

# Fees & Early Years Funding

## Are consumable fees optional?

It is important to know that government funding is not intended to cover the full cost of childcare. It does not include essential extras like meals, nappies, wipes, sun cream, additional hours or trips. If you're eligible for funding you'll be responsible for these items and we ask parents to pay a fee to cover these items for each funded session.

## Can I change sessions?

We are happy to change your child's sessions, subject to availability, but ask for one month's notice.

Where a child's sessions are amended part way through a month the fee calculation will be on sessions attended

## Do I have to pay when my child is absent?

Yes, we are unable to offer refunds for any type of absence.

## What notice period do I need to give Happy Days?

We require a minimum of one month's notice to cancel sessions or if you wish to withdraw your child from Happy Days Nursery.

## Do you offer Term Time Only places?

As a full time day care nursery we are not able to offer term time only places. Our monthly charge is based on 50 weeks per year. For parents using Government Funding, our standard charges will be applied to sessions in the 12 week school holiday period & included in our annual fee calculation unless we have agreed the use of stretched funding for your child's sessions. Stretched funding, enabling fewer funded hours per week over a longer period, is subject to availability.

## Tax-Free Childcare Scheme

Receive a 20% top-up towards childcare costs, up to £2,000 per year. Check eligibility via your Government Childcare account.

## When & how do I need to pay?

Fees must be paid in advance, with a first payment due on your child's first day & then by the first of each month.

We accept payment online via our Family App, via Tax-Free Childcare Scheme, bank transfer, childcare vouchers & cash.

## Over 2 Rate

We automatically apply our over 2 rates to fees from the month after a child's 2nd birthday.

## Fully inclusive fee structure

- Flat rate monthly fee
- Fee includes all meals & drinks, formula milk, toiletries, resources & celebrations.

## Family Pay

- Up-to-date balance at a glance via our Family App
- Online payment facility

## Funding for working families

- 30 hours funding for Working Parents for children from 9 months plus
- 15 hours funding for qualifying 2 year olds
- 15 hours funding for all children from the term after their third birthday
- Stretched Funding

## Tax-Free Childcare Scheme

- 20% top up towards childcare costs, up to £2,000 per year



## Welcome to Happy Days Nursery

We are a family run nursery priding ourselves on the close relationships we build with our children, their families & our team.

Our primary aim is to ensure your child has the happiest of days with us, enabling them to explore, discover & develop through high quality play-based learning.

We are here to offer support & guidance to parents too.

Our full day care nursery is open from 8am to 6pm, 51 weeks of the year, with an Early Bird session available from 7.30am.

This leaflet aims to help your understanding of fees & funding available to parents but please do not hesitate to contact one of our team if you need help or have a query.

☎ 01795 424348

✉ [finance@happydaysuk.co.uk](mailto:finance@happydaysuk.co.uk)

# Fees

We aim to simplify nursery payments by offering a fully inclusive fee structure. Each session fee includes all meals, formula milk & drinks, nappies, wipes, activities, celebrations, consumables & resources.

As an all year-round day-care nursery, Happy Days Nursery is open for 51 weeks of the year. We close for Public Holidays & the period between Christmas & New Year.

Monthly charges are based on the annual cost of a child's sessions divided by 12 to give a flat rate monthly fee, making it easier for parents to budget. The annual fee, is simply the cost of a child's weekly sessions multiplied by 50 weeks. We use 50 weeks to ensure parents are not charged for closure days. Please note we are unable to refund any other absences including illness or holidays.

## Nursery Closure Days 2026

Thursday 1st January 2026  
 Friday 3rd April 2026 &  
 Monday 6th April 2026  
 Monday 4th May 2026  
 Monday 25th May 2026  
 Monday 31st August 2026  
 Friday 25th December 2026  
 Monday 28th December 2026 to  
 Friday 1st January 2027 (1 week)

Scheduled Fees 2026	Under 2 Years	Over 2 Years*
Full Day	£73.80	£71.25
Morning Session	£47.00	£43.90
Afternoon Session	£45.20	£42.55
Early Bird—7.30 to 8am	£4.60	£4.60

*\*Over 2 rates are automatically applied from the month after your child's 2nd birthday.*

**Our fees are fully inclusive of meals, drinks, snacks, nappies, formula milk, wipes & sun cream. We also include outings, parties, celebrations and planned entertainment throughout the year.**

Fees are expected a month in advance. Your initial invoice will be issued for payment on your child's first session and subsequently by the first of each month. Invoices are issued via our Family App, approximately 7 days before payment is due. If you are a bill payer for your child,

# Food & Consumables

*Healthy, nutritious meals cooked on site throughout the day by Chef Simon.*

*Locally sourced food*

*Menus to meet dietary & allergy needs*

*Themed menus for celebration days*

At Happy Days Nursery we feel the provision of well-planned, nutritionally balanced and freshly cooked meals cannot be underestimated & is an asset to our setting. Meal times are a sociable experience for all our children whatever their age. We actively encourage those all important life

long healthy habits including a varied diet associated with better health because it is more likely to contain the nutrients needed by young children for their growth & development. Mealtimes also provide an excellent learning experience as we encourage children to extend their social & language skills, learning from others about table manners & practising their speaking & listening skills.

Children & toddlers need to eat regularly throughout the day, so our meal plan for a full day (8am to 6pm) includes breakfast, lunch and tea, plus a morning and afternoon snack for all age ranges. Water is always available and children are encouraged to drink regularly. Milk (or alternatives for those with dietary requirements) is offered alongside morning and afternoon snacks too.

Our scheduled fees include the cost of all food & drinks provided throughout the day, including formula milk.

For funded sessions we ask parents to pay a fee which covers consumable costs not covered by funding, including food. Consumable costs will be clearly shown on monthly invoices. If you have any queries regarding these charges please contact our Finance Manager.

## Does Happy Days allow packed lunches?

Our excellent chef produces freshly prepared, nutritious food on site daily and we are proud to offer this as part of our fully inclusive package. Our safe, inclusive and enriching mealtime environment support well-being and development of all our children.

Should parents wish to opt out of our inclusive service we regret we are unable to accept lunch boxes. We have to consider food safety for all and as we have a number of children with dietary needs and/or food allergies, we have to reduce risks of potential cross contamination posed by packed lunches. We also recognise that although packed lunches can vary greatly they are often higher in fats, salt and sugar and may not meet high Early Years nutritional standards. We do not have the facilities to store lunch boxes at a temperature required to comply with food safety standards.

Funding Streams		9 months plus	2-3 years	3-4 years
Entitlement	All Parents (Universal Funding)			15 hours
	Working Families*	30 hours	30 hours	15 hours
	Families with special circumstances <sup>#</sup>		15 hours	

### Examples of Monthly fees

These examples give an illustration of monthly costs. Please contact us to discuss your requirements, including stretched funding options, and for a personalised quotation.

#### 3 morning sessions (3 year old)

£548.75 per month—standard fee  
£236.20 per month—with 15 hours funding

#### 3 full days (under 2s)

£922.50 per month—standard fee  
£352.03 per month—with 30 hours funding

#### 2 full days (stretched funding)

£114.58 per month  
This option stretches 30 hours funding over 50 weeks giving 2 full days per week.

#### Working Family funding for when the child becomes eligible

Recommended time to apply for Eligibility code:	Last date to apply for Eligibility Code:
15 October to 30th November	By 31st December to be funded from 1st January
15th January to 28th February	By 31st March to be funded from 1st April
15th June to 31st July	By 31st August to be funded from 1st September

To check eligibility & for further information about Government funding, including the Tax-Free Childcare Scheme, visit [www.beststartinlife.gov.uk](http://www.beststartinlife.gov.uk)

### Working Families

Apply for your funding code the term before you want to use it.

**You cannot apply for the code & use it in the same term.**

Once you have your eligibility code please let us know. We will also need your National Insurance Number and Date of Birth to claim funding for your child.

You **must** reconfirm your code every 3 months via your government childcare account or your code will expire. If you forget, you might lose your funding for the following term, which means you'll have to pay our standard fee for your booked sessions. Funding codes are not required for universal funding.

We welcome children at any point in the term but we reserve the right to charge our standard rate should a child with funding join us after the termly Headcount.

Although we can request transfer of funding from a child's former setting, they are under no obligation to do so. If our request is refused, parents will be charged for sessions at our standard rate and funding will be applied from the start of the following term.

you will receive an email from [notifications@famly.co](mailto:notifications@famly.co) with a PDF document of your invoice attached. If you wish to see your child's invoices in-app you must be listed as an invoice recipient.

We accept payment by a variety of methods including bank transfer, via the tax-free childcare scheme, direct debit, debit card, childcare vouchers or cash. Direct debit & card payments can be made online by the bill payer, via our Family App. Our Family App enables the bill payer to set up an Automatic Payment or, if preferred, your fee can be paid manually each month using your debit or credit card. On receipt of payment your account will be updated by a member of our team. Balances can always be seen by bill payers within our Family-app.

We are registered to accept payments via the tax-free childcare scheme. If eligible, parents will receive a 20% top up towards childcare costs. Parents will need to set up an online childcare account via gov.uk. For every £8 paid into this account by parents, the government will top up with a further £2, and the full value can be used to make an online payment to Happy Days Nursery, as your childcare provider. Using this scheme, parents can get up to £500 every

3 months (up to £2,000 a year) for each child towards childcare costs.

You will need to reconfirm your eligibility for Tax-Free Childcare through your online childcare account every three months.

For further information checkout the [beststartinlife.gov.uk](http://beststartinlife.gov.uk) website.

- *Flat rate monthly fee*
- *Payment of fees due a month in advance*
- *Invoices available in-app*
- *Payment accepted via bank transfer, tax-free childcare scheme, direct debit, debit card & cash.*



## Additional charges

We strive to accommodate requests for additional sessions where possible but this is subject to availability. Additional sessions and Early Bird sessions attended after invoices are raised will be listed and charged on your next invoice.

Children must be collected promptly at the end of each nursery session. The last pick up time is 12.45pm (morning session) or 5.45pm (afternoon session or full day) to allow our staff to give feedback on your child's day. The nursery closes promptly at 6pm. An additional charge of £20 for every 10 minutes will be levied to cover staff costs for children not collected on time.

## Changes to Fees

Our fee structure is reviewed annually. This enables us to ensure Happy Days Nursery remains competitive in our pricing policy as well as ensuring our ongoing financial viability. Fee changes will normally be applied from January each year but we reserve the right to amend charges at any time. Parents will be advised of any changes in fees via our Family Newsfeed and we will endeavour to give parents a minimum of a month's notice.

## Late Payment

If you are experiencing financial hardship please speak in confidence to our Finance Manager. If without negotiation, fees are not settled, we are left with no alternative but to withdraw your child's place and if necessary, take legal action to recover the amount owed. Children in receipt of funding for Early Years Education (FEE) will not be able to access additional fee paying hours until any outstanding fees are settled.



# Funding for Early Years Education

The information within this leaflet is to ensure parents have a clear understanding of our offer around using funding streams with our scheduled sessions. We are happy to combine funded hours with any of our standard sessions, either full day, morning or afternoon sessions enabling parents to access their child's funding entitlement flexibly. To check your eligibility to funding via government schemes & other incentives visit [Best Start in Life](#). Childcare funding of 15 or 30 hours per week is given over 38 weeks of the year, in line with school terms. Subject to availability, it may be possible to stretch funding, giving parents the option to use funding over an extended period. Government funding is given for the care & education elements of delivering the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) but does not cover the cost of meals, health & hygiene consumables or extracurricular activities. We apply a modest charge for each funded session to reflect the respective cost of meals & toiletries. If parents wish to opt out of paying these charges please speak to our Finance Manager to discuss your options. For families opting out of these charges, sessions will be reviewed termly & where availability is limited we cannot guarantee the same booking pattern across terms. For all funding options you will need to complete a Local Authority Parental Declaration form & return it to us, along with either your child's original birth certificate or passport. At the start of each academic term, Happy Days is required to submit data to the Local Authority, known as Headcount, confirming each child's details, funded hours claimed for the term & their scheduled attendance pattern. This data collection forms the basis of our funding claim to the Local Authority and as such, is subject to regular audits by the Local Authority to ensure financial compliance. We cannot claim funding without a completed Parental Declaration Form & proof of your child's date of birth.

### Consumable charge for funded session

Full Day (with 10 hours funding) Under 2: Food £11.25/Toiletries £2.50 Over 2: Food £12.00/Toiletries £1.75	£13.75
Full Day (combined with 5 hours funding) Under 2: Food £9.00/Toiletries £2.00 Over 2: Food £9.50/Toiletries £1.50	£37.70
Morning Session (with 5 Hours funding) Under 2: Food £9.00/Toiletries £2.00 Over 2: Food £9.50/Toiletries £1.50	£11.00
Afternoon Session (with 5 Hours funding) Under 2: Food £7.25/Toiletries £1.75 Over 2: Food £7.50/Toiletries £1.50	£9.00

*If you are a parent of an eligible 2 year old, the earliest you can apply for funding via the Local Authority is at the beginning of the term in which your child turns 2.*

*If you do not meet the Government's working family definition, your child will still be eligible for 15 hours funding from the term after their third birthday.*

*We know childcare funding may not appear straightforward but we are here to help if you have any questions.*

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