

Annual Statement

Stannington Village Pre-School

January 2024 (Covering Sept 2022 to July 2023)



Chair Persons Report – Justine Martin

I start as always by offering my thanks to the committee and staff for their time and efforts this year. It's great to report that the committee is much healthier in numbers this year with several new faces but we always welcome new parents/ carers to join us. If you are interested and feel you could spare a couple of hours for a meeting once each half term please talk to Anne or Hannah for details.

Our Pre-School Manager Tabby began her maternity leave in February. This provided a development opportunity for Hannah to step up to the role of Pre-School Manager with support from Anne. Sophie then took on a Room Leader role. Special thanks to Anne for the additional hours this is taking. A very busy year with regards to staff changes more of which are in the Managers report.

We have made a large ongoing investment in FAMLY our new early childhood platform, our parents and carers really seem to like how it allows us to share information in a secure way.

We continue to offer Early sessions to children as part of our flexible provision but these are under review due to lower occupancy this year.

The transition to school continues to run well. The relationship we have with Stannington Infant School remains strong and positive and we work collectively to support children with the move. School continue to provide feedback on the strengths and weaknesses of each cohort which allows us to review teaching practice.

Please remember that you can visit pre-school at any time, Hannah & April are always happy to answer any questions.

Managers Report – Hannah Quarmby

Occupancy has continued to increase steadily over the academic year, with numbers positively improving. We also have a strong intake list for September 2022 and will continue to build numbers throughout the year.

Our manager Tabatha began her maternity leave which allowed me the opportunity to step up to the role as pre-school manager. With the support of Anne and the team we have made many positive changes and received wonderful feedback from staff, children and families.

We have continued to build a great partnership with Stannington Infants and have recently implemented their phonics programme 'Read Write Inc' which has made such a positive impact.

We continued to work with external agencies to support our children with special educational need and any safeguarding concerns which is monitored throughout the year.

We said goodbye to Nicola Windle who left to run her family business and Sarah Lazenby who left to support Family. We welcomed two fantastic members to the team, Alex Ashmore and April Stewart and they continue to make such a positive impact on SVPS.

Overall, the year was a great success and we look forward to welcoming more families in the next academic year.

Administrators Report – Anne Fellows

As the small profit shows, we had a good year, despite costs rising and the majority of our income being out of our control being dependent on the funding rates set by government. We should now concentrate on occupancy to ensure our income is aligned with our main expenditure which is salary costs.

There is a continuing trend of NLW rate increases far exceeding the funding rate set by government. If this continues, we should be aware that it will have a negative effect on our long-term sustainability. We will carry out a review of this situation during the next financial year.

Toddler Group – Diane Shepherd + Anne Fellows

Toddlers attendance and income has continued to lag behind the rates of the pre-covid era.

We now have competition from a free church baby group that meets next door at the same time we do.

This lower income works has with the increasing salary cost led to an increase the percentage loss we see each week.

There has been a noticeable change to our clientele. We now welcome grandparents and child minders rather than parents. This maybe the result of the cost-of-living crisis.

We would like to say a big thank you to the parents/carers who continue to support the group and help to set up and tidy away; your help is invaluable and always appreciated. We are grateful for the positive feedback we have been given. As always, we welcome your comments and suggestions and we are always available to talk to during toddler sessions.

Stannington Village Pre-School
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