

# Toybox Childrens Centre

Scotland · Charity number SC030007

## Details

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Status	Active
Legal form	Unincorporated association
Registered	2000-03-21
Register	<a href="#">View on the OSCR register</a>

## Contact

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Address	Toybox Gairloch Primary School Achtercairn Gairloch Highland IV21 2BP
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## Activities

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**Activities:** 'It carries out activities or services itself'

**Purposes:** 'the relief of those in need by reason of age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage'

**What the charity does:** We provide affordable childcare including to vulnerable and low income families through daily childcare services.

**Beneficiaries:** 'Children or young people'

**Objectives:** 2.1 to advance the education of children and to relieve the poverty of families in the Gairloch & District area, by the provision of good quality, affordable community run childcare services. 2.2 to provide, or assist in the provision of, facilities, in the interest of social welfare, for recreation or other leisure-time occupation in an effort to improve the conditions of life of the aforementioned. 2.3 to advance the education and training of persons providing such care, education, and recreational facilities.

## Geography

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- **Main operating location:** Highland
- **Geographical spread:** Wider, but within one local authority area

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£69,653	£71,306	-	4
2024-03-31	£52,938	£78,400	-	4
2023-03-31	£57,256	£64,960	-	4
2022-03-31	£69,675	£58,253	-	4
2021-03-31	£69,969	£53,075	-	4

**Toybox Childrens Centre**

Scotland - Charity number SC030007

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# Accounts

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# **Toybox Children's Centre**

Scottish Charity: SC030007

## **Trustees' Annual Report & Receipts & Payments Accounts**

**For the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

Simple Figures Ltd  
17 West Argyle Street  
Ullapool  
IV26 2TY

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT and RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2025**

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**TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2025**

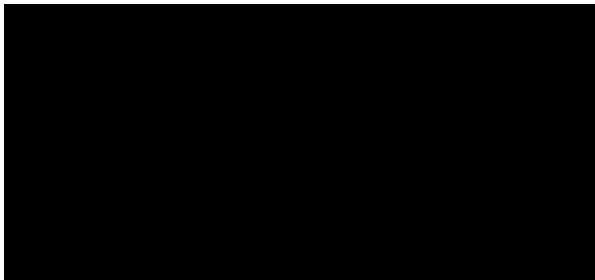
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The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025, along with the Independent Examiner's report.

The Toybox Children's Centre is a charity registered with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR), charity number SC030007.

**Trustees**

The Trustees who served during the year and were in office at the year-end of 31 March 2025 were;

**Structure, Governance and Management**

The Charity is governed by its constitution. Membership is open to parents and guardians living in Wester Ross. The management of the Charity is vested in the management committee, members of which are elected by the membership at the annual general meeting.

**Objectives and Activities**

The objectives of the charity are to provide high quality affordable childcare for families living in the Wester Ross area and opportunities to support the all-round development of pre-school and school age children attending the Centre.

**Achievements and Performance**

Over the past year, the Centre has continued to grow, providing childcare services to an increasing number of local families including a few funded 2 year olds and families who have moved to the area knowing we are the only childcare setting in a vast area on the west. Alongside this, we have ensured that staff receive the necessary training to meet Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) requirements and PVGS are underway for office bearers as required. The manager completed her BA in Childhood practice in June 2024 again in line with SSSC requirements.

Outdoor play has unfortunately been limited due to poor weather in summer 2024 continuing throughout the next 6 months. The school however agreed to let us use their gym hall for active play a day a week which has been very successful.

Throughout 2024-25, our enrolment numbers were more stable than in the previous year. During busy periods, additional staff were required to maintain the necessary ratios, while quieter times still required two staff members on duty to meet Care Inspectorate regulations. Despite having more children on the register however, there were a significant amount of absences due to prolonged respiratory infections which affected our income over several months. In addition poor weather and

electrical faults caused the Toybox to be closed for over two weeks between November 24 and January 25 which again impacted our income. This is the second year this has happened.

To improve staff planning, the committee has also updated the absence policy. A minimum of two weeks' notice is now required for absences, with charges applicable if notice isn't given. The committee also ensured staff wages are in line with the real living wage which is also a requirement of funders.

We managed to secure Community Regeneration Funding through Highland Council of £12,500 in order to help meet our shortfall in the year 2024 – 2025. In addition we applied for and were awarded £16,000 from the National Lottery Awards for All fund. This however is ringfenced to be used between April 2025 and March 2027 despite being paid to us in February 2025. We are very grateful to both the Highland Council and the National Lottery for their support.

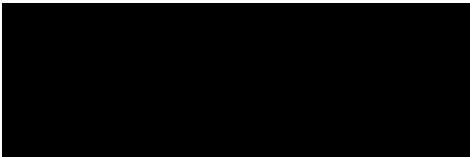
It seems unlikely that the Scottish Government will fulfil its commitment to providing funded care for all 2-year-olds at this time. Despite this, Toybox is well-positioned should the situation change, thanks to our strong Care Inspectorate ratings of 4s and 5s.

#### **Statement of Risk**

Management believes that we are well-positioned to manage risks effectively. Toybox maintains a minimum of £15,000 in working capital, equivalent to over three months of operational expenses. We also hold a redundancy fund of £26,000 which is adequate for the current staff members

The management committee believes that the charity has sufficient unrestricted reserves to sustain its operations for the foreseeable future.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the Chairperson.

Chairperson

Date - 05 / 09 / 2025

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2025**

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I report on the accounts of Toybox Children's Centre (SC030007) for the year ended 31 March 2025 which are set out on pages 6-9.

**Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Examiner**

The charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 as amended in 2010. The charity Trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement**

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented in those records. It also includes the consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeks explanations from the Trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

**Independent Examiner's Statement**

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

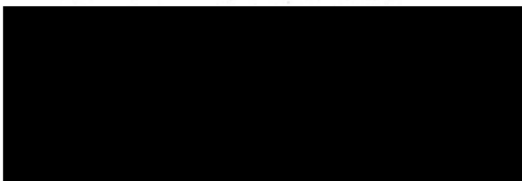
1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

have not been met, or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Dated: 21<sup>st</sup> August, 2025



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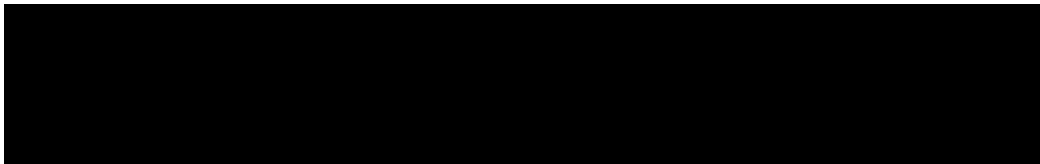
**STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2025**

	Notes	2025 Unrestricted £	2025 Restricted £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
<b><u>INCOME</u></b>					
Fees	1	51,222	-	51,222	38,053
Fundraising		-	-	-	-
Donations		-	-	-	-
Other Income	2	2601	-	2601	1,929
Bank Interest Received		439	-	439	-
Grants Received	3	15,391	16,000	31,391	12,956
<b>Total</b>		<b>69,653</b>	<b>16,000</b>	<b>85,653</b>	<b>52,938</b>
<b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>					
Wages	4	60,328	-	60,328	43,904
Pension Contributions		3,411	-	3,411	27,679
Food		852	-	852	940
Cleaning & Disposables		505	-	505	270
Art, Toys & Equipment	5	1,438	-	1,438	1,205
Post & Stationery		126	-	126	50
Travel Expenses		-	-	-	-
Repairs & Maintenance		-	-	-	89
Light & Heat	6	-	-	-	-
Telephone		988	-	988	978
Rates & Insurance		658	-	658	632
Rent	7	2,000	-	2,000	1,525
Miscellaneous Costs		268	-	268	169
Legal & Professional		385	-	385	460
Subscptns & Licenses		347	-	347	282
Bank Charges		-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>71,306</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>71,306</b>	<b>78,400</b>
<b>Surplus/(deficit) for the year</b>				<b>14,347</b>	<b>(25,462)</b>

**STATEMENT OF BALANCES**  
As at 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
<b>Bank and cash in hand</b>				
Opening balances	8, 9	44,292	-	44,292
Net movement in funds		(1,653)	16,000	14,347
<b>Closing balances</b>		<b>42,639</b>	<b>16,000</b>	<b>58,639</b>
		<b>Fund</b>		<b>£</b>
<b>Assets</b>				
Debtors (fees receivable)		Unrestricted		3,161
<b>Total assets</b>				<b>3,161</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>				
HMRC (PAYE and NI)		Unrestricted		1,019
<b>Total liabilities</b>				<b>1,019</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	10			<b>2,142</b>

These accounts were approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by;



Date - 05 / 09 / 2025

Date -05 / 09 / 2025

**1. Fees**

Fee income increased by 5% in line with staff wage rises. Numbers fluctuate from year to year, reflecting the varying demand for places. Charges continued to be applied for absences without sufficient notice, and the stricter enforcement of this policy has supported fee income during the year. Children under 2 are charged a higher rate due to the lower staff-to-child ratios required by the Care Inspectorate (1:3 for under 2s, 1:5 for age 2, and 1:8 for over 3s). These ratios mean that overall capacity is constrained by the number of younger children in attendance.

**2. Other Income**

Other income from SDS (Self-Directed Support) was due to one of our staff members supporting a young person with ASN during the year, with the staff payment being reimbursed by Highland Council.

**3. Grants Received**

	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£</b>
Highland Council Community Regeneration Funding	12,500
North Highland Initiative	1,779
Highland Council (snacks)	595
Celtman	183
Scottish Government (snack and milk)	334
National Lottery	16,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>31,391</b>

The National Lottery funding of £16,000 received in 2024/25 is restricted for use in financial years 2025/26 and 2026/27. Accordingly, the full amount remains unspent and is carried forward as restricted funds.

**4. Wages**

Wages increased during the year in line with the Real Living Wage. In addition, the higher number of children under 2 years old attending required a lower staff-to-child ratio, leading to an increase in staffing levels to meet Care Inspectorate requirements.

**5. Art, Toys and Equipment**

The grant from the North Highland Initiative enabled purchases of new foam matting for the playroom floor to prevent minor injuries from falls.

**6. Light and Heat**

Light and Heat expenses are now included in the quarterly rent bill.

**7. Rent**

Rent of £500 per quarter is paid to the school since the move to the new premises and includes light and heat costs (see above).

## **8. Opening balances**

Comprise Current Account £19,292 and High Interest Savings Account £25,000.

## **9. Redundancy Fund (in Deposit account)**

During 2023/24, the Trustees transferred £25,000 into a high interest deposit account and designated it as a redundancy reserve. In the 2023/24 accounts, this transfer was included within "Pension Contributions" expenditure. In line with OSCR Receipts and Payments Guidance and general accounting practice, transfers between the charity's own bank accounts should not be recorded as expenditure.

Accordingly, in the 2024/25 accounts the redundancy reserve is presented as part of the Statement of Balances. At 31 March 2025, the deposit account held £25,439 (the original £25,000 plus interest earned relating to the 2023/24 financial year and received during 2024/25) which the Trustees have ring-fenced for potential redundancy costs.

## **10. Assets**

There is no specific asset register held, however there is an insurance policy to cover assets up to £15,000 (toys, play equipment etc) in the event of any loss or damage.