



Swans Nest, Village Hall, Manns Lane, Swanton Morley, Dereham, Norfolk,  
NR20 4NP

01362638103/ 07736855393

## Annual Parish Meeting Report – Little Swans Pre-School

**Reporting Year:** 2025–2026

It has been a positive and productive year for Little Swans Pre-School. Although we faced challenges due to a low local birth rate, numbers are now beginning to rise.

Our mission remains to provide a safe, nurturing, and stimulating environment where every child can grow in confidence, curiosity, and kindness. We are very grateful for the continued support of our parish, Directors, parents, and dedicated staff team.

- **Enrolment & Attendance:** We currently support 25 families, with a healthy mix of returning children and new starters. Average attendance has remained strong at 94% throughout the year.
- **Curriculum & Learning:** Our play-based curriculum focused on early literacy, numeracy, and social development, with projects on nature and the seasons. This term, we have also supported children who are preparing to move on to school.
- **Special Events:**

This year, children enjoyed a trip to Dinosaur Park, we held a story café to raise funds for the pre-school, and all attending children took part in a Christmas party with Funforce. We are also planning a sponsored walk in June.

### 3. Staff & Training

Our team of six early years practitioners completed training in safeguarding, SENCO, and Makaton training amongst others. We reflective weekly on our practice to share ideas and strengthen our provision.

### 4. Premises & Resources

We have continued to improve our indoor and outdoor spaces. Parents kindly donated plants to refill planters in both garden areas, and the children helped create a small wooden teepee from branches trimmed from our apple tree.

### 5. Financial Overview

The pre-school has faced some financial challenges this year due to lower numbers. However, by making changes to how we operate, we have maintained our high standards and successfully managed through the school year. We have also applied for a grant from Norfolk County Council and are still waiting to hear the outcome of the panel held in March.

As a result, this year's leavers' day will look a little different. Although we contacted several companies for donations towards the trip, we were not successful in securing funding. Our leavers will still be celebrated in a different but special way.

**CHARITY No. 1104647**

Registered in England as a Company  
No. 5103983

Registered Office: The Priory, Church Street, Dereham, Norfolk NR19 1DW



Swans Nest, Village Hall, Manns Lane, Swanton Morley, Dereham, Norfolk,  
NR20 4NP

01362638103/ 07736855393

Encouragingly, income from fees, fundraising events, and funding is beginning to cover our operational costs as child numbers increase.

## 6. Looking Ahead

In the coming year, we aim to:

- Continue growing our Vinted account, which one of our Directors kindly volunteers to run. It has been very successful in selling donated items from the community. Since launching in October 2025, it has raised around £950, which has greatly helped us continue supporting local children and families. Thank you to everyone who has donated. We are still collecting items to sell through “littleswans25”.
- Our Tesco Dereham blue token appeal is running until the end of July 2026. Every token brings us closer to our goal  
Our Project: Little Hands, Big Help  
We are working to: enhance our outdoor play space, provide high-quality cooking resources and experiences, and continue supporting our children despite rising costs.

Every token counts, and your support means a great deal to us and our children.  
Thank you.

- Continue improving accessibility and inclusivity in all areas of provision.

## 7. Thanks & Acknowledgements

We extend our heartfelt thanks to our staff, volunteers, parents, and parish members for their continued support, and to the children, whose laughter and curiosity inspire us every day.

CHARITY No. 1104647

Registered in England as a Company  
No. 5103983

Registered Office: The Priory, Church Street, Dereham, Norfolk NR19 1DW