



Berryarbor Pre-school,
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Berryarbor Preschool - Annual Parish Meeting Report 2026

Well, what a year!

We have had quite a turbulent time, which nearly saw the preschool close its doors after nearly 40 years of providing child care in the community.

We regained our 'Good' rating from OFSTED in January 2025, after the committee and staff putting in a lot of effort. We then found ourselves in the unimaginable position with an alleged misappropriation of funds in September 2025. This left the preschool with no money to run. We all prepared ourselves for a sudden preschool closure. This would have left parents looking for new childcare, staff looking for new jobs and the community without a preschool.

An Emergency General Meeting was called in October 2025 where parents, family members and people from the committee attended and voted to save the preschool. Through a 'Go Fund Me' page, local fundraising raising activities and the overwhelming generosity of the community, parents, families, the preschool was able to continue to operate.

Our Annual General Meeting was then held in November 2025. Lee Cox remains our Chairperson and we voted on a strong committee made up of parents and members of the community. They hope to turn our preschool around and see us through to becoming a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

We hope this new start, which will again trigger another OFSTED inspection, will wipe the slate clean as we continue to prosper as a child care provider for Berryarbor and the wider community.

Staff members

We are a strong team of 4 members of staff; all level 3 qualified with an average of over 15 years of child care experience between us. We have 1 bank staff member who covers training days or any sickness.

Numbers of children

Presently we have 16 children on register, of which 6 will be moving up to primary school in September 2026.

We have 2 new children due to start with us in April 2026.

We continue to provide child care and education following the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Framework.

We are now registered to take children from 18 months old. This has its challenges such as ensuring equipment and resources are safe and suitable and that our curriculum is differentiated between the different age groups. This has also helped us through this rocky time receiving funding we would not have had and provided additional childcare for the community.

Government Funding

We are in receipt of government funding for all children age groups including the 30 hours entitlements, child tax credit scheme and some business vouchers such as Sodexo.

Fundraising

We continue to hold fundraising events such as 'Bag2school' clothes recycling. We have registered with the Tesco 'Stronger Start' scheme (Blue coin drop) and propose to purchase some new furniture for our under 2 year olds. We have recently held a Spring term celebration and Easter egg hunt.

Activities/Events

As a setting, we celebrated Christmas and joined the primary school in church as they performed their Nativity/Christmas play.

We continue to celebrate the children's achievements in the form of a short show. We enjoy exploring our village, going on short walks with the children, visiting the horses and pop to the local shop.

We plan to hold a quiz night soon.

We hope to book a few sessions with Lorna May who does Yoga in the Manor Hall for the children.