



OSCARS Newsletter ~ January 2019

Happy New Year and we hope you enjoyed your break. Pam and staff thank you for your cards, kind words and gifts which are much appreciated.

A note to put in your new diaries: **Oscars A.G.M.** will be held on **Tuesday 18th June** time to be confirmed in Oscars' terrapin.

In the very near future we will be asking for your views about Oscars in our annual survey by **Survey Monkey**. Your views and opinions are very important to us and we endeavour to take as many as possible into account in our planning.

February Playscheme has again proved very popular with a waiting list running for all days. Monday 25th Feb, inset day at F.C.C.E, has a few spaces still available.

Changing OSCARS to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation

The management committee are planning to convert OSCARS – a registered charity – into a charitable incorporated

organisation (CIO) this year using the [Charity Commission's](#) framework. Nothing would change in your day-to-day experience of OSCARS – we would still be run by Members and an elected group of Trustees, employ the current staff and manager, hold regular parents meetings and AGMs with the opportunity to elect Trustees and have the same not-for-profit objectives. We would continue to be registered with OFSTED and follow all relevant child-care regulations.

Several other local organisations have converted to CIOs over recent years, such as the [Manor Hall](#) at Coalpit Heath. Converting to a CIO from an unincorporated charity brings a number of benefits:

- it enables the charity to enter into contracts and make payments as a legal entity in its own right



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rather than on behalf of the Trustees;

- members and trustees are usually personally protected from the financial and contractual liabilities incurred by the charity – this is not the case for an unincorporated charity.
- The Charity Commission remains the regulator of the charity and audited accounts need only be submitted to the Charity Commission, not Companies House in addition.

In order to convert OSCARS to a CIO, a consultant from South Gloucestershire CVS is helping us through the process with 12 hours of free support. There will be a number of important decisions requiring votes of Members to agree on during the year, so we may ask you to attend a special AGM or similar meeting to help

progress the conversion. We will give plenty of notice of any important meetings, so please do try and attend if possible and help us make the change in charitable structure to the long-term benefit of OSCARS.

If you have any questions or experience of CIOs that you wish to share with the Committee, do please get in touch with Pam or Fiona Massey (Chair) who will be grateful for any additional support you can offer.



Who knows what the weather may bring so if there is any adverse weather please check the blackboard on our website

www.oscarschildcare.org.uk for updates or check the answer phone for the latest message.

Please visit our website to read our Emergency Closure Policy as this has all the details you need to know if there should be severe weather conditions.