

Seamer Pre-School

(Charity number: 1022284)

Trustees annual report & financial statements

for the year ended

31st August 2024

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Charity accounts preparation &
independent examination service

Seamer Pre-School

(Charity number: 1022284)

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Trustees' Annual Report

From: 1st September 2023

To: 31st August 2024

Charity's full name Seamer Pre-School

Registered Charity number 1022284

Objectives and activities

Summary of the purposes of the charity set out in its governing document

The charity is governed by the Pre-school Learning Alliance model constitution 2011 adopted on 12th January 2012.

The charity's main objects, as set out in the constitution are:

To enhance the development and education of children primarily under statutory school age by encouraging parents to understand and provide for the needs of their children through community groups and by:

- 1) Offering appropriate play, education and care facilities, family learning and extended hours groups, together with the right of parents to take responsibility for and to become involved in the activities of such groups, ensuring that such groups offer opportunities for all children whatever their race, culture, religion, means or ability.
- 2) Encouraging the study of the needs of such children and their families and promoting public interest in and recognition of such needs in the local areas.
- 3) Instigating and adhering to and furthering the aims and objectives of the Pre-school Learning Alliance. The trustees' policy is to ensure the highest level of childcare, development and education is attained in the pre-primary school years and to ensure that the charity's objectives are met. The charity employs 13 staff members who are supported by some parents and volunteers.

All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits.

Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts

In planning activities trustees have kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. The charity has continued to attain its charitable objectives during the year (as listed above). Each of the 10 sessions per week offered by the charity, continued to run at maximum capacity, offered to families from the local community, whilst still maintaining an above average ratio of staff to children. There has been a substantial take up by parents of the funded hours. The trustees consider that the charitable fundraising events undertaken by the charity have been relatively successful and supported by the community. These events have enabled the children to purchase a limited number of new items of equipment, all being for the benefit of the children attending the setting.

The trustees consider that they have complied with their duties to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.

The year was once again extremely busy and we welcomed many new families to the setting. 57 children were listed on our registers with very few spaces available.

The wide age range of the children attending Pre-school quite often makes it a challenging place to work. However the staff work tirelessly to support every child who attends to achieve their full potential, fostering creativity and curiosity in a fun filled and loving way.

The children have enjoyed library visits, with the local Lions group supporting the transport arrangements. We have hosted gym sessions, as an attempt to increase the children's physical fitness throughout the year. Music always plays a big part at Pre-school and we have been supported by a local musician delivering engaging sessions on a regular basis. This year we have also looked at supporting the emotional regulation of all children and staff and have offered Mindfulness sessions with a qualified tutor. This was a huge success in giving the children the tools to support their emotional development.

Parents have been offered stay and play sessions throughout the year, which were very popular and gave them an important insight to the work that we do.

Speech and Language continues to be an area of children's development which needs to be a focus of our efforts. Children receive regular interventions and reviews.

Staff continue to use Talk Boost sessions to support the children and a number of staff now deliver this regularly at Pre-school

We continue to use a closed WhatsApp group to communicate with parents and Tapestry is used to document the children's achievements. We feel this has gone well and have good relations with parents.

We have had several events that the children have enjoyed. These include Christmas performances for parents, an Easter Egg hunt around the village, a Spring Farm trip to a local attraction, a summer trip to our local beach along with transition visits to primary schools.

Staff recruitment and retention continues to cause us problems typical of the national trend. We had a member of staff (Mandy) go off on long term sick, (she took the decision to leave us at the end of the year) with two other staff (Danni and Maya) also leaving us to pursue changes of career. We welcomed back with open arms (Michelle) a qualified level 3 member of staff who had left us a number of years previously, along with another young lady, Nicola (also level 3 trained) who had newly moved into the area. We ended the year being a member of staff down. We do however always try to work above the ratios recommended within each age group, this provides the children the very best opportunities to achieve their full potential. This remains the case still.

Despite these changes staff continued to undertake further training with Jess becoming our newly qualified SENCO, whilst Michelle and Kadie 'got moving' on a course promoting children's physicality and Sam undertook Autism training.

We are deeply grateful to our dedicated staff and committee members along with supportive parents and the involvement of the local community who help us to continue to offer outstanding provision to all the children in our care.

Financial review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period

The principal source of funding of Pre-school is rapidly becoming the receipt of Universal and Extended funding of the attending 3 and 4 year olds along with some 2 year funding. This has a big impact on our finances.

Parental fees continue to be an important source of income along with fundraising.

There was a notable decrease in our income this year due mainly to the increased uptake of funded places and the much lower rate per hour we receive for each child, compared to the hourly rates we charge.

There is huge pressure to fill spaces at the beginning of the academic year to cover our costs but also the need to retain staff in light of the difficulties we are all having with recruitment, whilst wanting to offer the best service we possibly can. The change to the ratios of staff to 2 year olds has not been helpful as I would defy anyone's ability to positively impact 5 2 year olds! It would be prudent however to keep reviewing this.

Staffing costs have continued to rise at a fast pace with the annual increase to the Living Wage having a big impact on our finances. A review of our charges will be essential going forwards.

We are deeply grateful to our dedicated staff and committee members along with supportive parents and the involvement of the local community who help us to continue to offer outstanding provision to all the children in our care.

Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held

Reserves are held by the charity and these would equate to 3 months average running costs the group would ordinarily incur. This is important in the eventuality that it no longer remains viable for the group to remain operational and would be forced to close.

Amount of reserves held

£36,985

Reasons for holding zero reserves

N/A

Funds materially in deficit

None

Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern

Whilst government funding has fallen seriously short over recent years, the trustees are hopeful that this cannot remain the case indefinitely. The group maintains a healthy waiting list and there is no shortage of children to attend.

Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document	Pre School constitution
How the charity is constituted	Unincorporated association

Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees

The charity's committee shall consist of 3 officers, not more than 9 elected members and if the committee so decides not more than 3 co-opted members. All trustees resign and new trustees are appointed annually at the AGM.

Reference and administration details

Charity's full name Seamer Pre-school
Charity's principal address 64 Pasture Lane
 Seamer, Scarborough
 North Yorkshire, YO12 4QR

Names of the trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
Mrs Rebecca Penfold	Chair		
Mrs Virginia Wilkinson	Treasurer		
Mrs Samantha Hammond	Secretary		
Mrs Katie Doherty			
Mrs Gemma Fail			
Ms Michaela Braidley		Resigned 2024	

Names and addresses of advisers

Type of adviser	Name	Address
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Independent Examiner Karen Wood ACMA Outsource Accountancy Services and Independent Examinations
 2 Galligap Lane
 Osbaldwick, York
 YO10 3NR

Bankers Lloyds Bank

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members

Mrs Virginia Wilkinson

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees Annual Report and Accounts

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature 

Full Name Rebecca Penfold
Position Chair
Date 8/5/25

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Seamer Pre-School

I report on the accounts of: **Seamer Pre-School (the Charity)**
for the year ended: **31st August 2024** which are set out on pages 5 to 7.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Karen Wood (ACMA)
Outsource independent examination
service
2 Galligap Lane
Osbalwick
York YO10 3NR

10/06/2025

Date:

Seamer Pre-School
(Charity number: 1022284)

Receipts & payments accounts for the year ended:			31st August 2024	
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2024 Total funds	2023 Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Fees income	24,119	-	24,119	48,044
NYCC funding	159,966	-	159,966	144,195
Donations & fundraising	3,483	-	3,483	1,782
Total receipts	187,568	-	187,568	194,021
Payments				
Salaries & wage costs	168,277	-	168,277	152,937
Staff expenses, training & recruitment	544	-	544	1,666
Play materials, activities & equipment	2,986	-	2,986	1,829
Milk & refreshments	722	-	722	719
Rent & rates	8,993	-	8,993	9,500
Insurance costs	1,342	-	1,342	1,331
Affiliations, subscriptions & DBS	1,446	-	1,446	848
Telephone & internet	1,102	-	1,102	1,054
Printing, postage & stationery	772	-	772	1,522
Payroll, finance & administration	881	-	881	960
Fundraising costs	-	-	-	100
Publicity & website	135	-	135	(33)
Cleaning, repairs & maintenance	3,089	-	3,089	3,739
Purchase of uniforms	266	-	266	226
Independent examination	350	-	350	300
Bank charges	85	-	85	84
Total payments	190,990	-	190,990	176,782
Net of receipts/(payments)	(3,422)	-	(3,422)	17,239
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
Balance brought forward	40,408	-	40,408	23,169
Balance carried forward	36,986	-	36,986	40,408

Seamer Pre-School
(Charity number: 1022284)

Statement of assets and liabilities at:	31st August 2024
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	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2024 Total funds	2023 Total funds
Assets	£	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand				
Current bank account	21,360	-	21,360	24,751
Fundraising bank account	15,621	-	15,621	15,621
Petty cash	5	-	5	36
	<u>36,986</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>36,986</u>	<u>40,408</u>

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2024 Total Funds	2023 Total Funds
Liabilities	£	£	£	£
Independent examination fee	350	-	350	350
	<u>350</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>350</u>	<u>350</u>

Seamer Pre-School
(Charity number: 1022284)

Notes to the accounts for the year ended:	31st August 2024
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1. Basis of accounts

The Trustees have taken advantage of section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 and prepared the accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

Approval of accounts for the year ended:	31st August 2024
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The report and accounts were approved at a meeting of the Trustees held on:

8/5/25

Date

[Handwritten Signature]

Signed for and on behalf of the trustees

8/5/25

Date

REBECCA PENFOLD

Print name

CHAIR

Position (e.g. Chair etc)