit) Surplus		<u><u>(18,823)</u></u>		<u><u>(27,399)</u></u>

Little Acorns Community Playgroup

Balance sheet
as at 31 August 2024

	Notes	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	2		11,417		15,176
Current assets					
Debtors	3	4,721		-	
Cash at bank and in hand		9,862		29,704	
		<u>14,583</u>		<u>29,704</u>	
Current liabilities (note)					
Trade creditors		396		-	
PAYE control account		-		427	
Accruals		1,108		1,134	
Capital Grant - new build		10,000		10,000	
		<u>11,504</u>		<u>11,561</u>	
Net current assets			<u>3,079</u>		<u>18,143</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>14,496</u>		<u>33,319</u>
Capital account					
Brought forward at 1 September 2023			33,319		60,718
Net Surplus for the year			<u>(18,823)</u>		<u>(27,399)</u>
			<u>14,496</u>		<u>33,319</u>

We approve these accounts and confirm that we have made available all relevant records and information for their preparation.


S Campbell (May 20, 2025 10:19 GMT+1)

Stiofan Campbell
Chairperson

Date: 20/05/2025

Little Acorns Community Playgroup
Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 31 August 2024

1. Accounting policies

1.1. Accounting convention

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention modified when necessary to include the revaluation of certain fixed assets.

1.2. Sales

Sales represents the total invoice value, excluding value added tax, of sales made during the year.

1.3. Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation less residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

- Land and buildings - Straight Line over 15% Reducing Balance years
- Fixtures, fittings and equipment - 33% Reducing Balance

2. Tangible assets

	Land and buildings freehold	Equipment	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 September 2023	9,200	33,103	42,303
At 31 August 2024	9,200	33,103	42,303
Depreciation			
At 1 September 2023	2,110	25,017	27,127
Charge for the year	2,695	1,064	3,759
At 31 August 2024	4,805	26,081	30,886
Net book values			
At 31 August 2024	4,395	7,022	11,417
At 31 August 2023	7,090	8,086	15,176

3. Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Payroll refund due	4,721	-
	4,721	-

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Independent examiner's report to the Trustees on the unaudited financial statements of Little Acorns

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Respective responsibilities of their and independent examiner

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It is my responsibility to

- " examine the accounts under section 65 of the Act,
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Basis of independent examiner's statement

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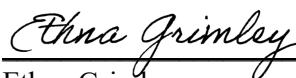
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3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect 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.



Ethna Grimley
e a grimley & co

Chartered Accountants
30a Derrygally Rd
Dungannon
Co Tyrone
BT71 6LZ

Little Acorns Community Playgroup

Income & Expenditure Account for the period ended 31 August 2023

	2023		2022	
	£	£	£	£
Fundraising		317		691
SELB Income		22,221		43,872
HSBC		-		3,750
SHSCT		-		114
Grant Income		-		12,046
Small Regional Grants		1,824		-
Bank Interest Received		67		-
School Fees		5,310		8,649
HMRC - Employment allowance		1,481		2,386
Other income		558		187
		31,778		71,695
Administrative expenses				
Wages and salaries	36,737		56,398	
Milk, Consumables etc	1,322		1,199	
Gifts to Staff	200		-	
Training	155		225	
Staff pension costs	275		351	
Insurance	678		588	
Day Trips and Fun Days	-		698	
Toys	392		3,744	
Light and heat	305		840	
Cleaning/PPE	-		49	
Repairs and maintenance	9,216		296	
Printing, postage and stationery	415		312	
Advertising	-		756	
Telephone and fax	829		835	
Activities	961		1,500	
Legal and professional fees	949		1,989	
Accountancy and Payroll Costs	978		1,450	
Bank charges	328		389	
Sundry expenses	143		1,500	
Fundraising expenses	-		17	
Depreciation on freehold property	1,251		859	
Depreciation on FF & Equipment	4,043		4,986	
		(59,177)		(78,981)
Net (Deficit) Surplus		(27,399)		(7,286)

Little Acorns Community Playgroup

Balance sheet as at 31 August 2023

	Notes	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	2		15,176		20,470
Current assets					
Debtors	3	-		1,493	
Cash at bank and in hand		29,704		49,464	
		<u>29,704</u>		<u>50,957</u>	
Current liabilities (note)					
PAYE control account		427		25	
Accruals		1,134		684	
Capital Grant - new build		10,000		10,000	
		<u>11,561</u>		<u>10,709</u>	
Net current assets			<u>18,143</u>		<u>40,248</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u><u>33,319</u></u>		<u><u>60,718</u></u>
Capital account					
Brought forward at 1 September 2022			60,718		68,004
Net Surplus for the year			<u>(27,399)</u>		<u>(7,286)</u>
			<u><u>33,319</u></u>		<u><u>60,718</u></u>

We approve these accounts and confirm that we have made available all relevant records and information for their preparation.

Steven Campbell

Stephen Campbell
Chairperson

Date: 02/02/2024

Little Acorns Community Playgroup
Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 31 August 2023

1. Accounting policies

1.1. Accounting convention

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention modified when necessary to include the revaluation of certain fixed assets.

1.2. Sales

Sales represents the total invoice value, excluding value added tax, of sales made during the year.

1.3. Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation less residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Land and buildings	-	Straight Line over years
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	-	25% Straight Line

2. Tangible assets

	Land and buildings freehold	Equipment	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 September 2022	9,200	33,103	42,303
At 31 August 2023	9,200	33,103	42,303
Depreciation			
At 1 September 2022	859	20,974	21,833
Charge for the year	1,251	4,043	5,294
At 31 August 2023	2,110	25,017	27,127
Net book values			
At 31 August 2023	7,090	8,086	15,176
At 31 August 2022	8,341	12,129	20,470

3. Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade debtors	-	544
Prepayments and accrued income	-	949
	-	1,493

Little Acorns Community Playgroup

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106324

Annual report

Report of the trustees for the year ending 31 August 2023

The trustees are pleased to present their annual committee report together with the financial statements of the playgroup for the year ending 31 August 2023..

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2008 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

Charity Number CCNI:0019015

Our purposes and activities

Little Acorns Community Play Group is established to enhance the development and education of children by promoting play based facilities and learning environments for all children under statutory school age in the Killyman and surrounding area.

The Play Group operates without distinction of religion, culture, race or means by associating the statutory authorities, community and voluntary organisations and the inhabitants in a common effort to achieve our charitable purposes. We provide a play based curriculum for pre-school children as set by the Department of Education for Northern Ireland.

We are open 5 days a week and we are an equal opportunity group where all parents and their children are welcome.

In shaping our objectives for the year and planning our activities, the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance 'public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'. The Playgroup relies on grant income to cover its operating costs.

The direct benefits which flow from this purpose include: provision of play group facilities that provide educational and recreational facilities for pre-school children in and round Killyman to meet the needs of, and to improve children's education, development, health and wellbeing.

The direct benefits which flow from purpose include advancement of education for children under statutory school age in receiving a balanced educational curriculum. These benefits are demonstrated through feedback from parents, annual inspections from health care professionals within the registered Health Care Trust and regular inspections from educational professionals.

These benefits are demonstrated through feedback from beneficiaries, parents and play group leaders, and attendees at our events and activities using: evaluation forms, surveys, verbal feedback.

In providing a play based educational environment there is no possibility of harm outweighing the benefit - there is no harm arising from any of the purposes.

The charity's beneficiaries are children under statutory school age in the play group that live in the Killyman area and its surrounding areas in County Tyrone.

Little Acorns Playgroup

There is no private benefit to any individual - the only private benefit flowing from this purpose that it is incidental and is necessary for staff to receive on-going training in childcare. These benefits are necessary to ensure the highest quality of service benefits the beneficiaries.

Aims

The aims of the Playgroup is to enhance the development and education of children under statutory school age by encouraging parents/guardians to understand and provide for the needs of their children by:-

- Offering appropriate play facilities, with the right of parents/carers to take responsibility for and to become involved in the activities of the Group, ensuring that the Group offers opportunities for all children regardless of religion, culture, race or means.
- Encouraging the study of the needs of such children and their families and promoting public interest in and recognition of such needs of such children and their families in the local area.
- Support the values and principles of Early Years

Financial review

Reserves policy and going concern

Reserves are needed to bridge the gap between the spending and receiving of income and to cover unplanned emergency repairs and other expenditure. The trustees consider that the ideal level of reserves as at 31 August 2023 would be £20,000.

Without the support of our funders and continued fundraising efforts by staff and volunteers, it is doubtful that the Playgroup could continue operating. The trustees are endeavouring to ensure the success with a combination of measures including fundraisers and applications to funding bodies in an effort to secure staff posts and long-term sustainability of the charity.

The trustees have reviewed the circumstances of the Playgroup and consider that adequate resources continue to be available to fund the activities of the Playgroup for the foreseeable future. The trustees are of the view that Playgroup is an ongoing concern.

A major financial concern for the Playgroup as with any charity will be ongoing financial sustainability from funding in the years to come. The trustees are aware of the need to maintain free reserves, especially in the current economic climate. Continual fundraising will provide a challenging environment in the years to come.

We would like to acknowledge the continued support of our funders as referred to in note 4 in the accounts.

Little Acorns Playgroup

Reference and administrative details

Operating address: Little Acorns Playgroup_5 Tamnamore Rd, Dungannon, Co Tyrone
BT71 6RJ

Our advisers

Accountant E A Grimley & Co, 30a Derrygally Rd, Moy, Dungannon, Co Tyrone, BT71 6LZ
Bankers; First Trust Bank, Scotch Street, Dungannon, Co Tyrone, BT70 1JJ

Key management personnel Little Acorns Playgroup

Trustees

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Chair: Mr Stiofan Campbell

Mrs Kathy Devlin
Ms Tracey Owens
Ms Sarah Leathem

Key management personnel:

Playgroup Leader Patricia Shields

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Little Acorns Playgroup is a Trust governed by a Trust DEED.

Appointment of trustees

As set out in the Trust Deed, the maximum Board members shall be a minimum of 3.

When considering co-opting trustees, the Board has regard to the requirement for any specialist skills needed.

The Trustees shall be entitled to invite members of the public to attend as observers at any Annual General Meeting or any other meeting of the Trustees.

Trustee induction and training

New trustees undergo an orientation session to brief them on: their legal obligations under charity law, the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit, and inform them of the content of the Trust Deed, the committee and decision-making processes, the business plan and recent financial performance of the charity.

Any person wishing to become a board member must apply in writing for approval by the Trustees. It is a requirement that the board members attend an induction process covering good governance. During the induction they meet key employees and other trustees. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events where these will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

Organisation

The board of trustees, which require a minimum of 3 Trustees, administers the charity. The charity is managed by the Trustee Board, which meets at least 6 times per year.

The Playgroup Leader liaises between meetings with the Chair and Treasurer to ensure the smooth running of the organisation.

Related parties and co-operation with other organisations

None of our trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work with the charity. Any connection between a trustee and senior manager of the charity with a funder must be disclosed to the full board of trustees in the same way as any other contractual relationship with a related party. In the current year no such related party transactions were reported.

Risk management

The trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises:

- an annual review of the principal risks and uncertainties that the charity
- the establishment of policies, systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified in the annual review; and
- the implementation of procedures designed to minimise or manage any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise.

This work has identified that financial sustainability is the major financial risk for the charity. A key element in the management of financial risk is a regular review of available liquid funds to settle debts as they fall due, regular liaison with the Playgroup Leader to ensure sufficient working capital by the Playgroup.

Attention has also been focussed on non-financial risks arising from fire, health and safety staff, volunteers and clients. These risks are managed by ensuring accreditation is up to date, having robust policies and procedures in place and regular awareness training for staff working in these operational areas.

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website.

Statement as to disclosure to our Independent Examiner

In so far as the trustees are aware at the time of approving our trustees' annual report:

- there is no relevant information of which the charitable company's accountant is unaware, and
- the trustees, having made enquiries of fellow committee member have each taken all steps that he/she is obliged to take as a member in order to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the independent is aware of that information.

This report was approved by the board of trustees and signed on its behalf by

Stiofan Campbell

Dated: 02/02/24

Little Acorns Community Playgroup

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106324

Annual return

Little Acorns Community Playgroup

Accounts

for the year ended 31 August 2023

Little Acorns Community Playgroup

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Little Acorns Community Playgroup

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees on the unaudited financial statements of Little Acorns

I report on the accounts of Little Acorns Playgroup for the year ended 31 August 2023 set out on pages 2 to 5.

Respective responsibilities of their and 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.

It is my responsibility to

- " examine the accounts under section 65 of the Act,
- " follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the Act, and
- " to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

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 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 includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as their concerning any such matters.

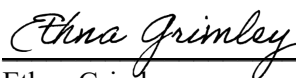
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My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

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 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.



Ethna Grimley
e a grimley & co

Chartered Accountants
30a Derrygally Rd
Dungannon
Co Tyrone
BT71 6LZ

Little Acorns Community Playgroup

Income & Expenditure Account for the period ended 31 August 2023

	2023		2022	
	£	£	£	£
Fundraising		317		691
SELB Income		22,221		43,872
HSBC		-		3,750
SHSCT		-		114
Grant Income		-		12,046
Small Regional Grants		1,824		-
Bank Interest Received		67		-
School Fees		5,310		8,649
HMRC - Employment allowance		1,481		2,386
Other income		558		187
		31,778		71,695
Administrative expenses				
Wages and salaries	36,737		56,398	
Milk, Consumables etc	1,322		1,199	
Gifts to Staff	200		-	
Training	155		225	
Staff pension costs	275		351	
Insurance	678		588	
Day Trips and Fun Days	-		698	
Toys	392		3,744	
Light and heat	305		840	
Cleaning/PPE	-		49	
Repairs and maintenance	9,216		296	
Printing, postage and stationery	415		312	
Advertising	-		756	
Telephone and fax	829		835	
Activities	961		1,500	
Legal and professional fees	949		1,989	
Accountancy and Payroll Costs	978		1,450	
Bank charges	328		389	
Sundry expenses	143		1,500	
Fundraising expenses	-		17	
Depreciation on freehold property	1,251		859	
Depreciation on FF & Equipment	4,043		4,986	
		(59,177)		(78,981)
Net (Deficit) Surplus		(27,399)		(7,286)

Little Acorns Community Playgroup

Balance sheet as at 31 August 2023

	Notes	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	2		15,176		20,470
Current assets					
Debtors	3	-		1,493	
Cash at bank and in hand		29,704		49,464	
		<u>29,704</u>		<u>50,957</u>	
Current liabilities (note)					
PAYE control account		427		25	
Accruals		1,134		684	
Capital Grant - new build		10,000		10,000	
		<u>11,561</u>		<u>10,709</u>	
Net current assets			<u>18,143</u>		<u>40,248</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u><u>33,319</u></u>		<u><u>60,718</u></u>
Capital account					
Brought forward at 1 September 2022			60,718		68,004
Net Surplus for the year			<u>(27,399)</u>		<u>(7,286)</u>
			<u><u>33,319</u></u>		<u><u>60,718</u></u>

We approve these accounts and confirm that we have made available all relevant records and information for their preparation.

Steven Campbell

Stephen Campbell
Chairperson

Date: 02/02/2024

Little Acorns Community Playgroup
Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 31 August 2023

1. Accounting policies

1.1. Accounting convention

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention modified when necessary to include the revaluation of certain fixed assets.

1.2. Sales

Sales represents the total invoice value, excluding value added tax, of sales made during the year.

1.3. Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation less residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Land and buildings	-	Straight Line over years
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	-	25% Straight Line

2. Tangible assets

	Land and buildings freehold	Equipment	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 September 2022	9,200	33,103	42,303
At 31 August 2023	9,200	33,103	42,303
Depreciation			
At 1 September 2022	859	20,974	21,833
Charge for the year	1,251	4,043	5,294
At 31 August 2023	2,110	25,017	27,127
Net book values			
At 31 August 2023	7,090	8,086	15,176
At 31 August 2022	8,341	12,129	20,470

3. Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade debtors	-	544
Prepayments and accrued income	-	949
	-	1,493

Little Acorns Community Playgroup

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106324

Accounts

Little Acorns Community Playgroup

Accounts

for the year ended 31 August 2022

Little Acorns Community Playgroup

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Little Acorns Community Playgroup

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees on the unaudited financial statements of Little Acorns

I report on the accounts of Little Acorns Playgroup for the year ended 31 August 2022 set out on pages 2 to 5.

Respective responsibilities of their and 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.

It is my responsibility to

- " examine the accounts under section 65 of the Act,
- " follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the Act, and
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Basis of independent examiner's statement

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 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 includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as their concerning any such matters.

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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 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.



Ethna Grimley
e a grimley & co

Chartered Accountants
30a Derrygally Rd
Dungannon
Co Tyrone
BT71 6LZ

30 June 2023

Little Acorns Community Playgroup

Income & Expenditure Account for the period ended 31 August 2022

	2022		2021	
	£	£	£	£
Fundraising		691		885
SELB Income		43,872		47,264
HSBC		3,750		4,300
SHSCT		114		1,260
Grant Income		12,046		49,700
School Fees		8,649		3,544
HMRC - Employment allowance		2,386		1,890
Other income		187		419
		71,695		109,262
Administrative expenses				
Wages and salaries	56,398		55,072	
Milk, Consumables etc	1,199		748	
Training	225		-	
Staff pension costs	351		249	
Insurance	588		472	
Day Trips and Fun Days	698		-	
Toys	3,744		5,238	
Light and heat	840		-	
Cleaning/PPE	49		135	
Repairs and maintenance	296		473	
Printing, postage and stationery	312		196	
Advertising	756		-	
Telephone and fax	835		785	
Activities	1,500		-	
Legal and professional fees	1,989		1,811	
Accountancy and Payroll Costs	1,450		1,837	
Bank charges	389		354	
Sundry expenses	1,500		600	
Fundraising expenses	17		-	
Depreciation on freehold property	859		-	
Depreciation on FF & Equipment	4,986		3,032	
		(78,981)		(71,002)
Operating (loss)/profit		(7,286)		38,260
Interest receivable				
Bank deposit interest	-		7	
		-		7
Net (Deficit) Surplus		(7,286)		38,267

Little Acorns Community Playgroup

**Balance sheet
as at 31 August 2022**

		2022		2021	
Notes	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	2		20,470		10,245
Current assets					
Debtors	3	1,493		1,531	
Cash at bank and in hand		49,464		73,149	
		<u>50,957</u>		<u>74,680</u>	
Current liabilities (note)					
Trade creditors		-		2,022	
PAYE control account		25		2,072	
Accruals		684		2,827	
Capital Grant - new build		10,000		10,000	
		<u>10,709</u>		<u>16,921</u>	
Net current assets			<u>40,248</u>		<u>57,759</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>60,718</u>		<u>68,004</u>
Capital account					
Brought forward at 1 September 2021			68,004		29,737
Net Surplus for the year			(7,286)		38,267
			<u>60,718</u>		<u>68,004</u>

We approve these accounts and confirm that we have made available all relevant records and information for their preparation.


S. Campbell (M) 30.7.2022 11:27 GMT+1

Stephen Campbell
Chairperson

Date: Jun 30, 2023

Little Acorns Community Playgroup
Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 31 August 2022

1. Accounting policies

1.1. Accounting convention

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention modified when necessary to include the revaluation of certain fixed assets.

1.2. Sales

Sales represents the total invoice value, excluding value added tax, of sales made during the year.

1.3. Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation less residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Land and buildings	-	Straight Line over years
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	-	25% Straight Line

2. Tangible assets

	Land and buildings freehold	Equipment	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 September 2021	-	26,233	26,233
Additions	9,200	6,870	16,070
At 31 August 2022	<u>9,200</u>	<u>33,103</u>	<u>42,303</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 September 2021	-	15,988	15,988
Charge for the year	859	4,986	5,845
At 31 August 2022	<u>859</u>	<u>20,974</u>	<u>21,833</u>
Net book values			
At 31 August 2022	<u>8,341</u>	<u>12,129</u>	<u>20,470</u>
At 31 August 2021	<u>-</u>	<u>10,245</u>	<u>10,245</u>

Little Acorns Community Playgroup
Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 31 August 2022

3. Debtors	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade debtors	544	-
Prepayments and accrued income	949	1,531
	<u>1,493</u>	<u>1,531</u>
	<u><u>1,493</u></u>	<u><u>1,531</u></u>

Little Acorns Community Playgroup

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106324

Annual report

Report of the trustees for the year ending 31 August 2022

The trustees are pleased to present their annual committee report together with the financial statements of the playgroup for the year ending 31 August 2022.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2008 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

Charity Number CCNI:106324. Charitable tax reference XR40150.

Our purposes and activities

Little Acorns Community Play Group is established to enhance the development and education of children by promoting play based facilities and learning environments for all children under statutory school age in the Killyman and surrounding area.

The Play Group operates without distinction of religion, culture, race or means by associating the statutory authorities, community and voluntary organisations and the inhabitants in a common effort to achieve our charitable purposes. We provide a play based curriculum for pre-school children as set by the Department of Education for Northern Ireland.

We are open 5 days a week and we are an equal opportunity group where all parents and their children are welcome.

In shaping our objectives for the year and planning our activities, the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance 'public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'. The Playgroup relies on grant income to cover its operating costs.

The direct benefits which flow from this purpose include: provision of play group facilities that provide educational and recreational facilities for pre-school children in and round Killyman to meet the needs of, and to improve children's education, development, health and wellbeing.

The direct benefits which flow from purpose include advancement of education for children under statutory school age in receiving a balanced educational curriculum. These benefits are demonstrated through feedback from parents, annual inspections from health care professionals within the registered Health Care Trust and regular inspections from educational professionals.

These benefits are demonstrated through feedback from beneficiaries, parents and play group leaders, and attendees at our events and activities using: evaluation forms, surveys, verbal feedback.

In providing a play based educational environment there is no possibility of harm outweighing the benefit - there is no harm arising from any of the purposes.

The charity's beneficiaries are children under statutory school age in the play group that live in the Killyman area and its surrounding areas in County Tyrone.

Little Acorns Playgroup

There is no private benefit to any individual - the only private benefit flowing from this purpose that it is incidental and is necessary for staff to receive on-going training in childcare. These benefits are necessary to ensure the highest quality of service benefits the beneficiaries.

Aims

The aims of the Playgroup is to enhance the development and education of children under statutory school age by encouraging parents/guardians to understand and provide for the needs of their children by:-

- Offering appropriate play facilities, with the right of parents/carers to take responsibility for and to become involved in the activities of the Group, ensuring that the Group offers opportunities for all children regardless of religion, culture, race or means.
- Encouraging the study of the needs of such children and their families and promoting public interest in and recognition of such needs of such children and their families in the local area.
- Support the values and principles of Early Years

Financial review

Reserves policy and going concern

Reserves are needed to bridge the gap between the spending and receiving of income and to cover unplanned emergency repairs and other expenditure. The trustees consider that the ideal level of reserves as at 31 August 2022 would be £20,000.

Without the support of our funders and continued fundraising efforts by staff and volunteers, it is doubtful that the Playgroup could continue operating. The trustees are endeavouring to ensure the success with a combination of measures including fundraisers and applications to funding bodies in an effort to secure staff posts and long-term sustainability of the charity.

The trustees have reviewed the circumstances of the Playgroup and consider that adequate resources continue to be available to fund the activities of the Playgroup for the foreseeable future. The trustees are of the view that Playgroup is an ongoing concern.

A major financial concern for the Playgroup as with any charity will be ongoing financial sustainability from funding in the years to come. The trustees are aware of the need to maintain free reserves, especially in the current economic climate. Continual fundraising will provide a challenging environment in the years to come.

We would like to acknowledge the continued support of our funders as referred to in note 4 in the accounts.

Reference and administrative details

Operating address: Little Acorns Playgroup_5 Tamnamore Rd, Dungannon, Co Tyrone
BT71 6RJ

Our advisers

Accountant E A Grimley & Co, 30a Derrygally Rd, Moy, Dungannon, Co Tyrone, BT71 6LZ
Bankers; First Trust Bank, Scotch Street, Dungannon, Co Tyrone, BT70 1JJ

Key management personnel Little Acorns Playgroup

Trustees

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Chair: **Mr Steven Campbell**

Mrs Rachel Irvine –	resigned February 2022
Mrs Caroline McMullan	resigned February 2022
Mrs Chloe Montague	resigned February 2022
Mrs Nichola Hughes	resigned February 2022
Mrs Colleen McVeigh	resigned February 2022
Mrs Tina Hughes	resigned February 2022
Rachael Lucas	resigned February 2023
Mrs Joan Lynas	resigned February 2022
Mrs Aishling Neill	resigned February 2022
Karen Campbell	resigned February 2022
Tracey Owens,	
Kathy Devlin	

Key management personnel:

Playgroup Leader	Patricia Shields	Appointed – 01/08/2022
	Tanya Burke	Resigned – 31/08/2022

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Little Acorns Playgroup is a Trust governed by a Trust DEED.

Appointment of trustees

As set out in the Trust Deed, the maximum Board members shall be a minimum of 3.

When considering co-opting trustees, the Board has regard to the requirement for any specialist skills needed.

The Trustees shall be entitled to invite members of the public to attend as observers at any Annual General Meeting or any other meeting of the Trustees.

Trustee induction and training

New trustees undergo an orientation session to brief them on: their legal obligations under charity law, the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit, and inform them of the content of the Trust Deed, the committee and decision-making processes, the business plan and recent financial performance of the charity.

Any person wishing to become a board member must apply in writing for approval by the Trustees. It is a requirement that the board members attend an induction process covering good governance. During the induction they meet key employees and other trustees. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events where these will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

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The board of trustees, which require a minimum of 3 Trustees, administers the charity. The charity is managed by the Trustee Board, which meets at least 6 times per year.

The Playgroup Leader liaises between meetings with the Chair and Treasurer to ensure the smooth running of the organisation.

Related parties and co-operation with other organisations

None of our trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work with the charity. Any connection between a trustee and senior manager of the charity with a funder must be disclosed to the full board of trustees in the same way as any other contractual relationship with a related party. In the current year no such related party transactions were reported.

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The trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises:

- an annual review of the principal risks and uncertainties that the charity
- the establishment of policies, systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified in the annual review; and
- the implementation of procedures designed to minimise or manage any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise.

This work has identified that financial sustainability is the major financial risk for the charity. A key element in the management of financial risk is a regular review of available liquid funds to settle debts as they fall due, regular liaison with the Playgroup Leader to ensure sufficient working capital by the Playgroup.

Attention has also been focussed on non-financial risks arising from fire, health and safety staff, volunteers and clients. These risks are managed by ensuring accreditation is up to date, having robust policies and procedures in place and regular awareness training for staff working in these operational areas.

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Statement as to disclosure to our Independent Examiner

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- there is no relevant information of which the charitable company's accountant is unaware, and
- the trustees, having made enquiries of fellow committee member have each taken all steps that he/she is obliged to take as a member in order to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the independent is aware of that information.

This report was approved by the board of trustees and signed on its behalf by



Steven Campbell

Dated: June 2023

Little Acorns Community Playgroup

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106324

Annual return

Little Acorns Community Playgroup

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees on the unaudited financial statements of Little Acorns

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Independent examiner's statement

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Ethna Grimley
e a grimley & co

Chartered Accountants
30a Derrygally Rd
Dungannon
Co Tyrone
BT71 6LZ

30 June 2023