

# **AIGBURTH OPPORTUNITIES**

also known as "ATO AND LITTLE EXPLORERS DAY NURSERY"

## **ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**

for the year ended

**31st March 2025**

**REGISTERED NUMBER: 2025421**

**CHARITY NUMBER: 700705**



# **AIGBURTH OPPORTUNITIES**

also known as "ATO AND LITTLE EXPLORERS DAY NURSERY"

## **Accounts**

**for the year ended 31st March 2025**

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# AIGBURTH OPPORTUNITIES

also known as "ATO AND LITTLE EXPLORERS DAY NURSERY"

## Company Information

for the year ended 31st March 2025

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<b>Company number:</b>	2025421
<b>Charity number:</b>	700705
<b>Patrons:</b>	Dame Lorna E Muirhead DCVO DBE CSTJ DL FRCOG Colonel (Ret) J.A.Harkon MBE TD DL Major (Ret) R.W. Bevan MBE
<b>Trustees:</b>	Mr Ronald Basnett Mrs Patricia Fearn Ms Belinda Perez
<b>Nursery Manager:</b>	Nicola Holding
<b>Registered office:</b>	Future House 25 Pomona Street Liverpool L3 5TL
<b>Bankers:</b>	Lloyds Bank plc Liverpool Law Courts Merchants Court 2 - 12 Lord Street Liverpool L2 1TS
<b>Independent Examiner:</b>	Mr P L Griffiths FCA DchA Mitchell Charlesworth Accountants Suites C,D,E,F, 14 <sup>th</sup> Floor The Plaza Old Hall Street Liverpool Merseyside L3 9QJ
<b>Solicitors:</b>	Brabners LLP Horton House Exchange Flags Liverpool L2 3YL

# AIGBURTH OPPORTUNITIES

also known as "ATO AND LITTLE EXPLORERS DAY NURSERY"

## Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st March 2025

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The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) present their report together with the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019).

### Trustees

The trustees who served during the year are detailed on page 1.

### Objectives and activities

The objectives of this Charity are always to provide the best possible childcare for local residents and visiting students, at an affordable price. Coupled with this is a genuine desire to see the ongoing development of not only the children, but of the staff we employ and the carers we encounter.

Our specific objectives through April 2024 to March 2025 were to:-

- increase training and standards in preparation for Ofsted inspection.
- stabilise the staffing levels and look towards opening a new room.

The overall objectives of the charity are set out in its mission statement:

*To promote the value of learning by creating a purposeful learning environment that enables learners to meet and to exceed their aspirations.*

*To provide opportunities which enhance and develop the social and economic structure of the local communities that Aigburth Training Opportunities serves.*

*To support and develop staff, thereby ensuring that the learning environment we aim to create is conducive to the occupational area we offer.*

The aim of the charity is to provide quality training and childcare facilities that enables people to realise their aspirations in being able to access employment and or further/higher education.

In 2024/25 the main objectives of the charity were:-

- To continue in our aim of providing education for learners, staff and carers.
- To provide opportunities to those who have difficulty in accessing training and employment.
- To provide affordable and culturally diverse childcare facilities for the community.
- To develop staff, in relation to higher qualifications and information, advice and guidance, so the company can aid and contribute to the wider community.

# **AIGBURTH OPPORTUNITIES**

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## **Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st March 2025**

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### **Public benefit statement**

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

### **Strategic Report**

#### **Achievements and performance**

2024/25 started in a subdued mood as we faced another year under the shadow of the last Ofsted report.

The continuous search for L3 qualified staff remained unfulfilled, and we were looking forward to existing L2 staff qualifying as L3s within the financial year. This was a source of pride for us, as it is consistent with our ethos of helping to better the lives of our staff as well as the children.

The year was one of putting heads down, gritting teeth and just getting on with the job.

The staff had to be kept motivated to maintain the high standards expected, and also, there was another Ofsted inspection scheduled for some time in December.

One senior member of staff was given more responsibility so as to ease the burden on the manager, and one of the trustees who has Early Years experience committed to regular visits to help and advise.

Our previous manager continued to have ties with the nursery, acting as consultant on a part time basis.

We also engaged a SEND specialist on a part time basis, to aid in the increasing number of children presenting with special educational needs.

The finances in the first part of the year were not so good, with projections showing a downward trend in reserves as expenses continued to outstrip income. Fees were increased in April, but so were wages, and hopes were placed on attracting more children in general, and on the new intake in September. This would include funded places for babies for which we could claim. A banner was ordered to advertise that we had places available.

In August, there were riots in Liverpool City Centre, after the awful events in Southport. The nursery has a car park and gates to secure it, but there was no lock other than a bicycle chain. The staff closed the gates hoping no trouble would reach them, which thankfully was the case.

However, this led to considerations of formulating a formal plan in case of emergencies. The thought exercise extended to a potential invasion of the nursery. Whistles were provided for all staff to raise the alarm, and drills practised with the children to ensure their safety. Plans were made to have an electronic lock fitted to the gates.

September came, and with it the hoped-for increase in children started. By October the finances had started to recover. Receiving the funding meant income was steadier.

In December, Ofsted came again. This time, we were released from our ignominy and given a "Good". I'll add that all the parents already thought we were more than good according to feedback surveys.

This opened the floodgates, as it now meant we could take all levels of funded children. By the end of the financial year we had made a small surplus, after two years of deficits.

# **AIGBURTH OPPORTUNITIES**

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## **Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st March 2025**

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### **Strategic Report**

#### **Financial review**

In 2024/25 income from charitable activities increased from £325,414 to £ 375,171.

The number of invoices per week increased by about 30% throughout the year but the actual amount invoiced to paying carers remained stable, despite an increase in fees. This was because more people could take funded places. As a result, the funding paid increased from £58,200 in 2024 to £137,800 in 2025.

Donations consisted of £250 by the local masons, £510 by a local training association, and numerous occasions when parents were happy for the nursery to keep any surplus deposits after they had left.

We also received a grant in March 2025 of £3,136 from the local council to use for children with SEND.

Most expenses remained comparable to the previous year. Despite rising inflation, the expenditure on consumables (food, cleaning products, art supplies etc) was lower by £1,600 than in 2024. Having an efficient regular cook probably contributed to this, as well as excellent money management by the manager.

Expenditure on repairs also fell, but only in comparison with the previous year when the roller shutters, car park camera and kitchen water heater all failed and needed repairing or replacing.

The largest increase in expenditure was for wages. These needed to increase to stay ahead of the National Minimum Wage. There was a 20% increase in the wage bill amounting to £56K over 2024. The continued freeze on the tax threshold brings more employees into paying tax. We also had two members of staff on Maternity leave and needed to recruit to cover their duties. This was offset by the £5,000 Employer's allowance and £23.9K in SMP recovered.

Due to the expansion of the age range eligible for funding, the increase in funded places meant that our income managed to exceed our expenses.

As a result, there was a surplus in this financial year of £1,837 (deficit of £7,847 in 2023/24).

The trustees aim to keep a reserve of unrestricted funds sufficient to ensure the smooth running of the charity for approximately three months. The unrestricted funds increased by 1.5%

The Statement of Financial Activities shows an increase in funds for the year of £1,837.

The Balance Sheet position indicates reserves, unrestricted as to purpose amounting to £120,451 and restricted reserves of £nil.

#### **Policy on remuneration of key management personnel**

The charity is committed to ensuring that we pay our staff fairly and in a way which ensures we attract and retain the right skills to have the greatest impact in delivering our charitable objectives.

The Board undertakes an annual review of salaries with the support of the nursery manager, although the nursery manager does not participate in the discussions around their own salary. All salary reviews take account of the financial position of the organisation.

# **AIGBURTH OPPORTUNITIES**

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## **Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st March 2025**

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### **Policy on remuneration of key management personnel**

When carrying out its reviews, the Board has regard to:

- salary levels in the sector generally;
- making sure that pay rates are competitive;
- the remuneration package as a whole including pension contributions; and
- rewarding good performance.

It is the aim of this charity to work towards paying a “living wage” and the financial position is reviewed regularly with this aim in mind. A salary scale for all staff has been implemented depending on age, qualifications and experience.

### **Risk management**

The trustees confirm that the major foreseeable risks to the charity are those of:

- the proposed increases in National Minimum Wage coupled with the dropping of the threshold for employer’s NI and increase in the percentage. This will add a substantial amount to our wage bill.
- the increase in funded hours not being covered adequately by the funding received for three year olds.
- the cost-of-living increases affecting families such that they cease to use childcare facilities.
- Government policies restricting foreign students bringing their children with them.
- lack of suitably qualified staff.

These are reviewed at each Board meeting and the nursery manager is responsible for ensuring that strategies are in place to counteract the effects of any changes.

### **Plans for future periods**

As in every year since our enforced closure during Covid, our hope has been to expand the nursery so as to offer more people the chance of studying or working, whilst we look after and educate their children.

With staff qualifying, and the engagement of a SEND specialist, we are considering offering more places to children with special educational needs and disabilities. Our dream is for a new room with special facilities where all children can be helped to reach their full potential.

We continue to welcome people from all ethnicities, religions and customs. We provide a hub where all can meet and interact, with the children at the centre of it all. We believe this “ambassadorial” role is more important than ever in a time of rising conflict, and the message of peace and love for your fellow human being is hopefully one the children in particular will take with them.

Other plans:

- explore new initiatives to support the families of the children in our care as well as the local community
- reach out to Local Authority Services to reinforce our commitment to help if emergency childcare is needed
- continue to seek out new apprentices to offer more learning opportunities to young people
- maintain a wage system that remunerates the staff as well as the finances allow
- a review of fees charged in line with current inflation

# **AIGBURTH OPPORTUNITIES**

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## **Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st March 2025**

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### **Structure, governance and management**

The charity is constituted as a company limited by guarantee, and is therefore governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association, which was amended in January 2007 to allow for current governance arrangements. It is also known by the names of "Aigburth Training Opportunities" and "ATO". The nursery is known as Little Explorers Day Nursery

There were three trustees during the period from 1 April 2024 to March 2025 and the same three from April 2025 to the date of signing this report as shown on page 1. New trustees are recruited and appointed by arrangement with the existing trustees. Each trustee's individual liability in the event of winding-up is limited to £1.

### **Organisation**

The Board meets every twelve weeks and an Annual General Meeting (AGM) is held prior to the Reports and Financial Statements being submitted to Companies House and to the Charity Commission.

The CEO was appointed by the trustees to manage and oversee the day-to-day operations of the charity.

To ensure effective working practice the CEO has full delegated authority approved by the trustees. This includes both strategic and operational concerns, including; finance, employment, management of training contracts, staff and business development.

### **Recruitment, appointment, induction and training of trustees**

Both the trustees and the CEO have a responsibility to recruit suitable trustees to the Board. From time to time approaches are made to the charity by individuals and organisations who wish to support the charity in continuing or developing the support they afford their beneficiaries.

Potential trustees are then nominated by either current trustees or by the Chief Executive Officer ("CEO").

A discussion is held at either the quarterly planned Board meetings or at additional meetings held to nominate prospective members.

Once the nomination has been agreed by the trustees, an informal interview is undertaken by the Chair with the nominee.

During this interview the Chair will discuss the company history and working ethos, and explain what qualities are required of potential trustees.

When the Chair has satisfied him/herself that the nominee would be a suitable and supportive trustee, a Board meeting is called to officially appoint the new trustee.

New trustees undergo an induction day with the Chair and CEO at the company's registered office. This is usually done within the first month of appointment at a time that is conducive to all parties, and consists of:

- Briefing the new trustee as regards their legal obligation under company and charity law;
- The content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association;
- The decision-making process;
- The current business plan;
- Financial performance;
- The company structure;
- Meeting with employees;
- The new trustee's role in the overall scheme.

# **AIGBURTH OPPORTUNITIES**

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## **Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st March 2025**

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### **Recruitment, appointment, induction and training of trustees**

The new trustee also completes any paperwork required for registering as a director with Companies House and receives a copy of "The Burden of Responsibility" by Stephan Drew together with Charity Commission publications booklet CC3, "The essential trustee".

As part of the company's Safeguarding policy, all new and recently appointed trustees are subject to an enhanced DBS check prior to taking up their position.

Trustees are encouraged to attend meetings, as and when required, training events and information days that are pertinent to the company's running and objectives.

### **Related parties**

Other parties which the charity associates with are:-

Social Services  
NWTS (North West Training Services)  
Adult Learning Services  
Liverpool Community College  
Blackburne House  
Job Centres

All the above use the nursery's resources and so contribute to our income.

### **Statement of trustees' responsibilities**

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on an ongoing concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ascertain the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

**By Order of the Trustees**

*Ron Bassnett*

**R Bassnett  
Trustee**

18 December 2025

# Mitchell Charlesworth (Audit) Limited

Accountants

Suites C,D,E,F, 14th Floor, The Plaza, Old Hall Street, Liverpool, Merseyside, L2 5RH

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF

## AIGBURTH OPPORTUNITIES

also known as "ATO AND LITTLE EXPLORERS DAY NURSERY"

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2025 which are set out on pages 9 to 19.

### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your company's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

### Independent examiner's statement

Since the company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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



P L Griffiths FCA DChA  
MITCHELL CHARLESWORTH  
Liverpool

18 December 2025

## AIGBIRTH OPPORTUNITIES

also known as "ATO AND LITTLE EXPLORERS DAY NURSERY"

### Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account) for the year ended 31st March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	2	4,373	3,983	8,356	1,199
Charitable activities	3	<u>366,815</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>366,815</u>	<u>324,215</u>
<b>Total income</b>		<u>371,188</u>	<u>3,983</u>	<u>375,171</u>	<u>325,414</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable activities	4	<u>369,351</u>	<u>3,983</u>	<u>373,334</u>	<u>333,259</u>
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>369,351</u>	<u>3,983</u>	<u>373,334</u>	<u>333,259</u>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)for the year</b>	9	1,837	-	1,837	(7,845)
Total funds brought forward		<u>118,614</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>118,614</u>	<u>126,459</u>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>120,451</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>120,451</u>	<u>118,614</u>

The charity has no recognised gains or losses other than the results for the year as set out above.

The notes on pages 12 to 19 form part of these accounts.

# AIGBURTH OPPORTUNITIES

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## Balance Sheet 31st March 2025

	Notes	2025		2024	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	11		19,197		23,118
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	12	27,483		22,490	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>121,089</u>		<u>120,394</u>	
		148,572		142,884	
<b>Creditors</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>47,318</u>		<u>47,388</u>	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<u>101,254</u>		<u>95,496</u>
<b>Net assets</b>			<u>120,451</u>		<u>118,614</u>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General funds	14		120,451		118,614
<b>Total funds</b>	16		<u>120,451</u>		<u>118,614</u>

For the year ended 31st March 2025 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- the members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476;
- complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The accounts on pages 9 to 19 were approved by the Trustees and authorised for issue on 18 December 2025 and signed on their behalf by:-

*Ron Basnett*

R Basnett  
Trustee

Company Registration Number: 2025421

The notes on pages 12 to 19 form part of these accounts.

## AIGBIRTH OPPORTUNITIES

also known as "ATO AND LITTLE EXPLORERS DAY NURSERY"

### Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31st March 2025

	Notes	2025		2024	
		£	£	£	£
Cash flow from operating activities	20		695		(1,659)
Cash flow from investing activities					
Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets		-		(420)	
Net cash flow from investing activities			-		(420)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year ending 31st March 2025			695		(2,079)
Cash and cash equivalents as at 1st April 2024			<u>120,394</u>		<u>122,473</u>
Cash and cash equivalents as at 31st March 2025	21		<u><u>121,089</u></u>		<u><u>120,394</u></u>

# AIGBURTH OPPORTUNITIES

also known as "ATO AND LITTLE EXPLORERS DAY NURSERY"

## Notes to the Accounts

Year ended 31st March 2025

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### 1. Summary of significant accounting policies

#### (a) General information and basis of preparation

Aigburth Opportunities is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity in the United Kingdom. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity. The address of the registered office is given in the charity information on page 1 of these financial statements. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities are set out in the Trustees' Report on page 2.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention. The financial statements are prepared in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest £1.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

#### (b) Funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds is charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

#### (c) Income recognition

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when the charity is legally entitled to the income after any performance conditions have been met, the amount can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received.

For donations to be recognised the charity will have been notified of the amounts and the settlement date in writing. If there are conditions attached to the donation and this requires a level of performance before entitlement can be obtained then income is deferred until those conditions are fully met or the fulfilment of those conditions is within the control of the charity and it is probable that they will be fulfilled.

No amount is included in the financial statements for volunteer time in line with the SORP (FRS 102). Further detail is given in the Trustees' Annual Report.

# AIGBURTH OPPORTUNITIES

also known as "ATO AND LITTLE EXPLORERS DAY NURSERY"

## Notes to the Accounts

Year ended 31st March 2025

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### 1. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

#### (c) Income recognition (continued)

Income from charitable activities includes income received under contract or where entitlement to grant funding is subject to special performance conditions and is recognised as earned as the related services are provided. Grant income included in this category provides funding to support performance activities and is recognised when there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amounts can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Investment income is earned through holding assets for investment purposes such as bank deposits. It essentially includes interest which is recognised using the effective interest method.

#### (d) Expenditure recognition

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. It is categorised under the following headings:

- Expenditure on charitable activities includes expenditure on the operation of an on-site nursery.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as an expense against the activity for which expenditure arose.

#### (e) Support costs allocation

Support costs are those that assist the work of the charity but do not directly represent charitable activities and include office costs, governance costs and administrative payroll costs. They are incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity and include project management carried out at the registered office. Where support costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to expenditure on charitable activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources.

The analysis of these costs is included in note 5.

#### (f) Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost (or deemed cost) or valuation less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Cost includes costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset on a systematic basis over its expected useful life as follows:

Nursery improvements	- 33% per annum
Plant, machinery and motor vehicles	- 10% to 33% per annum
Fixtures and fittings and equipment	- 33% per annum

# AIGBURTH OPPORTUNITIES

also known as "ATO AND LITTLE EXPLORERS DAY NURSERY"

## Notes to the Accounts

Year ended 31st March 2025

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### 1. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

#### (g) Debtors and creditors receivable / payable within one year

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

#### (h) Loans and borrowings

Loans and borrowings are initially recognised at the transaction price including transaction costs. Subsequently, they are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method, less impairment. If an arrangement constitutes a finance transaction it is measured at present value.

#### (i) Impairment

Assets not measured at fair value are reviewed for any indication that the asset may be impaired at each balance sheet date. If such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, or the asset's cash generating unit, is estimated and compared to the carrying amount. Where the carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount, an impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount where the impairment loss is a revaluation decrease.

#### (j) Leases

Rentals payable and receivable under operating leases are charged to the SoFA on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

#### (k) Employee benefits

When employees have rendered service to the charity, short-term employee benefits to which the employees are entitled are recognised at the undiscounted amount expected to be paid in exchange for that service.

#### (l) Tax

The charity is an exempt charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

#### (m) Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

## AIGBURTH OPPORTUNITIES

also known as "ATO AND LITTLE EXPLORERS DAY NURSERY"

### Notes to the Accounts

Year ended 31st March 2025

2. Income from charitable activities	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Donations	873	-	873	199
Other grants	3,500	3,983	7,483	1,000
	<u>4,373</u>	<u>3,983</u>	<u>8,356</u>	<u>1,199</u>

3. Income from charitable activities	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Nursery income	366,815	-	366,815	324,115
Rents and other income	-	-	-	100
	<u>366,815</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>366,815</u>	<u>324,215</u>

None of the above income for 2025 and 2024 was attributable to restricted funds.

4. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities	Direct costs £	Support costs £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<b>Direct charitable expenditure</b>				
Nursery	296,460	76,874	373,334	333,259
	<u>296,460</u>	<u>76,874</u>	<u>373,334</u>	<u>333,259</u>

There were costs attributable to restricted funds of £3,983 in 2025 (2024 £Nil) and £369,351 (2024 £333,259) of the above costs were attributable to unrestricted funds.

5. Support costs	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Salaries	31,340	28,531
Establishment expenses	25,824	28,711
Communications	6,194	7,060
Office costs	2,145	1,817
Other	8,775	7,298
Governance costs (see note 6)	2,596	2,646
<b>Total support costs</b>	<u>76,874</u>	<u>76,063</u>

# AIGBURTH OPPORTUNITIES

also known as "ATO AND LITTLE EXPLORERS DAY NURSERY"

## Notes to the Accounts

Year ended 31st March 2025

<b>6. Governance costs</b>	<b>Total 2025 £</b>	<b>Total 2024 £</b>
Independent examination	2,100	1,950
Legal and professional	496	696
	<u>2,596</u>	<u>2,646</u>

<b>7. Staff costs and numbers</b>	<b>Total 2025 £</b>	<b>Total 2024 £</b>
Salaries and wages	313,781	248,211
Social security costs	14,380	12,110
Other pension costs	5,125	4,646
	<u>333,286</u>	<u>264,967</u>

No employee received benefits (excluding employer pension costs) of more than £60,000 during the year.

The average weekly number of employees during the year, calculated on the basis of full time equivalents, was as follows:-

	<b>Number 2025</b>	<b>Number 2024</b>
Total	<u>22</u>	<u>15</u>

## 8. Trustees' and key management remuneration

One of the trustees, Ms Belinda Perez provides bookkeeping services to the charity. Fees for her services amounted to £5,190 (2024 £4,443).

The total amount of employee benefits received by key management personnel is £38,230 (2024 £48,454).

The charity considers its key management personnel to comprise the Nursery Manager and Assistant Manager.

<b>9. Net income/(expenditure) for the year</b>	<b>Total 2025 £</b>	<b>Total 2024 £</b>
This is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Depreciation	3,921	5,236
External examiner's fees:		
Independent examination	2,100	1,950
Operating lease payments:		
Equipment	332	332
Land and buildings	15,000	15,000

# AIGBURTH OPPORTUNITIES

also known as "ATO AND LITTLE EXPLORERS DAY NURSERY"

## Notes to the Accounts

Year ended 31st March 2025

### 10. Taxation

The company is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

### 11. Tangible fixed assets

	Nursery improvements £	Plant, machinery and motor vehicles £	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>				
At 1st April 2024	205,098	64,850	94,962	364,910
At 31st March 2025	205,098	64,850	94,962	364,910
<b>Depreciation</b>				
At 1st April 2024	200,126	48,726	92,940	341,792
Charge for the year	1,642	1,612	667	3,921
At 31st March 2025	201,768	50,338	93,607	345,713
<b>Net book value</b>				
At 31st March 2025	3,330	14,512	1,355	19,197
At 31st March 2024	4,972	16,124	2,022	23,118

### 12. Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	19,177	14,853
Prepayments and accrued income	8,246	7,637
Other debtors	60	-
	27,483	22,490

### 13. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	7,539	8,732
Taxation and social security	2,757	3,042
Accruals and deferred income	25,950	25,800
Other creditors	11,072	9,814
	47,318	47,388

# AIGBURTH OPPORTUNITIES

also known as "ATO AND LITTLE EXPLORERS DAY NURSERY"

## Notes to the Accounts

Year ended 31st March 2025

14. Unrestricted funds	At 01.04.24 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	At 31.03.25 £
General funds	118,614	371,188	373,334	116,468

Comparative information in respect of the preceding period is as follows:

	At 01.04.23 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	At 31.03.24 £
General funds	126,459	325,414	(333,259)	118,614
15. Restricted funds				
Liverpool EAL funding	-	3,983	(3,983)	-

Liverpool EAL funding - this was provided towards supporting English as a second language.

16. Analysis of net assets between funds	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	19,197	-	19,197
Net current assets	101,254	-	101,254
	120,451	-	120,451

Comparative information in respect of the preceding period is as follows:

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	23,118	-	23,118
Net current assets	95,496	-	95,496
	118,614	-	118,614

# AIGBURTH OPPORTUNITIES

also known as "ATO AND LITTLE EXPLORERS DAY NURSERY"

## Notes to the Accounts

Year ended 31st March 2025

### 17. Members' liability

The company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital. Every member of the charity undertakes to contribute to the assets of the charity, in the event of it being wound up while he or she is a member or within one year of ceasing to be a member for debts and liabilities of the charity contracted before he or she ceases to be a member, such amount as may be required not exceeding £1.

### 18. Ultimate controlling party

In the opinion of the trustees, there is no ultimate controlling party.

### 19. Capital commitments

The charity had no capital commitments at 31st March 2025 (2024 £Nil).

20. Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<b>Net income/(expenditure) for the year</b>	1,837	(7,845)
Depreciation charges	3,921	5,236
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	(4,993)	1,251
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(70)	(301)
<b>Net cash flow from operating activities</b>	<u>695</u>	<u>(1,659)</u>
21. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Cash in hand	706	1,294
Cash at bank	<u>120,383</u>	<u>119,100</u>
<b>Total of cash and cash equivalents</b>	<u>121,089</u>	<u>120,394</u>

### 22. Analysis of net debt

	At 1 April 2024 £	Cash flows £	At 31 March 2025 £
Cash in hand	1,294	(589)	705
Cash at bank	<u>119,100</u>	<u>1,284</u>	<u>120,384</u>
	<u>120,394</u>	<u>695</u>	<u>121,089</u>