MAYFLOWER PLAYGROUP HAYWARDS HEATH CIO (Reg. Charity No. 1181625) Page 1 of 2 TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT for 2025

Mayflower Playgroup was established in 1973. It is a registered CIO (no. 1181625) and operates in association with Christ Church Haywards Heath in West Sussex. The Playgroup continues to work in accordance with its constitution, maintaining its evangelical Christian ethos.

The Playgroup provides Sessional Care and Nursery Education on a non-profit-making basis, catering for children from two years to school age, from the locality. Sessional care is offered five days a week, with varying lengths of day available. The playgroup offers a safe learning environment and a high staff-to-child ratio to encourage maximum spiritual, intellectual, and physical development in preparing the children for their next developmental stage and for life and citizenship in general. The staff operate within the Early Years Foundation framework and best practices learned from their training.

Children are cared for in secure, safe, and suitable premises that are organised to provide a warm welcome to children and their parents. The provision of well-resourced workshop areas and appropriate projects allows children to develop their knowledge and understanding of the world. Staff seek to provide a range of learning opportunities and experiences for children both inside and outside. The outside area is used in all weather, and the planting and landscaping of this area are designed and maintained for the enjoyment of the children. Many of the children benefit from the use of a large hall on site for weekly sporting activities with an outside provider. In accordance with the Christian ethos of the Playgroup, simple Bible stories, songs and a 'thank you' prayer are shared daily with the children by some of the staff.

The day-to-day running of the Playgroup is the responsibility of a Supervisor, who reports regularly to the other Trustees. In 2025, Mrs Caroline Nicholls continued to lead the Playgroup as Supervisor in a dedicated and professional manner, ably assisted by Mrs Sarah Konig as Deputy Supervisor.

During the year ended December 2025, the following served as Trustees of the CIO:

Sarah McQuaker (Chair of Trustees)	Caroline Nicholls
Mark Ventham	Carol Eggleton
Elizabeth Martin	Ruth Nicholls

This arrangement is in line with the Constitution of the CIO.

We welcomed one new member of staff during the year, so that by the end of 2025, there were 10 permanent members of staff, providing consistency of provision.

The Playgroup was open on Mondays to Fridays for 38 weeks of the year. The daily session length varied from 3 hours to 5.5 hours in accordance with statutory requirements. There was an average of 30 children per morning, with a total of 40 children on the register over the year, reflecting a wide range of backgrounds. The setting continued to welcome children from two years of age.

During this year, the staff of Mayflower continued to prioritise caring for the children and helping them to settle and flourish, seeking to offer them rich experiences in line with EYFS themes. Staff worked hard to speak with families and support them as needed. The Playgroup continued to support a number of children with additional needs, as well as speech and language needs, and welcomed a number of children with English as an additional language. Staff worked to support these children well in the setting, as well as supporting their families. The Supervisor and Deputy held weekly Safeguarding Review meetings, and worked in partnership with local agencies to support children and parents.

Parents were invited to 'stay and play' with their children, and also enjoyed joining their children for picnics on occasions. At the end of each term, a service was held on site, in which children participated, and many parents and relatives came to these.

The Playgroup's income is derived primarily from West Sussex County Council, through the Early Years Funded Entitlement (EYFE), as well as EYPP and payments for those with additional needs. The Playgroup

receives some additional income from fees paid by parents of children who are too young to qualify for the EYFE provision. Fees are set at an affordable level for parents, commensurate with the grant provided for funded children. Fees and wages are set by Trustees annually.

The Playgroup expends all funds to meet the operating costs of the Playgroup, including the cost of paying staff and purchasing learning and welfare resources to enhance the provision of Sessional Care and Nursery Education, as well as maintaining the fabric of the setting. Funding received for children with additional needs was spent to purchase equipment to enable these children to benefit from their day-to-day experience in the setting and for their peers to enjoy alongside them. Staff continued to attend training events as required (Safeguarding and First Aid), to develop good practices and to continue learning in line with the EYFS statutory framework.

The Playgroup has continued to benefit from the ongoing generosity of Christ Church Haywards Heath in providing premises for use by Mayflower at a discounted rate.

Total cash reserves at the end of 2025 were £117,585. In line with the Charity's Financial Reserves Policy, £31,000 of this amount was invested with the aim, in the event of the unexpected closure of the playgroup, of meeting the costs of giving parents and staff at least half a term's notice of any closure plans, plus meeting all financial obligations, including staff redundancy pay. Further funds were held in reserve to provide for termly fluctuations and future expenditure. The cash reserves enabled the setting to maintain good staffing levels above statutory ratios, and to be able to cope with the increasing cost of utilities and daily essentials, as well as resourcing the setting in response to the children's needs. The Famly App continued to benefit the setting, assisting with communication with parents, as well as with staffing and invoicing.

We were thankful for the Local Authority EYFE received this year, and the additional funding to allow settings to support two-year-olds and children with additional needs. The Trustees remain confident that ongoing management of costs, coupled with a stable Local Authority EYFE rate, will enable the Playgroup to maintain a stable reserve position for 2026. However, playgroups such as Mayflower continue to see significant increases in annual costs, and it will be essential to the longer-term financial stability of such playgroups that Local Authority rates for funded places continue to increase annually in line with inflation and in line with government changes in the National Minimum Wage.

The Trustees continued to review the financial and operational position of the Playgroup, and undertook a review of staff wage levels. An audit of Safeguarding procedures was undertaken, and several governance policies were written and implemented by the Trustees. Staff contracts were reviewed and updated, and a consultation process with staff was commenced prior to these contracts being implemented early in 2026. The main room and toilets of the setting were repainted to enhance the rooms for the benefit of the children, and the fence in the garden was replaced to improve safety and security. The charity undertook to pay for these works as they were of primary benefit to the setting.

The Trustees are thankful to the Lord that the Playgroup has continued to be provided for financially, and wish to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of the Playgroup staff that has led to such a secure, loving and developmentally valuable setting for young children and their families. We are thankful for the steady commitment of the staff team to the children, families and each other, and the way in which they work to ensure that the children and their families continue to be cared for and supported, as well as supporting each other daily in the setting.

SIGNED

Sarah McQuaker
On behalf of the Trustees

13th October, 2026

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

1181625

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	01/01/2025	To	31/12/2025

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 £
Receipts					
Fees from Council funded places	139,765	-	-	139,765	130,917
Fees from Privately funded places	15,445	-	-	15,445	17,875
Other Income	5,894	-	-	5,894	2,294
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	161,104	-	-	161,104	151,086
Payments					
Staff Costs	118,936	-	-	118,936	100,800
Rent and Utilities	6,577	-	-	6,577	5,960
Equipment	5,109	-	-	5,109	3,485
Insurance	1,111	-	-	1,111	1,064
Training	1,120	-	-	1,120	754
Administration	590	-	-	590	439
Accountancy	422	-	-	201	201
Other Expenses	10,124	-	-	10,124	10,105
	-	-	-	-	-
Total Payments	143,989	-	-	143,989	122,808
				8	
Net of receipts/(payments)	17,115	-		17,115	28,278
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
funds from prior years	100,470	-	-	100,470	72,192
Cash funds this year end	117,585	-	-	117,585	100,470

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 £
Cash funds	Bank Accounts	117,438	-	-
	Petty Cash	147	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	117,585 OK	- OK	- OK

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Sarah McQuaker	23/06/26
	Mark Ventham	06.07.26

NOTE: The CIO was formed on 18th January 2019. On 1st August 2019, the CIO took on the Charitable activities of the Charitable Trust also known as Mayflower Playgroup (registered Charity number 1072441). It also received cash assets from the Charitable Trust together with payments for amounts received by the Trust on behalf of the CIO.

NOTE; Cash funds include an advance payment from the Local Authority for fees due during the Spring term 2026.

37 Marlow Drive

Haywards Heath

West Sussex

RH16 3SR

2nd April 2026

MAYFLOWER PLAYGROUP CIO

Report of Examiner

Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2025

I have examined the accounts for the Mayflower Playgroup CIO to the year ended 31st December 2025 and believe the accounts agree to the underlying records. I am satisfied that the records and reports are adequate and that the expenses/cost control is adequate.

Paul Arkell