

Paddington Playgroup

Charity Registration No: NI107246

Trustee's Report for the Year Ending 30 June 2023

Public Benefits

Paddington Playgroup is a long established playgroup in rural County Tyrone. We are fortunate to have a number of long serving staff who endeavour to provide a high standard of care and education through a play based pre-school curriculum. Parents play a vital role within our group as they make up the majority of the committee and as with the staff in the playgroup we are fortunate to have a number of long serving members on the committee. We aim to offer equal access to all children within our community and the majority of children who attend are all from the local community

What are the direct benefits flowing from your organisation's purposes?

1. Children receive the best start to their educational life.
2. Children are physically and psychologically healthy, eager to learn and respect those that are different.
3. Children have a direct connection to their local community
4. Services are delivered which support families and working parents

How can the benefits identified above be demonstrated?

Both pre-school and after school services are subject to regular inspections and have achieved the highest possible standards. There is also a strong body of evidence which supports the important benefits of early intervention. No harm arises from the work undertaken. The charity's beneficiaries are children aged 3-4 for playgroup and 4-12 for after school service. There is no private benefit flowing from any of the purposes

What does your organisation do?

Paddington operates a playgroup service for children aged 3 Years for the year before they enter primary school. We can accommodate up to 52 children across 2 sessions (am and pm) across five days per week term time. This is pre-school education which is focused on learning and development of children and adheres to the Early Years curriculum. It promotes play based learning and provides opportunities for children to achieve their full potential and we endeavour to support any child who is presenting with signs of developmental delay. We are registered with Social Services and our inspecting Trust in the Southern Health and Social Care Trust. We work closely with Early Years for support and guidance on developing best practice for preschool settings. We also have a strong relationship with parents and the local primary school (St. Joseph's Primary School). We ensure that all staff adhere to regular mandatory training and training needs are discussed and explored through supervision each year. We employ 5 people in this service. We also have an after school service for primary school aged children. This operates 2pm to 6pm, 5 days per week. We work closely with working parents and the local primary school to deliver this service.

Achievements, Performance, and Results for the Year ending 30th June 2023

In the 2022- 2023 academic year we provided preschool places for 34 children. We were able to arrange a number of different visits to the pre-school setting including Jo Jingles, and a mobile farm. Local parents who worked in different professions came in to assist with the development of the 'World around Us' themes and the children enjoyed an end of year trip to Happy Dayz, a local play facility. The playgroup continued to maintain its close links with St Joseph's primary school and other local primary schools. From Easter there was a focus on the program of transition to post primary. There was also direct support provided for some playgroup pupils who were presenting with developmental delay and we worked in close partnership with the families and healthcare providers of these children in order to optimise their learning experiences in playgroup.

Financial Performance

The financial statements for the year were presented at the AGM and accepted and approved by the trustees. Brian Robinson Accountancy Ltd has carried out a review of these accounts and has completed an Independent Accountants report. The financial performance was in line with trustees' expectations and the charitable organisation remains in a sound financial position at the year end. The results for the year are set out on pages 2 and 3 of the financial statements.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nichola Tally". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping 'y' at the end.

Nichola Tally

On behalf of Paddington Playgroup