

Goslings Playgroup
Registered Charity Number 1031887
Trustees Annual Report
Presented to the AGM on 17th November 2021

Chair's report 2020/2021

My word what another year for all of us. Another year where some of us have not been able to rely on a routine, human contact, security, company which are all such important gifts to thrive both as adults and children. It is up to us as adults to ensure our children have these things and that can be emotionally and physically draining. At Goslings our staff have ensured this has been in place as much as they can and we thank them for this.

With all the change and the unknown climate there has been a sense that people have been treading more cautiously. We have noticed fewer families enrolling with us and we have discussed this on several occasions whether it be because of our more restricted hours (not being able to offer as much as a private nursery) or, this 18 months parents not wanting to send their children into settings. We continuously discuss this and will try and make adjustments accordingly.

Week on week our Goslings team, headed up by Sarah, consistently plan a balanced curriculum which not only draws on the children's varied and changing interests but also our seasons and relevant themes such as Autumn, firework's night and Diwali amongst others. All planning follows the Early Years Foundation Stage. They plan for gross and fine skills (big and small movements!) outside play, kinaesthetic learners, themed stories and much, much more.

As the year post Christmas panned out and educational settings were shut Goslings shut for 2 weeks and then through discussion opened to a couple of key worker families who found the support, stability and routines for their children invaluable in such a turbulent time. We then managed to open after May half term for the final 7 weeks of term with all protocols, policies and cleaning in place. It was again due to the hard work of the staff with all the extra cleaning and safety measures in place that Goslings remained opened and the children thrived and, for most, got their last term there.

We extend a big thank you to the whole team for their continued dedication to Goslings.

In planning our activities for the year the committee members kept in mind the Charities Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Policies

Policy documents were reviewed and amended as required in the summer term with Covid protocol added where necessary.

Staffing and staff development

The team at Goslings welcomed Charlotte Judge, Jo Branch, and Lauren Carroll and they have settled in really well.

Finances

It is with great sadness that we said good bye to our long serving treasurer Caroline Swindells this year. She lost her battle with cancer and our thoughts were very much with Goslings and her family throughout. Her husband Phil took on the role as he knew the procedures and has kindly offered to be our treasurer for the foreseeable future. We thank him so much for his hard work and for being able to take on this really important role particularly at the moment where the finances have been so tricky with Covid.

Phil managed to secure a grant for us from Hertfordshire County Council which was for pre-schools who had struggled with fluctuating numbers, staff absences/ furloughing and thus finances. We are working hard to ensure every pound of our parents' money, government money and the grant money counts as there are increasing pressures on every pound.

Fundraising

Fundraising this last year was again super tricky. We have managed a scavenger hunt, a photographer and a raisin fundraising idea.

Goslings remains such a well-loved pre-school in Hitchin and comes very highly recommended by past parents. I am really delighted to be involved in such a community but am very aware that I haven't been able to action quite as much as I would have liked in recent months due to my father in law dying and family situations.

I thank Bethan and Phil particularly for their commitment and hard work behind the scenes in such tricky times. Hopefully be back in person soon!

Gail Litterick

Chairperson, Goslings Management Committee

GOSLINGS PLAYGROUP

Receipts & Payments Account For The Year Ended 31st August 2021

		2020/21		2019/20	
		RECEIPTS	PAYMENTS	RECEIPTS	PAYMENTS
Fees		94,405.62		89,830.57	
Fundraising		1,299.60	267.50	318.00	102.00
Grants		16,137.04		13,442.99	
Donations		488.00		2.50	
Interest (Deposit A/C)		2.58		179.47	
Staff costs:-	Salaries		95,167.00		92,699.32
	Training		552.70		756.00
	Uniforms		28.80		87.60
	Staff Xmas meal		275.00		250.00
Premises:-	Rent		5,890.00		5,983.00
	Maintenance		2,843.13		3,860.95
Catering			282.76		330.87
Insurance			827.85		742.95
Consumables			2,840.09		1,806.35
Equipment			891.21		1,008.47
Administration			2,703.91		2,846.41
Ofsted registration fee			50.00		50.00
Membership subs: EYA			115.00		115.00
Other payments:-	DBS check		143.70		-
	Leaving gift		27.00		-
	AGM expenses		-		38.25
		<u>£112,332.84</u>	<u>£112,905.65</u>	<u>£103,773.53</u>	<u>£110,677.17</u>
Surplus/Deficit for the year			-£572.81		-£6,903.64
Deficit for the year 2020/21		-£572.81			
Surplus B/F from 2019/20		£31,735.96			
Surplus C/F to 2021/22		£31,163.15			

BANK RECONCILIATION

Closing Balance at 31st August 2021

Current Account	£7,129.95
Deposit Account	£24,033.20
	<u>£31,163.15</u>



Phil Byford
(Treasurer)
19/10/2021



Michael Fisher
(Independent Examiner)
19/10/2021



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Goslings Playgroup

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31st August 2021

**Charity no
(if any)**

1031887

Set out on pages

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I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/08/2021.

**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 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.

**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 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:

Date:

19/10/21

Name:

MICHAEL GRAHAM FISHER

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

Address:

HULLCOTE COTTAGE

55 LONDON ROAD

HITCHIN SG4 9EW

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.