

River Meadow



Charity Number 1027272

Annual Report and Accounts

for the year ended

31 March 2022



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date		Period end date					
From	01	04	2021	To	31	03	2022

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any)

Charity's principal address

Postcode

Names of the charity 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)
1	Sarah Brandon	Chair	Until Oct 2021	
2	Jenny Tomblin	Chair	From Oct 2021	
3	Lindsay Buchan	Secretary		
4	Lisa Carvell	Treasurer	Until Sept 2021	
5	Laura Walker	Treasurer	From Sept 2021	
6	Jenny Tomblin		Until Oct 2021	
7	Susie Harris			
8	Amy Medrek			
9	Carmen Riley			
10	Michelle Bown		From March 2022	
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Unincorporated Charity
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Elected by members/parents at AGM

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

The major risk to the charity is if numbers of children fall and/or cessation or reduction of the Nursery Education Grant (NEG). There are no procedures that can be put in place to manage this situation, other than sticking to our reserves policy to ensure we can meet our commitments in the event of closure. We need to manage budgets carefully to ensure we maintain sufficient leeway to cover annual cost increases and for the short term any COVID-19 related extra costs. This has been noted in this financial year although we are recovering from COVID we have continued to see a significant reduction in Breakfast Club income as parents have altered their working patterns since COVID and this has not changed as we have come out of COVID.

We have also seen a marked increase in general costs (Overheads) due to inflation – it is now costing us significantly more for food and items purchased, whilst not receiving an increase in government funding. We have increased our session fees in line with the market to help with our income from private funding. The new EYFS framework has also increased costs due to increased training required i.e. now having to give all trustees' safeguarding training regularly, however as we have not had much new staff intake this hasn't shown in our spending.

There would also be a risk of closure if the Charity were unable to recruit and retain sufficient staff to meet the ratio of staff to children that is required by Ofsted. To minimise this risk the Charity has an ongoing training programme and holds regular staff meetings in an effort to maintain good staff morale. We have also asked all the staff to undergo an ongoing Mental health training programme.

The Trustees and Management Committee maintain a good working relationship with their landlords (the school) but there is a potential risk to the Charity should they decide to terminate our tenancy for whatever reason. This would result in a search for alternative premises or possibly

closure, but we do have a notice period of four months to allow time to make alternative arrangements if possible.

Section C

Objectives and activities

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

To enhance the development and education of children, primarily under statutory school age.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Sessional Pre-School and Breakfast Club in furtherance of the Public Benefit.

The main income for the charity comes from Nursery Education Funding, including those in receipt of 2-year-old funding. For the remaining children, a fee is charged, only at a level sufficient to cover staff wages and overheads and we aim to match this fee to the NEG funded rate. Our fees are at a lower rate than commercial childcare providers. Any surplus that may arise is re-invested within the charity and used to provide additional toys, equipment, and activities for the children.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You may choose to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

The charity is managed by a committee of volunteers, predominantly parents of the children attending the Pre-school and Breakfast Club. Parental involvement is also encouraged in suggestions for curriculum content and fundraising activities. Whilst this has no monetary value it is vital to the smooth running of the group.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Preschool has come out of the COVID crisis, we are now able to offer more places to children and therefore have improved our funding situation. Even so we had struggled to make a profit due to the cost of goods as inflation continues to rise, and reduced fundraising / grants income.

Numbers for September 2022 look good. We will continue to market our preschool during the following year to inform local parents when we have spaces.

Lower numbers of unfunded children continue to be noticed due to the impact of Covid on personal finances, job opportunities, and current economic situation. This does not look like it will improve so we will be more reliant on government funding in the future.

Breakfast Club attendance continues to be reduced – we now run just above cost.

We have had to resurface the playground, the costs of which we have taken out of the reserve fund.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Our reserves policy is to maintain a fund amounting to 5 month's income, in order to be able to meet our commitments in case the setting has to close for any reason. The reserves are fully funded, and potential commitments will be monitored on an annual basis to ensure this remains the case.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Section F

Other optional information

Section G

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	J Tomblin	
Full name(s)	Jenny Tomblin	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	
Date	26/10/23	



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

**Independent examiner's
report on the accounts**

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of	RIVER MEADOW		
On accounts for the year ended	31 ST March 2022	Charity no (if any)	1027272
	Set out on pages		

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2022.

**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").

**Independent
examiner's statement**

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

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

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Signed: *ANJANA GANGULY* Date: 15/11/2022

Name: ANJANA GANGULY

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any): MAAT

Address: 78 High Street
Newport Pagnell
MK16 8AQ

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

NA



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

1027272
River Meadow

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from 01/04/2021 To 31/03/2022

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Main Income				162,394	126,247
Grants Received	162,394	-	-	162,394	12,668
Bank Interest	4,667	-	-	4,667	1,241
Fundraising Income	344	-	-	344	8,781
	1,666	-	-	1,666	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	169,071	-	-	169,071	148,937
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	169,071	-	-	169,071	148,937
A3 Payments					
Food, Craft, T Shirts, Books/Games and Misc Purchases	6,413	-	-	6,413	7,737
Equipment Purchased	1,052	-	-	1,052	12,424
Gross Wages	131,842	-	-	131,842	114,545
Overheads	33,698	-	-	33,698	24,081
Training Costs	2,741	-	-	2,741	3,080
Bank Charges	30	-	-	30	-
Donations	-	-	-	-	-
Fundraising Trading Costs	245	-	-	245	190
Advertising and Marketing	-	-	-	-	20
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	176,022	-	-	176,022	162,075
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	176,022	-	-	176,022	162,075
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 6,952	342	-	- 6,609	- 12,540
A5 Transfers between funds	6,234	-	-	6,234	883
A6 Cash funds last year end	75,237	75,472.8	-	150,710	162,367
Cash funds this year end	74,519	75,815	-	150,334	150,710

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Main Funds	70,888	75,815	-
	Fundraising	3,631	-	-
	Restricted Fund	-	-	-
	Total cash funds	74,519	75,815	-

B2 Other monetary assets

account(s)	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
Debtors	1,553	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

B3 Investment assets

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
Play Equipment	1766	-	-
Fixtures/Fittings	567	-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B5 Liabilities

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
Creditors - Unrestricted	-113.6		
Other Creditors	-2211.86		
PAYE	12190.78		
Cash in hand	848.9		
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
<i>J Tomblin</i>	JENNY TOMBLIN	01/12/22