



## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1 September 2024

To 31 August 2025

Charity name: **MONTACUTE PRESCHOOL**

Charity registration number: **1024088**

### Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	To enhance the development and education of children under statutory school age by offering appropriate play, education and care facilities.
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.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	Montacute Preschool offers 8 mixed age sessions across 5 mornings and 3 afternoons for 38 weeks of the year. Parents are able to access Early Years Entitlement. Children are given access to a variety of learning opportunities and experiences supported by staff and external professionals where appropriate. Staff also encourage, advise and support parents as required or requested.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The trustees of Montacute Preschool have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	Montacute Preschool is run and supported by volunteers and is grateful to the parents who give up their time to manage the preschool, assist in sessions and support fundraising activities and events.

## Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
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.	Para 1.20	<p>The annual Nativity and Sports Day, as well as parents/staff being sponsored for running the Weymouth and Yeovil half marathons, all raised grateful funds for the preschool. The children walked around the village with their teddies on our 'Teddy Toddle' which also raised much needed funds.</p> <p>Village events also raised extra funds as well as promoting our preschool in the village.</p> <p>The staff and trustees work hard to run these fundraising events to raise funds for the preschool for the benefit of the children, by way of additional resources and equipment.</p> <p>Our outdoor area was refurbished with bark underfoot and new resources for play, with the funds raised during the year.</p>

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

## Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Expenditure exceeded income in this financial year. Funds were withdrawn from the deposit account.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Montacute Preschool has a reserves policy. The aim is to hold sufficient reserves to allow for late payment of government funding and fluctuating numbers of children. Reserves will also meet the requirement to fund redundancy payments should the need arise.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£22,000
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	None to report
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	Montacute Preschool's primary sources of funding are from Early Years Entitlement and from parent paid fees. Secondary sources are from fundraising, donations and grants. Primary expenditure is staff wages and training.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	The principal risk of the charity is rising cost of wages (increases in National Minimum Wage each year) and insufficient funding received from the Local Authority.
Other		

## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Preschool Learning Alliance Preschool Constitution 2011
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Montacute Preschool is an Unincorporated charity and run by a committee of which a minimum of 60% must be Family Members. The remainder may be affiliated.
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	Para 1.25	Trustees are selected by election of members of the Preschool. Officers and Committee members are elected for one year at the Annual General Meeting.

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	DBS checks are carried out on all staff, bank staff and trustees. There is a Safeguarding Children policy in place. Trustees are encouraged to attend training provided by the Somerset Council Curriculum and Literacy Team.
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	The charity is a Preschool and is regulated by Ofsted. Montacute Preschool was judged by Ofsted as 'GOOD WITH OUTSTANDING FEATURES' in March 2022. The preschool adheres to strict guidelines as laid out by Ofsted and delivers the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) statutory framework.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	Montacute Preschool receives support and advice from the Early Years Alliance and from the local Early Years team, when needed.
Other		Montacute Preschool also works closely with the local community.

### Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Montacute Preschool
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1024088
Charity's principal address	Baptist Chapel School Rooms South Street MONTACUTE Somerset TA15 6XD

**Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity**

	<b>Trustee name</b>	<b>Office (if any)</b>	<b>Dates acted if not for whole year</b>	<b>Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)</b>
1	Lorraine Johnson	Chairperson		
2	Harriet Blackburn	Secretary		
3	Karen Rivers	Treasurer		
4	Harriet Raeburn			
5	Melanie Wilkins			
6	Keeley Salter			
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**Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved**

<b>Director name</b>		

**Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity**

<b>Trustee name</b>	<b>Dates acted if not for whole year</b>	

## Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

### Additional information (optional)

#### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
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#### Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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## Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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## Other optional information

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## Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

<b>Signature(s)</b>	L Johnson	H Blackburn
<b>Full name(s)</b>	Lorraine Johnson	Harriet Blackburn
<b>Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)</b>	Chair	Secretary
<b>Date</b>	9 October 2025	

# MONTACUTE PRE-SCHOOL

Registered Charity No. 1024088

## Receipts and Payments Account as at 31 August

	2025			2024		
Receipts	£	£	£	£	£	£
Opening Bank Balances						
Current Account		23987.11			7389.44	
Deposit Account		<u>28963.88</u>			<u>28523.87</u>	
			52950.99			35913.31
Fees Received:						
Parents	8332.75			12776.70		
SCC	<u>86136.22</u>			<u>77450.00</u>		
		94468.97			90226.70	
Fundraising		4096.53			4923.82	
Consumables Fee		10382.00			6773.10	
Milk Refund		197.96			218.85	
Other		<u>0.00</u>			<u>10000.00</u>	
			109145.46			112142.47
Deposit Account Interest			799.98			440.01
			<u><u>162896.43</u></u>			<u><u>148495.79</u></u>
Payments		£	£		£	£
Wages		102706.99			80192.22	
Hall Rent		5226.76			5304.39	
Milk		202.48			218.85	
Telephone		1001.86			909.61	
Fundraising		5831.28			1968.57	
Consumables		4795.66			5179.25	
Insurance/Membership		1163.86			875.02	
Course Fees		1650.00			570.00	
Other		<u>114.37</u>			<u>326.89</u>	
			122693.26			95544.80
Closing Bank Balances						
Current Account		1939.31			23987.11	
Deposit Account		<u>38263.86</u>			<u>28963.88</u>	
			40203.17			52950.99
			<u><u>162896.43</u></u>			<u><u>148495.79</u></u>

## **MONTACUTE PRE-SCHOOL**

**Charity Number : 1024088**

### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF MONTACUTE PRE-SCHOOL**

**For the Year ended 31st August 2025**

I report on the accounts of the Pre-School for the year ended 31st August 2025.

#### **Respective responsibilities of the trustees and the examiner**

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of financial statements, and consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts under section 43(3)(a) of the act, follow the procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43(7)(b) of the act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

I conducted my examination in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes, a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and comparison of the accounts with these records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking 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 these accounts.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with 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 41 of the 1933 Act and to prepare accounts which accord with these records, have not been met.
- 2, to which in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



**E. C. CHANT**  
**Accountant**

**18th November 2025**

**The Old Coach House**  
**East Coker**  
**Yeovil**  
**Somerset**