

Play-Base

Annual Report 2010—2011

Chairperson's Report

We are grateful for the continuing financial support we received from Edinburgh City Council and from Fairer Scotland via the Leith Neighbourhood Partnership during the last financial year. This funding has enabled us to deliver a range of courses in local community venues and supported the provision of crèche facilities so essential for our students, many of whom are mothers with young children. The induction and training of new tutors has now been completed and our two new tutors have assisted in the delivery of a number of Play-Base courses including one at a new venue in Gilmerton.

“*Really enjoyed each session. I feel I have learnt a lot about children's development*”

We are continuing with the ongoing revision of course materials, this is informed by feedback from tutors and students and is aimed at keeping our courses up to date and relevant. As indicated in last year's report we have refreshed our course marketing materials, and each course start is now publicised by leaflets produced timeously and in our agreed house style.

During the year we promoted Play-Base at the PLU fair on Leith Links and at Leith Acorn Centre and by attendance at Leith Adult Learning Network meetings and Learning Fair . Staff also take advantage of any networking opportunities as they become available during the year.

Easing me back into education ”

We now have a draft Business Plan which links into our Action Plan ready for adoption. The intention is that our Action Plan should be reviewed and amended at regular meetings of Play-Base.

Play-Base continues to work with our designated Council Monitoring Officer, Caitheleen Bell.

We have had discussions with her in relation to our Business Plan, and would like to record our thanks to her for help received

As in previous years, the Board would like to express thanks to our staff, Carol and Bea for carrying out their duties so efficiently, and our Tutors, without whom our courses could not be delivered.

Jack Sanderson
Chairperson



Training 2010 - 2011

TRAINING REPORT

Play-Base continued to deliver core training courses in play and child development from April 2010 to March 2011. Two series of Play-Base 1, 2 and 3 were offered.

Following on from our tutor training programme Play-Base were able to pilot a Play-Base 1 course in the Gilmerton Area, delivered by one of our new tutors. The students from this course travelled to Leith to complete all core courses and were also included in the Understanding Under Threes course in March 2011.

We reviewed the content of our Observation Skills which previously ran

in a local Mother and Toddlers Group and in December were able to offer students an Observation course with classroom sessions and scheduled visits to local nurseries.

Our short Storytelling course was also well received and participants in all courses show an increase in confidence, improvement in discussion skills and better participation in group work.

Comments from the students (From completed course evaluations) are encouraging and exhibit better understanding of child development and the enjoyment of interaction with others.

Quotes

“Understanding how important everyday things are to the development of children”

“Knowing how important it is thinking how a child would think”

“Most enjoyable? The group discussions...”

“Taking a step back and looking critically at situations”

“It’s been great discussing our experiences with each other”

“Really enjoyed each session. I feel I have learnt a lot about children’s development”

“Easing me back into education”

“Of great value to parents and potential child care workers” ””

Of this year’s students 5 have taken part in further training and one has moved to employment. We plan to further improve tracking of former students to ascertain progress to future training and employment.

Leith Adult Learner's Network and Learning Fair, a publicity session at The Acorn Centre, the Parent's Like Us event and liaison with other agencies involved in providing child care courses.

Links with the community have been strengthened by attendance at the

Jenny McCallum
Vice Chair (Training)

Board of Directors		Staff	
Jack Sanderson	Chairperson /Treasurer	Carol Cross	Administrator
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Ailsa Finlayson	Company Secretary		
Gail McCail	Board Member	Tutors	
Freda O’Byrne	Board Member	Barbara Stirling	
Kathy Hughes	Board Member	Gloria Bee	
		Pamela Couper	
		Melinda Peto	
Volunteers			
Moirá Small	Assessor		
Jennifer Booth			

CORE PROGRAMME

PLAY-BASE 1

This introductory course focuses on understanding the importance of play in early childhood and working in a play setting with young children. (Eight sessions)

PLAY-BASE 2

A 'next level course which covers play and child development in greater depth. (Eight sessions)

PLAY-BASE 3

This course includes information about child protection, risk assessment, health and safety and equal opportunities in a child care setting. (Eight sessions)

UNDERSTANDING UNDER THREES

Promoting the understanding of the range and extent of development the child achieves in the first three years. Also supports awareness of the importance of the context of play in the development of the child. (Six sessions)

SHORT COURSES

OBSERVATION SKILLS

This course focuses on the reasons why we observe children and how to improve this crucial skill. (Three sessions)

CHILD SAFETY IN THE HOME AND THE PLAY SETTING

"Those most at risk from a home accident are the 0-4 years age group. Most of these accidents are preventable through increased awareness, improvements in the home environment and greater product safety" (quote taken from www.RoSPA.com). This two hour single session Play-Base workshop addresses issues surrounding child safety in the home.

STORYTELLING

This course illustrates how books and storytelling help young children with speech and language development. (Two sessions)

TUTOR TRAINING

This course is delivered through both self study and group sessions. It equips new tutors to deliver Play-Base courses. If you would like to become a tutor for Play-Base please contact the office for further information. (Rolling entry course)

TREASURERS REPORT

The year has been marked by growing anxiety in relation to income generation and the likely status of future core and external funding.

1. Income

As in previous years, all Play-Base courses are underwritten in cost terms by the organisation as our students come generally from disadvantaged backgrounds. Throughout the year Play-base have provided approximately twenty five places free of charge. Income therefore, from any course fees levied continues to fall and with a continuing drop in core funding levels, allied to the potential loss of Fairer Scotland funding, (see below) the Board is concerned for future service delivery levels. We are grateful to Working for Families who have continued to support the payment of course fees for some students who are planning to enter work.

2. Core Funding

Core funding amounting to £19283 for the year was received from Edinburgh City Council. This represented a 5% cut in our funding. The reduction in funding impacts significantly on the courses we are able to deliver and puts considerable pressure on our need to raise funds from other sources.

3. External Fund Raising

Play-Base has continued to be awarded a substantial grant from Fairer Scotland funds via Leith Neighbourhood Partnership. This funding is of major value to us and supports course development as well as tutor training. Play-Base is developing a funding strategy to identify and secure further funding support for its programmes.

Jack Sanderson, Acting Treasurer

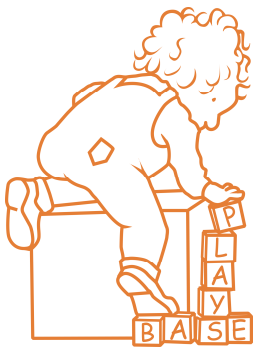
PLAY-BASE EDINBURGH

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
AND INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011

Year ended 31 March 2011

Year ended
31 March
2010

	Unrestrict ed Funds	Restrict ed Funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources				
Incoming resources from generated funds				
Voluntary Income	-	7,800	7,800	7,333
Investment income	-	-	-	-
Incoming resources from charitable activities	19,668	-	19,668	21,653
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Total Incoming Resources	19,668	7,800	27,468	28,986
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Resources Expended				
Cost of Generating Funds				
Costs of generating voluntary income	378	349	727	703
Charitable Activities	16,210	6,291	22,501	23,484
Governance Costs	3,072	1,160	4,232	4,644
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Total Resources Expended	19,660	7,800	27,460	28,831
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Net income/(expenditure) before transfers	8	-	8	155
Transfers	-	-	-	-
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Net Movement in funds	8	-	8	155
Total Funds brought forward	4,921	358	5,279	5,124
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Total Funds carried forward	4,929	358	5,287	5,279
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Play-Base Edinburgh
Duncan Place Resource Centre
Leith EH6 8HW

Tel: 0131 554 8873

play-base@btconnect.com

Text only: 07985 216719

www.playbase.org.uk

Charity Reg No SC029191
Company Limited by Guarantee
Registered in Scotland Reg No 299747

Expenses	Generati ng Voluntary Income	Cost of Charitable Activities	Governan ce Costs	2011 Total	2010 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Staff Costs	378	16,536	3,022	19,936	21,420
Travel Expenses	-	61	61	122	109
Training	-	140	-	140	-
Creche Costs	-	2,245	-	2,245	1,449
1 st Aid Training	-	-	-	-	-
Training Resources	-	51	-	51	83
Premises Costs	141	1,125	283	1,548	1,468
Telephone	80	561	160	802	726
Stationery & Postage	112	782	223	1,117	830
Publicity & PR	-	367	-	367	1,227
Computer	16	114	33	163	184
Maintenance	-	-	-	-	-
Provisions & Misc	-	429	-	429	358
Expenses	-	-	-	-	-
Audit & Accountancy	-	-	450	450	450
Memberships	-	90	-	90	113
Consultancy	-	-	-	-	414
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	727	22,501	4,232	27,460	28,831
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