



How Our Fees Work

(including Funded Places at Blue Windmill Nursery)

We aim to keep our fees as clear and transparent as possible. Below is an explanation of how we calculate charges for funded places.

1. Three Ways to Structure Your Fees

We offer three simple ways to organise your childcare.

Option 1 — Fully-Funded Package (if eligible)

- Uses your child's funded hours only
- No charge for childcare
- Optional extras charged separately

This option allows families to access their free entitlement without any requirement to purchase additional hours or services.

Option 2 — All-Inclusive Package

- One fixed monthly fee after funding deduction
- Includes additional hours, meals, consumables and activities

This is our simplest and most popular option, providing:

- a consistent monthly cost
- straightforward budgeting
- funded hours are applied first
- the package covers the remaining hours and services

Option 3 — Private Fee Package (for families not receiving funding)

- One fixed monthly fee
- Includes childcare, meals, consumables and activities
- Based on your chosen sessions and weekly attendance pattern

Fee Options at a Glance

Option	What you pay for	Best for
Fully-Funding Package	Extras only (if taken)	Families eligible for funding who wish to use only their free entitlement
All-Inclusive Package	Fixed monthly fee	Families eligible for funding who would like additional childcare hours and services included within one monthly fee.
Private Fee Package	Fixed monthly fee (no funding applied)	Families not using funded hours who want a simple, all-inclusive monthly cost

2. Government Funding

Eligible children receive funded hours, which are stretched across the year:

- **15 hours funding** = 11.18 hours per week over 51 weeks
- **30 hours funding** = 22.35 hours per week over 51 weeks

These funded hours are applied first to your chosen sessions.

3. How Funding Is Applied

Funding is spread across the days your child attends.

For example:

- If your child attends 2 days per week, the funded hours are divided across those 2 days
- This gives a number of **funded hours per day**

The remaining time in each session is **unfunded childcare**.

15 Hours Funding (Stretched)

Days per week	Funded hours per day	Remaining hours (Full Day)
2 days	5.59 hours	4.41 hours
3 days	3.73 hours	6.27 hours
4 days	2.80 hours	7.20 hours
5 days	2.24 hours	7.76 hours

30 Hours Funding (Stretched)

Days per week	Funded hours per day	Remaining hours (Full Day)
3 days	7.45 hours	2.55 hours
4 days	5.59 hours	4.41 hours
5 days	4.47 hours	5.53 hours

These examples are based on full-day sessions. Shorter sessions follow the same approach, with funding applied proportionally across the week.

4. Chargeable (Unfunded) Hours

Any hours not covered by funding are charged.

We use a **sliding hourly rate**, depending on how many additional hours are used each week to ensure fairness across different attendance patterns.

Number of additional hours	Cost per hour
1- 20	£19.14
21 - 30	£13.40
31 - 40	£11.48
41+	£9.57

5. Additional Costs

We charge separately for items not covered by government funding.

These are shown clearly within your monthly fee or as optional extras.

Session	Enrichment Activities	Consumables	Food
8am – 6pm	£2.50	£3.00	£15.00
9am – 4.30pm	£2.50	£3.00	£12.00
8am – 1pm or 1pm – 6pm	£1.50	£1.50	£9.00

6. Monthly Fees

Your monthly fee is calculated by:

1. Applying funded hours
2. Calculating any additional (unfunded) hours
3. Applying the relevant hourly rate
4. Adding any agreed extras
5. Converting to a monthly figure based on 51 weeks per year. (We close for a week at Christmas.)

7. Important Information

- Funded hours are always free at the point of delivery
- You are not required to purchase additional hours
- Any extras are clearly identified and optional

We are mindful that the funding system is complex and invite you to discuss your child's particular booking pattern with us, to ensure that you make the most of any government funded entitlement.

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