

CUCKFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

The Queen's Hall, High Street, Cuckfield, RH17 5EL



GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Name of Organisation	Cuckfield Pre-school Playgroup	
Contact Name and Address	Sarah Moss 40 Woodhall Close Cuckfield RH17 5HJ	
Telephone Number	0777 198 5143	
Email Address	chairperson@cuckfieldpreschool.co.uk	
Position	Trustee chair	
Is the Organisation a Registered Charity? If yes, please provide Charity Number	Yes 1178733	
Amount of grant requested	£7,144	
What is the nature of your organisation's activity?		
<p>Cuckfield Preschool Playgroup is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) registered with the Charity Commission that provides early years education to children between the ages of two and a half and five years in the Village Hall.</p> <p>We operate a preschool model, that is, we follow the model of school hours and terms each academic year.</p> <p>Education in the UK is delivered as a set of key stages by age, of which we deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) which runs up to the age of five. We are registered with and approved by Ofsted, the government's education inspection agency.</p>		

What are the aims and objectives of your organisation?				
We work for the public benefit having as our objectives the development and education of children by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promoting their care and safety - Promoting their education and parent involvement - Promoting their health and wellbeing - Providing services to support them, their families and carers. Further detail is in our constitution sent with this grant application.				
When was your organisation formed?		Slightly more than fifty years ago, initially as a mother and toddler group then formalising into a staffed preschool.		
Has it operated previously under another name?		Yes		No
If so, when did the change take place?		14/06/2017 to 14/09/2019 Charity 1173412 Cuckfield Preschool Playgroup (an unincorporated charity) 7/11/1991 to 14/9/2019 Charity 1005708 Cuckfield Preschool Playgroup (an unincorporated charity) Prior to 1991 Cuckfield Under Fives Group		
Is your organisation part of, or affiliated to, a national organisation?		Yes		No
If yes, please provide details				
What is the catchment area of your organisation?				
1. The children participating in our preschool live predominantly in the built-up area of Cuckfield including Whitemans Green, west to Mill Hall, south through the centre of the village to the southern boundary of the built-up area, and east along Broad Street to the junction with the A272. 2. We have no formally specified catchment area. In the event of over-subscription we can follow the Holy Trinity C.E. (A) Primary School catchment area as a guide but I'm not aware of any occasion when that has been invoked.				
How many members belong to your organisation?				

Cuckfield Residents	<10	Non Cuckfield Residents	None
If your organisation is not membership based, please give details of the number of people you work with/provide services for and how many are resident within Cuckfield			
<p>In a typical year we have around 45 children on roll, with fewer in the autumn term (as children start in a preschool the term after they turn two and a half, but all leave at the end of a summer term when moving on to school).</p> <p>In this current autumn term we have 36 children on roll of whom all but 5 live within the area described in point 1 above.</p>			
Briefly describe the project or purpose for which you require a grant			
<p>In April 2017 the government started to make 30 hours per term time week “free entitlement” nursery provision available to parents of all 3, 4 and 5 year olds. This applies to all but the highest earners who can still access the old 15 hours per term time week “free entitlement” scheme. The key policy objectives of the scheme are to benefit the children participating, and to enable parents to return to work.</p> <p>When the Early Years Alliance surveyed the sector before its introduction, the results were of concern; less than half of all childcare providers were planning to roll out the offer and a quarter were likely to close. The reason for this is that the “free entitlement” hourly funding rate childcare providers are paid (around £4.50 per hour) is significantly less than the economic rate of running a setting.</p> <p>As a charitable preschool our values are openness and inclusion for all, we have been offering 27 hours without restriction, and now we can also take the village hall for Thursday afternoons we can now offer 30 hours from January 2020. Unlike some other settings we don't restrict it to certain days of the week or times of the day.</p> <p>We offer a high-quality early years' education regardless of additional or specialist needs from the age of two and a half years upwards. We also take children from the age of two where the family qualifies for certain benefits or the child has additional needs. Making preschool available to these children as early as possible can help to overcome barriers to learning.</p> <p>However as mentioned the funding we receive is significantly short of the economic rate: we charge £7 an hour when a child isn't claiming “free entitlement” hours. You can see from our accounts that about 75% of our income is “free entitlement” hours funding so our ability to influence our overall income is now relatively limited. Top up fees cannot be charged by law. We are permitted to request a voluntary contribution for snacks, and we fundraise and receive donations every year towards covering our costs.</p> <p>Nearly all our income goes on wages and the next biggest item is rent for the village hall. In recent years we have been increasing the amount we pay from an historical low when West Sussex owned the building. In the year April 2020 to 2021 we have offered to increase from £8 to £8.50 per hour. This grant applies for the difference</p>			

between the agreed offer of £8.50 per hour and the standard rate of £13.20 per hour.

Amount requested

Assume 8am to 4pm, Mon – Fri, 38 weeks

8 hours x 5 days x 38 weeks = 1520 hours

Unadjusted = 1520 hours x £13.20 = £20,064

Adjusted = 1520 hours x £8.50 = £12,920

Difference = £7,144

How will this project benefit the community or residents of Cuckfield?

The project benefits the community and residents of Cuckfield by:

1. Supporting the ongoing provision of high-quality preschool education within the village and in the main for Cuckfield families, open to all regardless of additional or special needs.
2. We take care of the village hall and grounds adding improvements over time for the benefit of all users, such as the hardstanding area, planters and daily cleaning.
3. We participate actively in the life of the village through fundraising activities at community events.
4. We provide school hour, term time employment for more than ten people nearly all of whom are Cuckfield residents. Whilst not all our employees have young children, many do, and we enable these people to return to work in a way that balances with having a young family.

Is your organisation VAT registered?	Yes: VAT No		No
When do you intend to start the project?	Start of Summer term 2020		
Completion Date	End of Spring term 2021		
Have you previously received, or applied for, a grant from Cuckfield Parish Council?	Yes		No
If YES, please give details of amount(s) and year(s)			
Please add any further information in support of your application (additional literature, leaflets or recent annual reports may be enclosed with the application)			

Declaration

I declare that I have read and accept the conditions of the grant and that I have answered all questions fully and truthfully. I also declare that any grant made will be used solely for the purposes outlined in this application. I understand that Cuckfield Parish Council reserves the right to reclaim the grant in the event of it not being used for the purpose specified.

Full Name	Sarah Moss
Signed	<i>SAMoss</i>
Position	Trustee chair
Date	30 th September 2019
Email	chairperson@cuckfieldpreschool.co.uk