

Why is the project needed ?

The Pre-School charity is undergoing a review of sustainability planning in light of increased rent for the Village Hall use, potential wage increases, and the need for capital outlay on equipment, material and educational toys. Tables, chairs, toys and all pre-school equipment have to be set out and packed away on a daily basis. This adds to wear and tear, and much of the equipment is now requiring replacement. This will also enhance safety and hygiene considerations for the children.

Give details of consultation :

The Pre-School regularly consult with parents and carers. We work closely with the NYCC Education Dept. Early Years Adviser, Village Hall Trustees and local Primary Schools.

For this project we have sought help from the NYCC Stronger Communities Delivery Manager who will be helping with business planning, sustainability advice and a wider funding strategy.

Indicate how you will measure the success and impact of your project ?

We consistently monitor numbers of children on the register, number of attendances, and progress towards the national early year's curriculum. We are members of the Pre-school Learning Alliance. We will survey parents/carers on a regular basis to gain feedback on the improvements we plan to make. We will work with the NYCC Stronger Communities Manager to develop SMART outcomes and monitor progress against these. We will undertake any monitoring or evaluation as required by Ryedale DC. Our Treasurer will record and report on all expenditure and income.

How does your project meet the priorities of the Council ?

The pre-school enhances the economic performance of the area, by providing childcare for working parents. We provide opportunities for the children, many from isolated rural homes, to socialise and learn. Each Thursday, our 'Stay and Play' session for babies and toddlers with parents/carers provides opportunities for social interaction, enhancing wellbeing. We provide an essential community service that benefits a significantly rural area that includes isolated areas such as Farndale, Lastingham etc.

Local fundraising events that we arrange also offer opportunities for social interaction.

The management committee is made up of volunteers.