



**Section A**

**Independent Examiner's Report**

**Report to the trustees/  
members of**

THE LENCHES PRE-SCHOOL

**On accounts for the year  
ended**

31<sup>st</sup> AUGUST 2023

**Charity no  
(if any)**

1043885

**Set out on pages**

1-2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/08/2023.

**Responsibilities and  
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent  
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below \*) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

**Signed:**

*M Vincent*

**Date:**

5/1/2024

**Name:**

MICHELLE VINCENT

**Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):**

ACCA

**Address:**

FRUITION ACCOUNTANCY LLP

29 WOOD STREET,

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON, CV37 6JG

**Section B**

**Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

**Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, occupying the central portion of the page. It is intended for the user to provide details of items for disclosure as requested in the text to its left.



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

The Lenches Pre-School

1043885

## Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period  
from

01/09/2022

To

31/08/2023

### 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 £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Income - NEF	20,905	-	-	20,905	53,168
Income - Parent fees	21,215	-	-	21,215	14,603
Income - Not categorised	-	-	-	-	-
Fundraising	271	-	-	271	840
Donations	320	-	-	320	-
Outings / Experiences	-	-	-	-	-
Grant	3,291	-	-	3,291	-
Interest	153	-	-	153	4
Sundry Income	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>46,154</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>46,154</b>	<b>68,615</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>46,154</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>46,154</b>	<b>68,615</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Cost of Staff	51,123	-	-	51,123	59,289
Staff training	291	-	-	291	731
Rent & Insurance	6,496	-	-	6,496	7,666
Phone	307	-	-	307	524
Consumables	1,500	-	-	1,500	1,402
New equipment	-	-	-	-	-
Outings / Experiences	606	-	-	606	480
Professional fees	4,208	-	-	4,208	2,779
Uniform	90	-	-	90	10
Fundraising	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>64,622</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>64,622</b>	<b>72,880</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>64,622</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>64,622</b>	<b>72,880</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>- 18,468</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>- 18,468</b>	<b>- 4,265</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>50,582</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>50,582</b>	<b>54,847</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>32,114</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>32,114</b>	<b>50,582</b>

**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 £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Current Account	1,958	-	-
	Reserve Account	30,156	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>32,114</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))



	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	E Ferguson	25.3.24
	M Benbow	25.3.24



# Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date

Period end date

From

01 09 2022

To

31 08 2023

## Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

THE LENCHES PRE-SCHOOL

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any)

1043885

Charity's principal address

Church Lench Village Hall

Main Street, Church Lench, Evesham

Postcode

WR11 4UE

### Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	PAULA AMER	CHAIR		
2	SIMON NEWTON	TREASURER	September 2022 to December 2022	
3	LEXI PAPANDEOUS	TREASURER	December 2022 to August 2023	
4	JO BEASLEY	SECRETARY		
5	KIRSTY PROTHEROUGH			
6	JESS ARTHURS-PITTS			
7				
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16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

### Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name

Dates acted if not for whole year


**Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)**

Type of adviser	Name	Address

**Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)**

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**Section B Structure, governance and management**

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**Description of the charity's trusts**

Type of governing document	Constitution adopted 6 March 1985 as amended on 14 September 2010 as amended by scheme dated 01 March 2017.
How the charity is constituted	Association.
Trustee selection methods	Voted.

**Additional governance issues (Optional information)**

<p>You <b>may choose</b> to include additional information, where relevant, about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;</li> <li>• the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;</li> <li>• relationship with any related parties;</li> <li>• trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.</li> </ul>	<p>NA</p>
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**Section C Objectives and activities**



**Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document**

The aims of the Pre-school are to enhance the development and education of children primarily under statutory school age by encouraging parents to understand and provide for the needs of their children through community groups and by: (a) offering appropriate play, education and care facilities, family learning and extended hours groups, together with the right of parents to take responsibility for and to become involved in the activities of such groups, ensuring that such groups offer opportunities for all children whatever their race, culture, religion, means or ability; (b) encouraging the study of the needs of such children and their families and promoting public interest in recognition of such needs in the local areas; and (c) instigating and adhering to and furthering the aims and objects of the Pre-School Learning Alliance.

The trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

The Lenches Pre-School operates during term time only and is based in Church Lench Village Hall. It offers appropriate play, education and childcare facilities to families in the Lenches and wider area, but also attracts children and families from the towns of Evesham and Pershore.

The setting is located in some of the most beautiful countryside in Worcestershire and the children have access to a secure outdoor play area.

**Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)**

**Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)**

NA

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Section D

Achievements and performance



## Section D

## Achievements and performance

### Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

**Children:** Pre-school had 7 children on roll in September and 17 children in July. In July, 4 children left to go to school, 1 of which joined Church Lench First School. Recruitment of new children was restricted at the start of the academic year given the setting's "Inadequate" rating. An "inadequate" setting is unable to take on any new children other than children it has taken enquiries from.

**Operational hours:** Pre-School opened Monday to Friday in term time. No dedicated Forest School was offered on Mondays due to the lack of qualified Forest School Leader. Pre-School continued to offer 'Nature Walks' and to access the community orchard and local play area.

**Ofsted rating "Good":** The new Manager (appointed September 2022) – a qualified teacher and business owner – oversaw pre-school's re-grading to "Good" in December 2022. The inspector praised the improvements made by the staff and the report outlines children who "make good progress in their learning and development." Staff are reported to "interact well with the children and provide a range of activities and experiences, indoors and outdoors. Children are confident, chatty and adopt a positive attitude to learning".

**Focus on Grant Applications:** In light of the cost-of-living crisis, the Committee prioritised grant applications over fundraising initiatives, and Pre-school was fortunate to secure two significant charitable grants, totalling £3,291.

**Further collaboration with Church Lench First School:** While Pre-School and Church Lench First School have always enjoyed strong links, this was furthered in April 2023 when the settings cooperatively organised a Forest School at Yates' Community Orchard for the community. A large number of local families enjoyed this event and it also led to a number of applications for places in September 2023.

## Section E Financial review

**Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves**

The Lenches Pre-school has historically targeted a reserve fund of £50k to cover potential costs including closure, securing operations (such as recruitment fees), new equipment and professional fees (approved 23/4/2018). There is no documentary evidence of this having changed.

**Details of any funds materially in deficit**

NA.

### Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The Lenches Preschool reported a loss of £18.5k in AY23.

This was due to the low number of children on roll which led to a significant decrease in income and is directly attributed to the impact of the setting's Ofsted rating downgrade which prevented the recruitment of new children.

Pre-school is not immune to generic inflationary cost pressures but as is the case with the sector, it faced increases in minimum wage rates with no comparable increase in Nursery Education Funding rates. Recruitment of new staff proved challenging and Pre-school engaged a recruitment agency, further increasing costs.

The Committee is optimistic for an improved financial outlook in AY24.



## Section F Other optional information

It was established at the AGM on 17 October 2023 that the Charity Annual Return for AY21,22 and 23 had not been completed. This Trustee Annual Report and Accounts have been prepared retrospectively by the current Committee using available documentation and are submitted for approval at an EGM to be held on 25 March 2023.

## Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

**Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees**

<b>Signature(s)</b>		
<b>Full name(s)</b>	Millie Benbow	Liz Ferguson
<b>Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)</b>	Chair	Treasurer
<b>Date</b>	25 - 3 - 2024	