

SALE AND DAVY'S PLAYGROUP ANNUAL REPORT MAY 2022

Once again this has been quite a challenging year adhering to the various Covid regulations. Playgroup has gone from strength to strength during these ever-changing times. We have appointed a new Deputy Manager, who has brought her knowledge and skill set to enhance our Playgroup. We currently have 5 (level 3) staff members.

For a large part of the year our Playgroup was fortunate enough to have exclusive use of the village hall. Trustees of the hall have provided regular deep cleaning in order to keep infection rates down, and help keep our children and staff safe.

We started September 2021 with 18 on role with additional new starters in the upcoming weeks. After the Easter 2022 break we will have a total of 30 children on role, along with additional ongoing enquiries. The Playgroup attracts many parents who are not resident in the immediate village, many parents see our small village setting as a positive, and feel their children will benefit from walks around the village, visiting the local small play parks along with the Playgroups allotment (usually quite a messy affair). Staff work hard to try and utilise items which have been grown in the allotment at 'snack time', along with carving out the home-grown pumpkins (October 2021). Our Playgroup has the added advantage of a small outside enclosed area, which is exceptionally safe, where our children can play outside with their scooters / bikes/ and mud kitchen area, the children love the sense of freedom playing outside brings.

Our Playgroup took part in the village 'pumpkin trial' October 2021, this proved a messy but happy week preparing the pumpkins for display. Xmas 2021 was a magical time for the children, all receiving a wrapped gift from Santa.

Looking back of the past few months, the staff have had a number of challenges thrown their way, and have gone above and beyond their usual remit. A considerable amount of planning and organising has taken place to ensure Playgroup runs very smoothly. Although we have had challenging times, the staff remain very positive, and the children have responded. We have a small but very happy group of children, who are learning through their play and that is all we could ask for.

Routine Ofsted inspections will resume from January 2021, our last Ofsted inspection took place in 2017, although a visit to our Playgroup is not imminent, we are preparing in advance for our next visit which may be in the near future.

Our finances remain stable and we finish our financial year in a profitable position. We currently have 3 Trustees, (one newly appointed Trustee). We have, this year, taken the decision to apply for on-line banking which has really helped with our accounts management, having simplified many of our payment processes,

Our Playgroup remains grateful for the willingness of parents to become involved in their children's progress, by way of producing Easter bonnets, engaging in red nose days, world book days etc. Without parental support our Playgroup would not be so special. Parents often donate toys and books, for which we are very grateful.

To conclude, we feel our Playgroup offers children in both the local and wider area an opportunity to learn through play in a stimulating and nurturing environment, which in turn provides the opportunity for parents to work or train. Our Playgroup strives to be responsive to the needs of our community.

We wish our July 2022 leavers all the success as they continue their journey onto school.

Colleen March on behalf of the Trustees 1.5.2022

Sale and Davys Playgroup