

Meadowlands Pre-School

Reg. Charity No. 1024742

Annual Chair of Trustees Report 2022/23

Aims;

The aims of the pre-school 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 :

- (a) 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, means or ability;
- (b) 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;
- (c) Instigating and adhering to and furthering such aims and objects of the Pre-school Learning Alliance.

This last year has been a challenging year to say the least. We have been hit very hard by the cost of living crisis, with a significant increase in our energy costs and the continuing rise in food prices for the snacks we provide for our children. We have had a very small increase in the funding for each child, which comes nowhere near to the rise in inflation, and the increase in the minimum wage nationally has inevitably lead to us making a loss this year.

Once again, our fantastic staff have rolled up their sleeves, and got on with the business of looking after our children, and preparing them for the move up to “big school”.

There have been a few staff changes lately, one of our inclusion workers left at the beginning of June and another of our inclusion workers will be leaving us at the end of the month, and we have another member leaving at the end of term. Our only lunch staff member will be leaving at the end of July also. The two co-managers will be covering the lunch period from September on a trial basis, this will relieve us of taking recruiting more lunch staff at this time, so minimising the risk of having to let them go later down the line if our finances do not improve. This situation will be monitored until the October half term, when a decision will be made as to how to proceed from then on.

Our fundraising got off to a good start, with the Halloween disco proving to be a resounding success and my thanks go out to all of the parents who got involved with the organisation of the event. The children will be going out to visit Church Farm later this month, and some parents/carers will be accompanying our staff for the visit.

Last year we received a donation of £16k from a setting that had closed down, the money is being spent on facilities for the children, as stipulated in the donation, and we are currently in the process of costing new flooring throughout the building and also new tables. We have just bought a new climbing frame and that is now being used by the children in the garden area.

In my report last year I informed you all of the inspection we had from OFSTED, and we were awaiting their report. I am pleased to say that we were awarded the status of a GOOD PROVIDER. This goes to prove how good our staff are, in fact, the inspector said that she would have no problem sending her own children to our setting. High praise indeed. Well done to you all, and a big “THANKYOU” from myself and the other trustees.

At the time of writing the future is not clear as to how our costs can be brought down, we need a big uplift in the amount of funding we receive per child from central government. Last year I was writing about how we would be taking on extra staff, sadly we are now seeing staff leave. September will bring a full intake.

After a lot of heart searching, I have decided the time is now approaching when I will step down as Chair, and I would like that to be in the spring of next

year, I will however stay on until a new Chair has been appointed. I have enjoyed my time with the wonderful staff at Meadowlands pre-school, and thank each and everyone of you for your loyalty, work ethic and dedication to the setting. Once again I thank you all from the bottom of my heart for all of your unselfish efforts during the last 12 months.

Steve Hunter (Chair)

June 2023.

Meadowlands Pre-School
Registered Charity Number 1024742
Accounts for the Period Ended
31 August 2022

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Meadowlands Pre-School
Registered Charity Number 1024742

Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts

Report to the trustees of Meadowlands Pre-School on the accounts for the period ended 31st August 2022 set out on pages 2 and 3

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this period under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is our responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

Our examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those 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 we do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- 1 - which gives us reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the trustees have not met the requirements to ensure that:
 - proper accounting records are kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and
 - accounts are prepared which agree with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act; or
- 2 - to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Lounds & Co Chartered Accountants
01/06/2023

367 Chester Road
Little Sutton
Ellesmere Port
Cheshire
CH66 3RQ

Meadowlands Pre-School
Registered Charity Number 1024742
Income and Expenditure Account
Period Ended 31 August 2022

	2022	2021
	£	£
Sales		
Funding	126,276	129,397
Fees	11,574	2,532
Inclusion	6,768	19,321
Fundraising	16,551	20
Bank interest received	6	6
	<u>161,175</u>	<u>151,276</u>
Expenditure		
Accountancy fees	1,585	1,188
Cleaning	826	706
Clothing Costs	(21)	622
Bank Interest and Charges	119	90
DBS Checks	234	143
Educational equipment and materials	11,479	3,040
Excursions and subsistence	430	-
Fire Extinguishers	159	108
Food and drink	1,622	1,162
Insurance costs	2,025	1,990
Light, heat and water	4,554	3,284
Ofsted	50	50
Postage and stationery	1,572	1,781
Premises Expenses	5,570	3,221
Rent	500	500
Repairs and maintenance	1,393	7,170
Staff Salaries	127,932	122,262
Staff training and welfare	298	944
Subscriptions	288	341
Telephone	1,026	1,231
	<u>161,641</u>	<u>149,833</u>
Excess of expenditure over income for the period	<u>(466)</u>	<u>1,443</u>

**Meadowlands Pre-School
Balance Sheet
as at 31 August 2022**

	2022		2021
	£		£
Current assets			
Trade Debtors	163	225	
Sundry Debtors	-	3,845	
Current account	8,584	11,245	
Deposit account	39,479	33,374	
Petty Cash	5	13	
	<u>48,231</u>	<u>48,702</u>	
Current liabilities			
Accruals and Creditors	(3,935)	(3,939)	
Net assets	<u>44,296</u>	<u>44,763</u>	
General Fund			
Balance at start of period	44,763	43,320	
Excess of Expenditure over income	(467)	1,443	
	<u>44,296</u>	<u>44,763</u>	

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