

NOAH'S ARK NURSERY GROUP

REGISTERED CHARITY : 1022584

TRUSTEES REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

NOAH'S ARK NURSERY GROUP

Legal and administrative information

Trustees:

Chair:	Claire Wilson
Treasurer:	Kate Verhaag
Secretary:	Laura Richardson - to 7 March 2025
	Sophy Moynagh
	Fleur Robinson
	Georgia Timmis
	Christine Tulley

Registered Address:

Village Hall, Nayland Road, Bures, CO8 5BX

Bankers:

Lloyds Bank plc, 27 High Street, Colchester CO1 1DU

NOAH'S ARK NURSERY GROUP

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 July 2024

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements of the Nursery for the year ended 31 July 2024. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act 2011 based on an income and expenses report.

Objectives

The mission statement of Noah's Ark Nursery is 'To provide a high-quality playgroup that is affordable and accessible to all'. It has been at the heart of Bures village life since January 1971 and is led by a Voluntary Committee. They aim to prepare children for future learning by supporting them in building a firm foundation through productive play-based activities.

Structure, Governance and Management

Noah's Ark Nursery Group is run by a voluntary committee of between 5-12 people and operates under the Pre-School Learning Alliance 2011 Constitution.

The Trustees meet 2-4 times a year with a bookkeeper responsible for dealing with monthly reports and payroll matters, including tax, national insurance and all auto enrolment pensions contribution records and payments.

The manager, Leanne, assisted by her deputy manager, Chloe, deals with liaising with prospective parents, managing income and all staff matters.

The Nursery operates in Bures Village hall, during Suffolk school term time and provides a daytime early years nursery, as well as an after school club for children from the local primary school.

After the success of the Holiday Club in 2023, it was brought back for 6 days in the summer of 2024. The Holiday Club will run again in the summer of 2025 along with 3 days in the Easter school holiday.

Community

The team at Noah's Ark have carried out some brilliant fundraising again this year, from Halloween messy play to raffles and running an Arts & Crafts stall at the Bures Music Festival. Through this and donations they have managed to raise £1,641.

Achievements and Performance

The team at Noah's Ark have worked incredibly hard this last year through fundraising, training and continuing the Holiday Club provision.

NOAH'S ARK NURSERY GROUP

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 July 2024 (continued)

Financial review

The incoming fees, donations and interest amounted to £167,092 (2023: £161,940), nursery running expenses amounted to £140,811 (2023: £128,852) with a surplus incoming of £26,281 (2023: surplus £33,088).

These figures include interest received on bank balances of £326 (2023: £114).

The balance on accumulated funds at the year end amounted to £109,501 (2023: £83,220).

Risk management

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Nursery is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the Nursery, and are satisfied that there are systems in place to mitigate exposure to those risks.

Reserves policy

The unrestricted funds represent the funds arising from past charitable activities, running the Nursery and considering liabilities which fall due after the accounting year end and in planning for the following academic year.

Consideration of the general reserves are held to cover necessary Nursery running costs, which, for the last two years, have been running in excess of £120,500 per annum. Happily, the funds have been rebuilt since the excess of expenses over income in 2021. There has been sensible provision for the expected running costs in the future, so funds are considered healthy. However, the team cannot be complacent and need to continue to monitor the position closely.

The management of the Nursery requires close planning to ensure that the fees charged together with Early Years Funding adequately covers the staffing costs whilst bearing in mind all payroll legislation on employment costs.

Within their planning the Trustees are aware of their responsibilities and have acted in reference to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

The Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

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

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Committee to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Committee is 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 accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- 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 accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees on 26 March 2025 and signed on their behalf:

Claire Wilson - Chair

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of

NOAH'S ARK NURSERY GROUP

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Noah's Ark Nursery Group for the year ended 31 July 2024.

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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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.

L C Tippett ACA

Chartered Accountant

121 Colchester Road
West Bergholt
Colchester
CO6 3JX
26 March 2025

NOAH'S ARK NURSERY GROUP
RECEIPTS and PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
for the YEAR ENDED 31st July 2024

	2024		2023	
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Fees	53,434		65,922	
EYDP grants	108,186		90,924	
Holiday Club	3,505		-	
Fundraising and donations	1,641		4,980	
Interest received	326		114	
Total receipts		167,092		161,940
Payments				
Rent	13,410		15,346	
Wages and staff cover	113,618		101,259	
Training courses and travelling expenses	1,115		823	
Insurance, PLA membership and inspections	1,323		1,003	
Outings and entertainment	956		572	
Toys and equipment	2,708		2,598	
Craft	783		494	
Clothing	175		306	
Milk and refreshments	1,724		2,095	
Repairs and renewals	621		14	
Cleaning and first aid	411		445	
Telephone	324		337	
Office expenses	1,143		676	
Tapestry and Nursery in a box	1,793		1,878	
Bookkeeping and accountancy	250		-	
Advertising and publications	76		359	
Fundraising expenses	260		647	
Holiday Club	121		-	
Total Payments		140,811		128,852
Net receipts / (payments)		26,281		33,088
Bank and cash balances brought forward		83,220		50,132
Bank and cash balances carried forward		109,501		83,220

NOAH'S ARK NURSERY GROUP
Statement of Assets and Liabilities
as at 31st July 2024

	2024		2023	
	£	£	£	£
Bank balances				
Bank current account	82,930		56,977	
Bank deposit account	26,546		26,220	
Petty cash	25		23	
	_____		_____	
Total reserves		<u>109,501</u>		<u>83,220</u>

for and on behalf of the Committee:

Claire Wilson - Chair

Kate Verhaag - Treasurer

Date 26 March 2025

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