



Dacre Banks Pre-school Playgroup Chair's Annual Report January 2015



We have had an excellent year at Dacre Banks Playgroup and thanks to all the hard work of the staff and committee the children continue to thrive in a caring and stimulating environment.

Our Fundraising activities since our last AGM in October 2013 have been greatly successful with £408 raised at our Christmas events of 2013, £180 raised at our pub quiz in November 2013, £230 raised from our Easter Walk and egg hunt in April, £145 + £84 from Bags to School collections, £133.50 at the Cake Stall in July 2014, £320 from the Christmas hamper and £237.50 from the Christmas fair 2014 - a grand total of £1,738!

A big thank you to all the committee members and staff who helped organise and supervise these events and an even bigger thank you to all the parents who donated time, prizes (and cakes!) and came and supported us. It is these fundraising activities that enable us to buy new toys and equipment for the benefit of the children and also enables us to continually improve the setting with better facilities for all.

- The money raised from these events will be used to purchase new outdoor ride on toys for the children for when the weather improves.
- Some funds will also be used to provide improved IT equipment for the children.

Staffing – We were sorry to lose Jayne in July last year and Marsha in October after many years working at Playgroup. Our new Leader Kate started in September, and is currently off on maternity leave. We wish her all the best with her new baby and look forward to welcoming her back after Easter.

Amy Wood and Emily Fazal took on the joint role of Deputy Leaders and will be acting Leaders whilst Kate is away.

We continue to work on the two recommendations given to us by Ofsted, to encourage parents to become more involved in their children's continuous learning and development and to improve on sharing information between all settings involved with children's care and learning.

The previous years' committee has been:

Committee Roles

Chair	Sarah Walker	October 2011	to January 2015
Secretary	none		
Treasurer	Helen Nelson	July 2012	to July 2014
	Gemma Ryder	November 2013	
	Laura Hunt	November 2013	
	Greg Hunt	November 2013	



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The committee provide an essential role within Playgroup as they not only manage and organise all the fundraising activities throughout the year but they also act as Trustees for Playgroup (which is a Registered Charity) and manage the staff, finances and administration of the setting.

We would like to thank the Committee members who have provided invaluable support and donated their time and enthusiasm over the past year. We would also thank Kim Mudgett who has been a great help in organising the hamper this Christmas.

Our website has seen some improvements and is now being maintained and updated by Greg Hunt.

We have lost several committee members since the new school year started and many children left Playgroup to start at local Primary School, but we hope some of our new parents will show an interest in joining us.

It is essential that we find new members as our Constitution states that we require a committee of at least **five** members and we are currently operating at that minimum. Without more help it is a possibility that Playgroup would have to close as Ofsted requires that we fulfil the requirements of our constitution at all times.

We would welcome support from parents and carers in any way they think they could help. This could be as members of the Management Committee helping to run the setting and raise money through fundraising, through volunteering to help in the kitchen or running activities with the children on a regular basis.

Playgroup would like to thanks all members of staff and committee for their hard work in running the playgroup and would like to thank all parents for the continuous support they show.

Sarah Walker

Chair