

RAINBOW CHILD AND FAMILY CENTRE LTD
Company limited by guarantee

Directors' report
for the year ended 31 March 2023

The directors present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Directors

The directors who served during the year are as follows:

Mairead Doherty

Majella Mallet

Elisha McCallion

Shauna McDevitt

Gerry O'Neill

Kieran Sweeney

Resigned 14th May 2022

Structure, governance and management

Rainbow Child and Family Centre Ltd is a charitable company, limited by guarantee and has no share capital. It is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

The charity is governed by a dedicated board of trustees. A number of the trustees have been involved with Rainbow Child and Family Centre for many years and are also involved with other community groups in the local area. The board is made up of local residents, a local counsellor, a civil servant, an ex-employee and parents of current and past users of the centre.

Risk management

The directors have a risk management strategy which consists of establishing a system of identifying risks and mitigating such risks. Internal control risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures of authorisation of all transactions and projects.

Objectives and Activities

Objectives

The main aims and objectives of Rainbow Child and Family Centre Ltd include:

- * To enhance and advance the emotional, intellectual and social development of pre-school and school aged children and young people.
- * To improve the opportunities and life chances available to parents and carers.
- * To create opportunities to enable people from disadvantaged communities throughout the Greater Shantallow Area and the wider Derry Area to access activities, programmes and events to enhance life experiences and build relationships and community cohesion.
- * To provide all age groups with opportunities for health and wellbeing and cultural experiences in their immediate community.
- * To target children and parents who are experiencing social exclusion as a result of deprivation, disadvantage or disability.
- * To provide a range of facilities and rooms for diverse services, activities and community functions for children, young people and families promoting community development.
- * To provide educational opportunities in both structured and non-structured settings in the community hub.
- * To provide opportunities for staff and volunteers to access accredited and non-accredited training to ensure they can all provide good quality services including childcare.

RAINBOW CHILD AND FAMILY CENTRE LTD
Company limited by guarantee

Directors' report
for the year ended 31 March 2023

..... continued

- * To fill the gaps in childcare provision in the area.
- * To create opportunities to enable people from disadvantaged communities throughout the Greater Shantallow Area to access education, training or employment.
- * To support employment growth and facilitate access to lifelong learning.

Activities/Services

Preschool

Running Monday to Friday from September to June 9am to 1pm in playroom.

Provides high quality care and education for children aged 3 to 4 years. Registered with WHSCT and EA for 24 children. We plan children's learning around 6 areas of the Northern Ireland preschool curriculum and we provide play based experiences where children are given encouragement to grow, learn and develop. Children are encouraged to develop knowledge of equality, respect and care for each other. We operate an open door policy and a partnership with parents is extremely important to our practice.

Parent and toddler/ Stay and plays

Running Fridays from September to June @ 11:30pm to 1pm in the community hub.

Offers children and their parents a safe and child centred environment that fosters stimulating and challenging activities for all ages and stages aged 0-4. Parents are encouraged to get actively involved in children learning. Sessions include information /support for parents and carers regarding child development, childcare, health/ wellbeing both for the child and the parent with employment and training support for parents.

Crèche

Running 5 days weekly in the new Galliagh Community Centre

Provides high quality care for children aged 10 months to 2 years and 9 months. The crèche provides a stimulating environment with well planned and challenging activities for young children. We provide a rich and varied environment which play a key role in supporting babies and young children's all round development and well being.

Two year old programme

Running 3 days weekly in the purpose build prefabricated building.

Supporting children on their first step in a formal setting to feel safe, develop an interest in learning. Develop emotional, social and language skills. Whilst encouraging parental involvement to help strengthen their capacity to provide a home learning environment that supports learning and development. Our 2 year old programme is focused on building four protective factors associated in the research literature with lowering rates of child abuse and neglect and with optimising child development.

Three year old programme

Running 5 days weekly in the purpose build prefabricated building allowing the children the opportunity to explore and develop a curiosity, creating an early love of learning. The main aim is to support children's development help put them on the path to success in later life and help them become ready for formal education. Working in partnership with parents to develop an integrated and holistic approach to children's learning. Helping the children reach their full potential making the transition into preschool much smoother.

RAINBOW CHILD AND FAMILY CENTRE LTD
Company limited by guarantee

Directors' report
for the year ended 31 March 2023

..... continued

Afterschools / Summer Scheme Childcare facility

* Mon to Friday from September to June @ 2pm to 6pm

* school closures from 8:30am to 6pm

* fulltime summer childcare service throughout July and August. Mon to Friday 8:30am to 6pm in the playroom and computer suite area of the building.

This service is registered with the WHSCT for 56 children daily aged 4 years to 12 years.

The afterschools / summer scheme childcare service enables Rainbow Child and Family Centre to continue to deliver on our social objectives which include advancing the emotional, intellectual and social development of children and young people, improve the opportunities and life chances available to parents and carers, create opportunities for people from disadvantaged communities throughout the Ballyarnett/Greater Shantallow area to access education, training and employment, to fill the gaps in childcare provision in the area, to target children and parents/carers who are experiencing social exclusion as a result of disadvantage or disability and to support employment growth and facilitate lifelong learning.

Youth Provision

Rainbow Child and Family youth provision includes 3 different age range of youth clubs running 3 days a week from September to June in our community hub. The aim of all the clubs is to allow children and young people living in this area of disadvantage the opportunities to reach their full potential by increasing the opportunities for them to better develop their social and emotional skills. By providing a variety of warm, friendly, child centred clubs using both indoor and outdoor safe space within our newly built community hub and introducing them to a variety of activities and games, (both structured and free style).

All activities and trips organised by qualified, professional staff are offered and they promote their communication and interpersonal skills through increased language use, encouraging their interest in art, music, sport, co-operation and team building. They build positive relationships and have endless opportunities to feel part of a youth community that offers enjoyment, fun, and an encouraging atmosphere that is structured to build confidence and self esteem in children and young people.

Saturday Breakfast club

Running Saturday @ 10am-12pms September to June for children and young people ages 6-12 years. The breakfast club is mainly facilitated by the 14+ volunteer's with an average attendance of 21 children and young people.

Summer Scheme Youth provision

The youth programme also includes a full summer scheme programme running during the month of July and August for 6 weeks offering 3 clubs Mon-Friday. The summer Scheme concentrates on helping children and young people in this area make better lifestyle choices by providing more opportunities through a full summer scheme programme of events and exciting full day trips. Engaging them in physical activity and health related activities/discussions that will improve their gross and fine motor skills, coordination, physical fitness, health and mental well being, strengthen their spatial awareness, and increase their self confidence, self esteem, self worth and keep them learning throughout the school break.

RAINBOW CHILD AND FAMILY CENTRE LTD
Company limited by guarantee

Directors' report
for the year ended 31 March 2023

..... continued

Other Services

Older people 50+ years

This programme changes regularly depending on funding and interest at present we run:

- * knit and natter club in the computer suite Thursday 7-9pm
- * Silver club in the computer suite Monthly @ 7-9pm learning computer skills

Wellbeing club

For the past 12 years Rainbow Child and Family Centre facilitates the Wellbeing club. The group meets weekly on Wednesday @ 7-9pm in the community hub. With a weekly discussion around healthy eating/exercise/ mental health/ issues like cancer. It has health MOT's twice annually with local nurses checking blood pressure, blood sugar and cholesterol.

Winter Wonderland Festival

Running for 6 days in December we turn the Rainbow Community Hub and outdoor area into a Winter Wonderland attracting 1500+ families from throughout the city and beyond annually

Education/ Training

We annually run training to early years providers with 20 places per course, running over 4 evening in the playroom including:

- * Food Hygiene
- * First aid and paediatric
- * First aid

Through the Pathway, Good relations and EA and Comic Relief funding we were able to run a variety of parenting classes within the centre. These included the Big bedtime read, dummy do's and don'ts, bullying, respecting differences and importance of play.

Through funding from TEO for the Good Relations Winter Wonderland event we were able to run a variety of training. Each course was 2- 3 nights for 2-3 hours per session. This training was cross community and intergenerational and had an average attendance of 16 per session. This training took place throughout the building and included child protection, health and safety, risk assessment, customer cares, story telling training and drama.

We completed a variety of in house training to ensure all 28 staff are able to ensure our high standards of work is adhered to including managing difficult behaviour, health and safety and risk assessment.

Achievements and performance

In 1985, 37 years ago Rainbow Child and Family Centre started as a playgroup set up by local parents. In 2001, we received funding from Big Lottery to build a purpose built facility for our after-schools and summer scheme programmes and playgroup. Throughout the years we have developed our services to meet the needs in our community.

RAINBOW CHILD AND FAMILY CENTRE LTD
Company limited by guarantee

Directors' report
for the year ended 31 March 2023

..... continued

In 2015, we acquired land adjacent to our existing centre and secured £348,000 from Department of Social Development to build an extension to our building. The new Community Hub opened on 3 February 2015 doubling our available space and allowing us to start working in partnership with local residents and groups to provide a greater range of programmes, clubs, activities and annual events.

In 2018, we acquired more from the NIHE and were successful in a grant of £150,000 from Weston Anniversary fund to build a new outdoor play area. We also received funding for an additional prefabricated building as we had outgrown our space.

In 2019, we acquired an additional prefabricated building from Department for Communities funding as we had out grown the building.

Plans for the future periods

In the next year we plan to continue to work in partnership with local residents and local groups in the area to keep offering and expanding our range of wanted and needed activities, programmes, and services for all children, young people and families living within the Shantallow West and wider Ballyarnett area.

Working with statutory bodies, service providers and community organisations across the area we want to continue to use the space to support community and neighbour activity to enhance health, wellbeing, and social inclusion. We are now able to offer an array of services, activities, facilities and workshops to suit everyone aged from 0 to 90 years and plan to continue to do so for at least the next 30 years.

Financial review

The results for the financial year ended 31st March 2023 are on pages 13 to 23.

The directors aim to have a cash reserve covering at least 6 months expenditure at any given time.

Directors Responsibilities In Relation To The Financial Statements

The directors are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and 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. Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of 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 period. In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- observe methods and principles in the charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102);
- 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 company will continue in business.

RAINBOW CHILD AND FAMILY CENTRE LTD
Company limited by guarantee

Directors' report
for the year ended 31 March 2023

..... continued

The board of directors are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with Companies Act 2006. The Board is 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.

Statement of disclosure of information to auditors

We, the directors of the company who held office at the date of approval of these Financial Statements, as set out above, each confirm so far as we are aware, that:

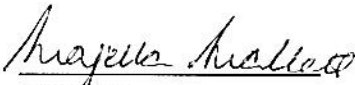
So far as we are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware; and as the directors of the company, we have taken all steps we ought to have taken in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditors are aware of that information.

Auditor's:

McGroarty McCafferty & Company are deemed to be reappointed in accordance with Section 487 (2) of the Companies Act 2006.

The report is prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and in accordance with SORP 2019 (FRS102).

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board on 27 November 2023 and signed on its behalf by;


Director


Director