

# Kidzone

20b Millvale Road, Bessbrook, Newry, Co. Down. BT35 7NH

Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee

Directors Report for year ended 31 July 2023

The Directors who are the trustees for the purpose of charity law present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 July 2023.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime and in accordance with FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'.  
Please refer to page 4 in the Statement of Financial Position.

## Structure, Governance and Management

### Organised Structure

The Company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the company and is governed under its Articles of Association.  
The members retire in accordance with the Articles of Association.  
Relevant motion will be put at the Annual General Meeting.

### Directors

The Directors who served during the year are as follows:

Claire Mallon  
Tara McAleavey  
Tanya Murphy  
Joanna Quinn  
Aine Barry  
Gemma Blackadder  
Denise Doyle  
Fiona McKeivitt  
Tracy Dos Reis

## Risk Management

The Directors have reviewed the risks faced by the charity and believe that maintaining the reserves at the required level to continue the charity's activities on a short-term basis, combined with the annual review of financial systems controls, will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions.

## Aims and Objectives

The main aim of Kidzone is to enhance the development and education of children aged 3 to 12 years of age in the Bessbrook, Newry and surrounding areas, by providing play-based learning environments.

Kidzone is open to all children without distinction of religion, culture, race or means.

Kidzone is divided into Pre-school and Afterschool provision as follows:

**Key aims of the playgroup –**

To enhance the development and education of pre-school children in a safe, caring and stimulating environment through:

- Improving learning outcomes
- developing relationships between staff and parents / carers
- enhance parent's confidence as they can be involved on the Board of Directors
- develop parent's understanding of play and child development

**Key aims of the afterschool-**

To enhance the development and education for school aged children and improve their personal and social care.

We achieved this aim throughout the year by

- Providing care for the children in a safe, secure and stimulating environment
- Providing a variety of experiences and opportunities available for all children
- Providing care to enable parents to return to work or training
- Giving opportunities for parents to build their confidence as they had the opportunity to become involved on the Board of Directors

## Public Benefit Statement

The Directors of Kidzone confirm that they have complied with their duty under section 4(b) of The Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 to have regard to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit requirement has informed the activities of the charitable company in the year ended 31 July 2023

## Achievements and Performance

### Kidzone

Kidzone is registered with the Southern Health and Social Care Trust and is inspected annually to ensure that high quality care and education is provided for all children.

We are in a purpose-built facility which meets the highest childcare standards, Trust regulations and Environmental Health standards.

All necessary registrations are held and reviewed on a regular basis by the regulatory bodies to ensure the highest standards are maintained.

Kidzone supports the cross-community requirements of the charity.

### Kidzone Playgroup

We are a member of the 'Early Years Organisation for Young Children.'

Kidzone playgroup offers 48 places – 24 places in both the morning and afternoon sessions.

Both sessions are inspected by SHSCT on an annual basis. There were no recommendations from this report.

The playgroup provides 24 places to children aged 3-4 years in the morning pre-school session.

The pre-school morning session places are funded by DENI through the PSEP program.

We were inspected by The Education and Training Inspectorate on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2018 and the report concluded that the playgroup has a high level of capacity for sustained improvement in the interest of all the children.

The pre-pre-school afternoon session places are funded by the Pathway Fund. This helps to keep the fees affordable for all families.

The playgroup implements the HighScope approach to early childhood care and education.

This is a recognised standard with Early Years and Social Services.

HighScope identifies and builds on children's strengths, interests and abilities.

The HighScope approach has been developed by research over many years and is used internationally.

The staff are all trained to level III or above and have years of experience and expertise.

We also provide the opportunity for others to learn and become trained as childcare workers.

### Kidzone Afterschool Club

The afterschool provides quality afterschool care for 24 children each day, aged from 4 – 12 years. Throughout this year, we had 32 families who availed of the Afterschool.

To ensure that we are continuing to provide a quality service we are inspected by Social Services annually. The report this year was very positive with no recommendations or requirements. We also received feedback from parents and carers at three points throughout the year. This feedback was very positive with all parent's content with the quality of care and development.

Our service continues to be invaluable to local families and by providing this afterschool we are giving local children the opportunity to access a quality service that otherwise they may not have access to. We have three staff members trained to level 5, one working towards achieving level 5 and all other staff members trained to level 3. We continue to promote equality of opportunities and welcoming to all regardless of special needs, special requirements, religion, culture, race or means. We had children attending with special needs who had a one to one support. We also had children attending who had English as an additional language and children whose placement was supported by social services.

## Financial Review

The charity's total funds amounted to £216,906 at the period end 31 July 2023.

The net incoming resources (loss) for the year end 31 July 2023 amounted to (£6,292)

## Reserves Policy

Kidzone Playgroup and Kidzone Afterschool Club both have separate reserves policies.

## Directors Responsibilities

Directors are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these financial statements the Directors are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP (FRS 102)
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The Directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

### Share Capital

The Company is limited by guarantee, not having a share capital.

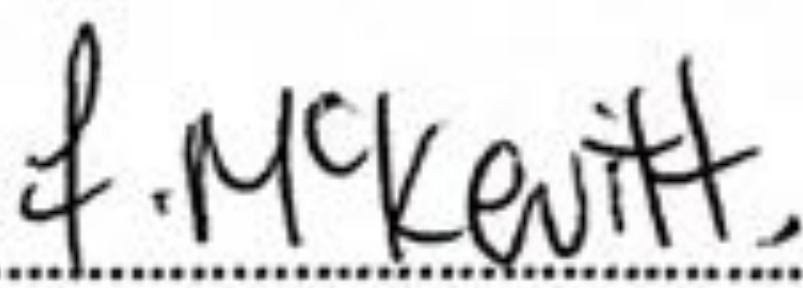
### Taxation status


The company is recognised as a charity by HM Revenue & Customs. Accordingly, the company has availed of the exemptions contained in Chapter 3-part 11 Corporation Taxes Act 2010 and section 256 Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992.

### Small Companies Exemption

The above report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

The report was approved by the Directors of Kidzone on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2019 and signed on its behalf by:

Fiona McKeivitt (Treasurer)  .....

Claire Mallon (Chairperson)  .....

Accepted as a charity by the Charity Commission under reference NIC 100922  
Registered in Northern Ireland No. 36068