

Little Acorns

Northern Ireland · Charity number 108558

Details

Known as	Little Acorns Cross-Community Pre-School
Status	Received
Registered	2022-02-16
Register	View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register

Contact

Address	Derryboy Primary School 20 Manse Road Crossgar BT30 9ly BT30 9LY
Phone	07983420650
Email	littleacornsplaygroup2019@gmail.com

Activities

Purposes: The Group is established to promote play based learning environments for all children aged 2 years and 10 months to statutory school age (hereinafter referred to as the beneficiaries of the Little Acorns Playgroup and its surrounding environs in County Down (hereinafter called the "area of benefit"0 without 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 parents/carers and other interested people in the community to take responsibility for and to become involved in the activities of the group; and to promote the preservation of health and well-being of the beneficiaries; b) To encourage parents/carers and staff to avail of training, to gain a wider knowledge of the development and social needs and behaviours of children so that they can tailor their care and education programme according to the unique needs of every child.

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
2025-03-31	£36,164	£41,093	£0	4

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Dr Judith Clare Harper		
Mr John Robert Andrew Fairbairn		
Mrs Clare Margaret Wilson		
Mrs Michelle Anabelle Margaret Mullan		

Little Acorns

Northern Ireland - Charity number 108558

Accounts

Charity Registration Number 108558

**LITTLE ACORNS CROSS COMMUNITY
PRESCHOOL GROUP**

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

EAMONN P McGRADY & CO

Chartered Accountants &

Registered Auditors

4-6 Market Lane

DOWNPATRICK

Co Down

BT30 6TH

Tel: 028 4461 4340

Email: eamonnmcgrady@yahoo.com

**LITTLE ACORNS CROSS COMMUNITY
PRESCHOOL GROUP**

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**LITTLE ACORNS CROSS COMMUNITY
PRESCHOOL GROUP**

INFORMATION

Accountants: Eamonn P McGrady & Co
Chartered Accountants &
Registered Auditors
4-6 Market Lane
DOWNPATRICK
Co Down
BT30 6TH

Address: 20 Manse Road
Crossgar
Co Down
BT30 9LY

Bankers: Danske Bank
49-51 Market Street
Downpatrick
Co Down
BT30 6LX

Trustee Board: Dr Judith Harper
Mrs Clare Wilson
Mr Robin Fairbairn
Mrs Michelle Mullan

**LITTLE ACORNS CROSS COMMUNITY
PRESCHOOL GROUP**

YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Little Acorns Cross Community Preschool Group.

Eamonn P McGrady & Co report on the accounts of the Little Acorns Cross Community Preschool Group for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

It is the responsibility of Eamonn P McGrady & Co to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 65(9) (b) of the Charities Act.
- state whether particular matters have come to our attention

Basis of independent examiner's statement

Eamonn P McGrady & Co have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and our examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission NI under section 65(9) (b) of the Charities Act.

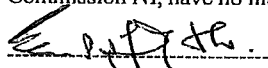
Our examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

The role of Eamonn P McGrady & Co is to state whether any material matters have come to our attention giving cause to believe:

- 1 That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 62 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 examiners statement

Eamonn P McGrady & Co have completed an 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 NI, have no matters that require to be drawn to your attention.


Eamonn P McGrady & Co
Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors
4-6 Market Lane
DOWNPATRICK
Co Down
BT30 6TH

20/03/26
Date

**LITTLE ACORNS CROSS COMMUNITY
PRESCHOOL GROUP**

**STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31st MARCH 2025**

	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
RECEIPTS				
Grants	12,500	-	12,500	5,255
Parents' Subscriptions	-	22,947	22,947	8,654
Fundraising	-	<u>717</u>	<u>717</u>	<u>711</u>
Total Receipts	<u>12,500</u>	<u>23,664</u>	<u>36,164</u>	<u>14,620</u>
PAYMENTS				
Wages	10,710	20,323	31,033	12,873
Toys & Equipment	1,460	538	1,998	481
Food	-	441	441	-
Insurance	-	325	325	-
Bank Charges	-	83	83	40
Gifts	-	162	162	-
Postage & Stationery	-	76	76	10
Professional Fees	-	1,764	1,764	-
Accountancy	-	450	450	626
Activities	-	-	-	41
Advertising	-	-	-	182
Purchase of Equipment	1,357	1,159	2,516	-
Membership	-	96	96	-
Subscriptions	-	362	362	-
Repairs & Maintenance	-	150	150	-
Uniforms	-	888	888	-
Donations	-	-	-	720
General Expenses	-	75	75	50
Training	<u>300</u>	<u>374</u>	<u>674</u>	-
Total Payments	<u>13,827</u>	<u>27,266</u>	<u>41,093</u>	<u>15,023</u>
Net receipts/(payments)	(1,327)	(3,602)	(4,929)	(403)
Funds at 1 st April 2024	-	9,304	9,304	9,707
Funds at 31st March 2025	<u>(1,327)</u>	<u>5,702</u>	<u>4,375</u>	<u>9,304</u>

APPROVAL NOTE

I approve these accounts and confirm that I have made available all relevant records and information relating to the income and expenditure of the business for the period ended 31st March 2025 and to the assets and liabilities of the business at that date.



Mrs Michelle Mullan
Trustee

20/01/26.
Date

Little Acorns

Northern Ireland - Charity number 108558

Accounts

**LITTLE ACORNS CROSS COMMUNITY
PRESCHOOL GROUP**

ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

EAMONN P McGRADY & CO

Chartered Accountants &

Registered Auditors

4-6 Market Lane

DOWNPATRICK

Co Down

BT30 6TH

Tel: 028 4461 4340

Email: eamonnmcgrady@yahoo.com

**LITTLE ACORNS CROSS COMMUNITY
PRESCHOOL GROUP**

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED
31st MARCH 2024**

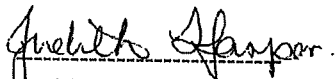
	Period Ended	
	31 March 2024	
INCOME	£	£
Grant Income:		
Early Years	<u>5,255</u>	5,255
Parents' Subscriptions		8,654
Fundraising		<u>711</u>
		14,620
EXPENDITURE		
Wages	12,873	
Toys & Equipment	481	
Bank Charges	40	
Postage & Stationery	10	
Accountancy	626	
Activities	41	
Advertising	182	
Donations	720	
General Expenses	<u>50</u>	
		<u>15,023</u>
DEFICIT FOR THE PERIOD		<u><u>(403)</u></u>

STATEMENT OF BALANCES

	£
Bank Account	<u>9,304</u>
REPRESENTED BY:	
Opening Reserves	9,707
Deficit	<u>(403)</u>
Closing Reserves	<u>9,304</u>

APPROVAL NOTE

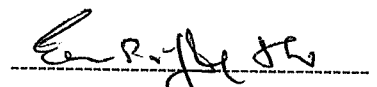
I approve these accounts and confirm that I have made available all relevant records and information relating to the income and expenditure of the business for the period ended 31st March 2024 and to the assets and liabilities of the business at that date.


Judith Harper
CHAIRPERSON

3/2/25.
DATE

ACCOUNTANTS REPORT

In accordance with instructions given to us we have prepared without carrying out an audit, the annexed accounts from the accounting records of Little Acorns Cross Community Preschool Group and from information and explanations supplied to us.


EAMONN P McGRADY & CO

3/2/25
DATE

EAMONN P McGRADY & CO
Chartered Accountants &
Registered Auditors
4-6 Market Lane
DOWNPATRICK
Co Down
BT30 6TH

Tel: 028 4461 4340
Email: eamonnmcgrady@yahoo.com

Little Acorns

Northern Ireland - Charity number 108558

Annual report

Little Acorns

Trustees' Annual Report and Statement of Receipts and Payments

For the Financial year ended 31st March 2024

Charity Number: 108558

Little Acorns

Trustees' Annual Report and Statement of Receipts and Payments

For the Financial year ended 31st March 2024

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Trustees' Report	3 – 5

Little Acorns

Reference and administrative details

Charity Name: Little Acorns

Charity Registration Number: 108558

Contact Address: 20 Manse Road
Crossgar
BT30 9LY

Trustees

The Management Committee/trustees consists of 5 members, made up as follows:

Chairperson: Dr Judith Harper

Treasurer: Mrs Michelle Mullan

Secretary: Mr Robin Fairbairn

Pastoral Care/Safeguarding: Mrs Clare Wilson

Parent Representative: Mrs Jennifer Geddis

All trustees have had regard to the Commission's Public benefit requirement statutory guidance.

At the Annual General Meeting the trustees can appoint one or more new trustees by way of nomination and vote.

Independent Examiner
Dr Stanley Gamble

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31st March 2024

The trustees present the annual report and statements of Receipts and Payments and Assets and Liabilities for Little Acorns for the year ended 31st March 2024.

Charitable purposes

Little Acorns Pre-School was established to promote a play-based learning environment for all children aged 2 years and 10 months to statutory school age without distinction. This happens by advancing the foundational education of pre-school aged children by providing a safe and satisfying group play, with the rights of parents/carers and other interested people in the community to take responsibility for and to become involved in the activities of the group. We encourage training among staff and parents to a wider knowledge of the development, social needs and behaviours of children. This enables the needs of every child to be met by a programme tailored to them individually.

Public benefits

The benefits include enhanced educational opportunities for children from 2:10 years until they are ready to start school. This enables them to develop socially, educationally, physically and morally in a nurturing and caring environment and facilitates a successful transition into a more formal primary school learning environment. These benefits are evidenced through adult observations, feedback from children themselves, feedback from parents/carers and independent evaluations by the South Eastern Health Trust. The most important benefit is that through this experience each child will personally develop and gain skills that enable them to cope and progress to the next stage of their growth and education.

What our organisation does

Little Acorns provides pre-school education to the children in an area of rural deprivation. The staff of the organisation provide educational experiences which allows children to grow in self-confidence, experience success, develop a good self-image, learn to play co-operatively and share with others, develop at their own rate through challenging, progressive play, communicate thoughts, ideas and feelings clearly to both adults and children, deepen and lengthen concentration through their natural spontaneous curiosity and interests, choose and explore a wide range of materials which allow them to express themselves appropriately and creatively, share in wonder and excitement created by books, stories, songs, rhymes, music and natural environment, appreciate and practice social skills and learning to care for others, and enjoy the satisfaction of work well done and share this with their parents.

Achievements

The children benefitted from a range of visitors, activities and trips over the year which enhanced their learning. These include a visit from: a District nurse, a caretaker, an interior designer, a local farmer and Police dogs. Our activities included: Mini-Groovers dance, Play bus, football coaching, Sport's day, Christmas fete, Pre-School Graduation, Pre-School joint Christmas concert with Derryboy Primary School. Trips included a visit to Forest School.

Going Concern

The trustees have reviewed the budgets for the year ahead and are satisfied that there are adequate funds in place to ensure that the Trust can continue its activities and the financial statements for the year ended to 31st October 2024 can be signed off as a going concern.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document and Constitution of the Charity

Little Acorns is governed by the Constitution and the fund is managed by the appointed trustees.

Pay and Remuneration

None of the trustees are in a paid capacity. They are all acting on a voluntary basis. There is no remuneration to report.

Organisational Structure

The trustees are responsible for the day to day management of Little Acorns. The Trust is chaired by Dr Judith Harper. The trustees are responsible for making decisions on matters of general concern and importance to the Trust including how funds are to be applied. The trustees meet at times fixed by the members. Special meetings may be convened at any time by the chairperson.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the statement of receipts and payments and statement of assets and liabilities in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities in Northern Ireland with income of less than £250,000 requires the trustees to prepare a statement of receipts and payments and a statement of assets and liabilities for each financial year.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Trust's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the assets and liabilities of the Trust. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed on Behalf of the Trustees

Trustee: *Judith Harper*

Date: 4/1/25

Trustee: *Mulle*

Date: 4/1/25

Little Acorns

Northern Ireland - Charity number 108558

Annual return

Independent Examiner's report to the charity trustees of Little Acorns Cross Community
Preschool Group

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31st March 2024.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and 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 Charities Act
- • follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- • 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. 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 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.



Name: Dr Stanley Gamble

Address: 11 Whiterock Road, Killinchy, Co Down, BT23 6PR

Date: 07.02.2025

Little Acorns

Northern Ireland - Charity number 108558

Accounts

**LITTLE ACORNS CROSS COMMUNITY
PRESCHOOL GROUP**

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST OCTOBER 2023

EAMONN P McGRADY & CO

Chartered Accountants &

Registered Auditors

21a Market Street

DOWNPATRICK

Co Down

BT30 6LP

Tel: 028 4461 4340

Fax: 028 4461 4408

APPROVAL NOTE

I approve these accounts and confirm that I have made available all relevant records and information relating to the income and expenditure of the business for the year ended 31st October 2023 and to the assets and liabilities of the business at that date.



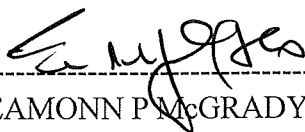
Judith Harper
CHAIRPERSON

25/01/24

DATE

ACCOUNTANTS REPORT

In accordance with instructions given to us we have prepared without carrying out an audit, the annexed accounts from the accounting records of Little Acorns Cross Community Preschool Group and from information and explanations supplied to us.



EAMONN P McGRADY & CO

25/1/24

DATE

EAMONN P McGRADY & CO

Chartered Accountants &
Registered Auditors
21a Market Street
DOWNPATRICK
Co Down
BT30 6LP

Tel: 028 4461 4340

Fax: 028 4461 4408

**LITTLE ACORNS CROSS COMMUNITY
PRESCHOOL GROUP**

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDING
31st OCTOBER 2023**

INCOME	Year Ended 31 October 2023	
	£	£
Grant Income:		
Early Years	<u>9,630</u>	9,630
Parents' Subscriptions		19,703
Uniforms		138
Fundraising		<u>481</u>
		29,952
 EXPENDITURE		
Wages	26,434	
Toys & Equipment	2,226	
Uniforms	1,389	
Subscriptions	180	
Repairs & Maintenance	999	
Bank Charges	95	
Postage & Stationery	45	
Accountancy	1,218	
Purchase of Equipment	2,714	
Insurance	1,181	
General Expenses	<u>173</u>	
		<u>36,654</u>
 DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR		 (<u>6,702</u>)

STATEMENT OF BALANCES

	£
Bank Account	<u>9,707</u>
 REPRESENTED BY:	
Opening Reserves	16,409
Deficit	(<u>6,702</u>)
Closing Reserves	<u>9,707</u>

Little Acorns

Northern Ireland - Charity number 108558

Annual report

Little Acorns

Trustees' Annual report and Statement of Receipts and Payments

For the financial year ended 31 October 2023

Charity Number: 108558

Little Acorns

Trustees' Annual Report and Statement of Receipts and Payments

For the financial year ended 31st October 2023

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Little Acorns

References and administrative details

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Charity Registration Number: 108558

Contact Address: 20 Manse Road
Crossgar
BT30 9LY

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Chairperson:	Dr Judith Harper
Treasurer:	Mrs Michelle Mullan
Secretary:	Mr Robin Fairbairn
Pastoral Care/Safeguarding:	Mrs Clare Wilson
Parent Representative:	Mrs Louise Neill

All trustees have had regard to the Commission's Public benefit requirement statutory guidance.

At the Annual General Meeting the trustees can appoint one or more new trustees by way of nomination and vote.

Independent Examiner

Dr Stanley Gamble

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31st October 2023

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What our organisation does

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included: Mini-Groovers dance, Play bus, Football coaching, Sport's Day, Christmas fete, Pre-School Graduation, Pre-school joint Christmas Concert with Derryboy Primary School. Trips included a visit to Forest School.

Going Concern

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Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document and Constitution of the Charity

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Pay and remuneration

None of the Trustees are in a paid capacity. They are all acting on a voluntary basis. There is no remuneration to report.

Organisational Structure

The Trustees are responsible for the day to day management of Little Acorns. The Trust is chaired by Dr Judith Harper. The Trustees are responsible for making decisions on matters of general concern and importance to the Trust including deciding how funds are to be applied. The Trustees meets at times fixed by the members. Special meetings may be convened at any time by the chairperson.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the statement of receipts and payments and statement of assets and liabilities in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities in Northern Ireland with Income of less than £250,000 requires the trustees to prepare a statement of receipts and payments and a statement of assets and liabilities for each financial year.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities (continued)

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Trust's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the assets and liabilities of the Trust. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed on Behalf of the Trustees

Trustee: M. Mullar Date: 30/1/24

Trustee: Clare Wilson Date: 30/1/24

Little Acorns

Northern Ireland - Charity number 108558

Annual return

Independent Examiner's report to the charity trustees of Little Acorns

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31st October 2023 which are set out on page 1.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

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
- 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
- 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) 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 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 as required by 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.

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

Name: DR STANLEY GAMBLE

Address: 11 WHITE ROCK ROAD, VILLINCHY, COUNTY DOWN

Date: 30TH JANUARY 2024

