

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date Period end date
From 01 09 2022 To 31 08 2023

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any)

Charity's principal address

The wooden Classroom	
Farrington Road	
Paulton, Bristol	
Postcode	BS39 7LW

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 Elizabeth Stone	Chair		Committee
2 Michelle Lawrence	Treasurer		Committee
3 Katie Holderness	Secretary		Committee
4 Kirstie Pitt			Committee
5 Louise Smart			Committee
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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
Bank	Cooperative	16 St Stephens Street, Bristol
Accountant	Bourne and Bargery	The Byers, Manor Farm, Chilcompton, Somerset

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

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document	Preschool Learning Alliance Constitution 2011 adopted October 2014.
How the charity is constituted	Association
Trustee selection methods	Parents and family members are invited to the Annual General Meeting in the Autumn. A management committee is appointed or reappointed at this meeting. Trustees are the committee members.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

The preschool is run by a voluntary parent led committee. Committee members are elected by nomination at the Annual General Meeting and have roles and responsibilities as set out in the Charity Commission guidance. All new members are DBS checked and approved by Ofsted.

There is a handover period for each new officer (Chair, Treasurer & Secretary) and suitable training is available from BANES Council if required.

We have regular contact with Bath and Northeast Somerset Council's Early Years Team.

Noah's Ark Preschool is a member of the Preschool Learning Alliance.

We have strong links with the Early Years Teachers at Paulton Infant School and regularly visit them to ensure a smooth transition for all our children.

We hold termly committee meetings to discuss the overall running of the preschool and future fundraising plans.

We complete a daily risk assessment on the building and grounds and a yearly assessment of all equipment. Any visits or outings are also assessed in line with the preschool policies.

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Section C Objectives and activities

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

We aim to enhance the development and education of children under statutory school age by encouraging families to understand and provide for the needs of their children through community groups.

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)

In planning our activities and daily routines the committee have regard for and keep in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Our focus is to provide a welcoming, safe and stimulating environment where all children benefit by being able to enjoy themselves and grow in confidence. We encourage every child to be competent learners who can be resilient, capable, confident and self-assured. We seek to build positive relationships with both our children and their families. We aim for children to develop positive attitudes and relationships, which will form the base for them becoming strong, secure and independent individuals. We see every child as unique and follow a child-led approach to learning within a supported environment.

The preschool is open Monday – Friday during term time and offers affordable sessional day care for children aged 2.5 – 4. All 9 practitioners are fully qualified to level 3 or above and we encourage parent helpers to take responsibility for and to become involved in the preschool. We offer opportunities for all children whatever their race, culture, religion, means or ability.

We hold regular fundraising events throughout the year to raise additional funds to enable us to provide new equipment and resources to enhance the learning of all children. Parents and families are asked to help and support these events to encourage their involvement in the running and future of the preschool.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

We reopened in September after the Summer break with encouraging numbers. This continued throughout the first 2 quarters and by Easter we were running to near full capacity. We ended the Academic year with 50 children on the register in which 27 made the transition to school.

STAFF

We retained our normal 9 staff; however, in July we said a very sad goodbye to Angela Cross who retired after 30 years' service. We had one student who worked with us from September to December.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

All Staff benefit from regular supervision meets and yearly appraisals. We have attended face to face training this year and have renewed our safeguarding certificates where necessary. We continually work with other professionals to enhance our practice these include the Early Years Teachers and Advisors from Children Centre Services and Banes.

VISITORS

We continue to hire Jenny James (Music with Mummy's) to provide weekly music sessions. The children enjoy the singing, dancing and playing of instruments. These sessions are held on different days throughout the week so all children can take part. We have regular visits and story sessions from the library volunteers. We also encourage parents to visit to talk with the children about their work or life achievements.

CHRISTMAS 2022

We visited Paulton Infants school to watch their Christmas Production. In December we held our own production 'A medley of Christmas songs and carols at Holy Trinity Church. It was a great success. We had a Christmas party with hired entertainment for all children. At the end of Term 2.

PHOTOGRAPHER

The photographer visited in November and June and gave us a percentage of the orders.

LEAVER'S PARTY

We held a school leaver's party with hired entertainment on Friday 14th July.

FUNDRAISING AND EVENTS

As well as the money raised from the photo sells, we held a Bingo night in May. This was a great success raising just over £750. This money will be spent on large outdoor building equipment.

TREASURER'S REPORT

We have had a very positive year resulting in a profit. Income is up 27% on last year. A small increase to fees was implemented from September. Expenditure has increased by 5.4%. Payroll costs to include pension contributions are up 7% year on year. This is due to a cost-of-living payment in October and a pay increase from April 1st. The preschool bought gift vouchers for all staff at Christmas and paid for a meal to celebrate a retirement. in July. We have started work updating the outside of the building and gardens and have separated these costs from the main running costs. This will enable us to keep track of expenditure. We are in the process of renewing the gas and electricity contracts along with the phone and broadband.

Income and expenditure

Bank Balance b/f 136426.19

Total Income for the year to 31st August 2023

BANES 114124.15

Fees 25504.90

F Raising 1263.13

Uniform 244.50

Lunch Club 409.00

Interest

Misc

141545.68

Total Expenditure for the year to 31st August 2023

Wages 95739.85

PAYE/NI 2211.67

NEST 2701.35

Running Costs 13106.65

Equipment 1701.38

Uniform	0
Fund Raising	400.46
Building & Improvements	2845.55
Training	178.00
Repairs/renewals	648.00
Food/snacks	1008.60
Subscriptions	454.14
	<u>120995.65</u>
Bank Bal to c/f	156976.22
Excess of Income over Expenditure	20550.03
<u>Balance Sheet at 31st August 2022</u>	
	Y/e Aug 23
Bank Bal B/f	£136426.19
Income over Expenditure	<u>£20550.03</u>
Balance to C/f	<u>£156976.22</u>
<u>FUTURE PLANS</u>	
To secure a new 10 year lease with Pauton Parish Council. Now that we have surveys to state that the building is in adequate order, we can start spending the reserves put aside to update the property inside and out. Plans are in place to put up new boundary fencing with improved security. Regenerate the outside playing area. Replace the kitchen and craft area. Repaint the inside classroom and update the cloakroom. Meetings are also taking place with the Management Committee to review the current pay structure to enable us to invest and retain our staff.	
The management committee comprises of parent volunteers. The overall management of the preschool and all fundraising events are carried out by these volunteers.	

- You may choose to include further statements, where relevant, about:
- policy on grant making;
 - policy programme related investment;
 - contribution made by volunteers.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Our current financial position is positive and we have a relatively healthy amount of savings which we are keeping in reserve for any unforeseen expenditure, the purchase of new equipment/resources and the enhancement/renovation of a very old building.

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.

The main source of funding is through paid fees for younger children and the Early Years Entitlement. We raise further funds through our regular fundraising events.

Our expenditure has always supported our key aim to provide a welcoming, safe and stimulating environment where all children are able to enjoy themselves and grow in confidence.

Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.
Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		Date:	15/11/23
Full name(s)	Elizabeth Stone	CHAIR	

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of NOAHS ARK PRESCHOOL

On accounts for the year ended 31-08-2023 **Charity no (if any)** 1027796

Set out on pages

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Act and that an independent examination is needed. [The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [named body]]. *Delete [] if not applicable.*

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.


**Independent
examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:		Date:	29.11.23
Name:	GAYLE SHAKESPEARE		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	FMAAT.		
Address:	Bourne and Bargery		
	The Byers, Manor Farm,		
	Chilcompton, Radstock, BA3 4HP		

Section B

Disclosure

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

Deleted: Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose. ... [1]