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GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Name of Organisation: Cuckfield Pre-school Playgroup

Contact Name: Sarah Moss

Address:

Telephone Number:

Email address:

Position: Trustee Chair

Is the organisation a registered charity? Yes

If yes, please provide Charity number: 1178733

Amount of grant requested: £5,508-5,993 shared/sole use, assuming net cost of £9/hour

What is the nature of your organisation's activity?

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.

We operate a preschool model, that is, we follow the model of school hours and terms each academic year.

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.

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:

- Promoting their care and safety
- Promoting their education and parent involvement
- Promoting their health and wellbeing
- Providing services to support them, their families and care workers

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 under another name? Yes

If so when did the change of name 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? No

If yes, please provide details: N/A

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 as with several other nursery and preschool providers in Cuckfield and neighbouring towns / villages it is normal for our intake to be very local.

How many members belong to your organisation?

Cuckfield Residents: Below 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:

For the summer term (start of requested grant period) we have 45 children on roll of which 37 are Cuckfield families. Of the remaining 8 out of Cuckfield, 4 have siblings in Holy Trinity primary school.

Total number of children on roll will be slightly lower in Autumn & Spring terms as each year 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.

Briefly describe the project or purpose for which you require a grant:

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 and improve their education outcomes.

As a charitable preschool we value being open and inclusive to all so continue to support the government's offer up to 30 hours term time "free entitlement" to early years provision available to almost all parents of 3-, 4- and 5-year-olds. (Highest earning bracket of over £100k has "free entitlement" limited to 15 hours per week.)

WSCC pay us £4.50 per child per hour to provide early years education – significantly short of the £7 per hour economic rate we charge for additional hours. 75% of our income is at this limited rate of £4.50 which is fixed.

Top up charges cannot be charged by law (£4.50 is for a free place, not a subsidy) so to balance the books we:

- Request a voluntary contribution for snacks and activities
- Fundraise and are supported by donations
- Apply for this grant towards our hall hire which is our second biggest expense after wages.

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. Taking care of the village hall and grounds adding improvements over time for the benefit of all users, such as the hard standing area, planters and daily cleaning.
3. Actively participating in the life of the village through fundraising activities at community events (covid aside which has limited everyone's activities this year).
4. Providing 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? No

When do you intend to start the project? Start of Summer term 2021

Completion Date: End of Spring term 2022

Have you previously received or applied for a grant from CPC? Yes

If yes, please give details of amount(s) and year(s):

2021/22 approximately £7k gross before lockdown 1 caused all early year's providers to close.

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:

Position: Trustee Chair

Date: 24 March 2021

Email Address: chairperson@cuckfieldpreschool.co.uk