

Little Smarties Pre-School

Charity Number 108554

3a Gillaroo Court, Garrison, BT93 4ER

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the financial year ending 31/08/2023

Trustees: Trustees for the period 01/09/2022 - 31/08/2023:

Trustee	Role
Michelle Leonard	Chairperson
Mr Brian McCabe	Vice Chairperson
Katie Carty	Secretary
Emma Keaney	Vice Secretary
Íde O Hara	Treasurer
Aisling Tiffoney	Fundraising Committee
Carla O Hara	Fundraising Committee
Ken Keane	Fundraising Committee

The Charity is an unincorporated association established under a constitution.

In fulfilling the public benefit requirement, the charity trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's statutory public benefit guidance.

The purpose of this charity continues to be:

- To provide a happy, safe, child centred, caring environment that is stimulating and challenging for children.
- To offer high quality pre-school care and education in partnership with parents to children in our setting which is appropriate to their stage of development and following the pre-school curriculum outlined by the Department of Education for Northern Ireland.

- To promote the rights of the child as set out by the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (1991).
- To offer equality of opportunity to all children and families within our setting, showing mutual respect, tolerance and understanding at all times.
- Our Pupils & their families from Garrison & the neighbouring areas are the direct beneficiaries, they are at an advantage for availing of the pre-school education we provide, gaining social interaction with peers they will accompany into primary education. Hence improving confidence, social skills & intellectual/ cognitive stimulation

The information below sets out the activities we have carried out to further our purposes and fulfil the public benefit elements during the last 12 months.

Activities

- As members of the Early Years Organisation and dedicated Early Years practitioners, children benefit from the implementation of a child centred approach to learning which is always play-based and focused on the individual needs of each child. As a result, children become confident in their learning and feel able to express themselves and their needs.
- Careful planning and organisation of play settings in order to provide for and extend learning.
- Careful observation of children's activities to facilitate assessment and planning for progression and continuity.
- Staff attend training on an ongoing basis to continually update and refresh their knowledge and qualifications.
- Ensuring that our curriculum and planning fully encapsulates the 6 identified areas of learning.
- Individual plans for children with needs are kept and observations are recorded of all children in order to accommodate our child-centred approach and focus on individual needs.
- Our activities do not lead to any harm The only private benefits arising from our purposes is that a trustee's family member may participate in the pre-school in the same manner as all other beneficiaries, or indeed that our Trustees may learn new skills as they take on roles on our management committee. This is purely incidental and necessary so that the benefit is available to all inhabitants of the area.

Achievements

- Continued to provide high quality education and care.
- Continued to support the families of children attending our setting.
- Held the inaugural Little Smarties Tractor Run - a fundraising initiative which involved the entire community of Garrison and beyond. Not only did it prove to be a very successful and enjoyable family day out for the community, we also raised over £12,600 for the pre-school, and it has become a fixture in the community calendar.
- We also held very successful table quizzes, clothes collections and raffles throughout the year, keeping the Pre-School and its families to the fore as a vibrant and engaging group at the heart of the community.

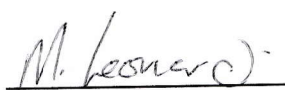
Finances

A review of the charity's financial position confirms a successful year. The charity had receipts of £52,527 and payments of £49,391, giving a surplus for the year of £3,136. As numbers, and therefore PEG contributions, were relatively low – and many grants from previous years, ie COVID grants, had ceased – there was some concern that we may struggle to cover costs for the year. However, the substantial efforts put into fundraising initiatives paid off, and allowed us to keep a healthy bank balance. We are indebted to our community and local businesses who support the Pre-School year after year without fail, and allow it to thrive and flourish.

We also request a moderate monthly contribution from families of children attending to cover snacks.

Accounts are prepared to comply with the requirements of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland

Signed on behalf of the Trustees by:



Name: Michelle Leonard, Chairperson

Date: