



Kids in Bloom Children's Day Nursery Ltd and Kids in Bloom W/D Ltd

Charging policy – from June 2026

Childcare funding in the UK is changing, this is how it will affect our nursery families.

Invoicing

From June, most of our nursery children will be eligible for 15 or 30 hours of government funded childcare per week. Where children are not funded or attend for more hours than their government funding covers, parents will be charged at our normal rate per hour.

At the start of each month, as close to the 1st as possible, you will receive your invoice. Invoices will cover the entire month term and will be itemised to provide clear and transparent information concerning any charges as agreed in the childcare contract.

It will also allow you to see that any funding entitlement is received free of charge and understand additional fees that have been applied. Nursery payments are always made in advance, with fees being due within 7 days of date of issue of the invoice.

Invoices should be paid by bank transfer.

If you work, you may be able to save 20% on your fees by signing up to the Government's Tax-Free Childcare scheme, or up to 85% if you are on universal credit. You can find out more information here www.childcarechoices.gov.uk.

We also accept employer childcare vouchers.

Funded places

We are listed with Liverpool City Council as a provider offering the Early Education funding entitlement for 2, 3 and 4-year-olds, and has agreed to meet the requirements of the Early Education and Childcare Statutory Guidance, Operational Guidance and Local Authority Funding Agreement.

The funded entitlements will be delivered consistently so that all children accessing any of them will receive the same quality and access to our Outstanding provision, regardless of whether families opt to pay for optional hours, services, meals, or consumables. We do not place limitations on when government funding can be used at our setting eg. by only allowing it to be used during certain sessions, or at restricted times. To keep things easier and cheaper for our parents, funding can be claimed during all our operational hours, i.e. 8:00am to 6:00pm, Monday to Friday.

The entitlement place is offered completely free. Parents will not be charged a 'top-up' fee to recoup any difference between the amount received from the Local Authority and the current hourly rate. To keep things easier and cheaper for our parents, we do not charge any registration or admin fees.

All fees for funded places are paid directly to us by Liverpool City Council. Our usual fees will apply for additional hours and charges outside of any funded entitlement, and you will be responsible for paying these directly to us

From the age of 2

From the term after the child's 3rd birthday 15 funded hours per week for low-income families



From September 2025 the Government decided –

- 30 funded hours per week for working families
- 15 universal funded hours per week for all children

All other children pay the setting hourly rate.

- The 15 hours per week funding equates to 570 hours in total over the academic year
- The 30 hours per week funding equates to 1140 hours in total over the academic year
- You can use a maximum of 15 or 30 funded hours per week (whichever you qualify for)
- If your child attends nursery for more than your 15 or 30 funded hours per week, we will charge you directly for these additional hours.
- The funding can be split between a maximum of two providers per day, and three in total
- Completion of a Local Authority parent/carer funding claim form is mandatory to be able to claim government funding for low-income families.

Some two year olds are eligible for 15 hours of funded childcare per week, you can see if you qualify by using the online eligibility checker [Childcare Eligibility Checker - Best Start in Life](#)

Alternatively, you may receive an eligibility code from the council by post. We will ask for your eligibility code, and you will also need to complete our ECO funding form.

IMPORTANT: The DfE has confirmed that parents must obtain their eligibility code before the start of the term that they wish to use the funding for working families.

Parents that receive a code after the term start date will not be able to access the funded hours until the following term.

At the very latest -

- Apply by 31st March 2026 to use your Government Funding For Summer Term 2026
- Apply by 31st August 2026 to use your Government Funding for August Term 2026.
- Apply by 31st December 2026 to use your Government funding for Spring Term 2027

We highly recommend applying for your working family's eligibility code well in advance and not leaving it to the deadline dates above.

The eligibility criteria for claiming the government funding for working families is as follows:

- You, and any partner you live with, must each expect to earn per week, on average at least the equivalent of 16 hours at the National Minimum or Living Wage.
- If you, or your partner are on maternity, paternity, or adoption leave, or you're unable to work because you are disabled or have caring responsibilities, you could still be eligible.
- You can't get 30 hours of funded childcare if either you, or your partner expect to earn £100,000 or more per year.
- Please note, eligibility is based on income earned, not number of hours worked.



OUR CHARGEABLE EXTRAS

Providers offering Early Education and Childcare can charge for the following when families are accessing a funded place.

Optional Services and Activities at Kids in Bloom:

- Food Consumables - £6.00 per day which includes Breakfast, Lunch, Snacks, drinks, light tea.
Applies to fully funded sessions only.

Generally, it is expected that most families will opt to pay these chargeable extras, so that their child(ren) will receive all aspects of Nursery life, including:

- snacks and consumables prepared or supplied by the nursery

Unless there are exceptional circumstances, your childcare contract can only be varied termly for chargeable extras and reducing hours/sessions. Changes to your childcare contract must be requested in writing 4 weeks before the start of the new claim period to avoid incorrect fees being charged.

Claim Period Start Dates: • 1 April • 1 September • 1 January

Chargeable extras available to all families:

1 Your fees cover the following services and activities, amongst others:

- Baking resources
- Seasonal/celebration resources and activities (Mother's Day, Father's Day, Christmas, Halloween, Holi, Red Nose Day, Children in Need, Pancake Day, World Book Day etc.)
- iConnect/Parentzone learning journey access
- Children's Christmas and Birthday parties
- Children's graduation parties, celebrations, gifts and photographs
- Christmas and Winter art and crafts throughout December
- In-house speech and language intervention sessions
- Bucket Club
- Referrals to Purple Circle, SALT Team, Paediatricians
- Face to face parents' meetings
- Nappy disposal
- Beach and Forest School
- Gardening Club
- Sing & Sign classes
- Face tissues
- Nappy sacks – for wet play accidents and toileting accidents
- Anti-bacterial sprays
- Foam non-alcohol hand sanitiser
- Disposable gloves and aprons for changing children's nappies
- Other cleaning and sanitising products

3 - Food Consumables –

Where families opt to supply these items instead, breakfast must be brought to nursery every day when your child is accessing their funded entitlement because there is not capacity to store any items at nursery permanently.



Standard afternoon daily snack, for example - soup, tuna pasta, bagels, cream cheese, fruit, crackers and raw vegetables

- Seasonal/celebration snack e.g. pancakes, fortune cookies, prawn crackers
- Party food snacks e.g. parties,

Where families opt to supply these items instead, snack must be brought to nursery every day when your child is accessing their funded entitlement because there is not capacity to store any items at nursery permanently.

You must supply an item of snack for each morning and afternoon session from the following selection: banana, apple, pear or orange. Items of snack must be whole and not peeled or portioned. Items of snack provided must be handed directly to the manager at the start of your child's session to be checked.

Where we will be serving party food or seasonal/celebration snack we will give you advance notice and make you aware of what item/s will need to be supplied. Please refer to our Food and Nutrition Policy. It is not possible to select certain items to supply.

Where it is necessary for the nursery to supply any individual item listed, the full fee will be charged.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

We are required to deliver the standard funded entitlements consistently, so that all children within a setting accessing any of the funded entitlements receive the same quality and access to provision, regardless of whether they choose to pay for voluntary hours, voluntary extra services, meals or consumables.

The reference to 'quality' refers to the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Statutory Framework which is mandatory for all early years providers in England and sets out the standards that must be met to ensure that children learn and develop well and are kept healthy and safe.

Our optional services and activities are not directly related or necessary for the effective delivery of the EYFS statutory framework, and therefore invitations and opportunities to participate will not be extended to families who have opted out.

Parents will also need to provide their child with welly boots, a sun hat and fully waterproof wet weather suit.

Important information We reserve the right to make an additional charge for late collection. The charge for this will be £15 per 15-minute period or part thereof.

Fees are due on time and the payment dates will be clearly stated on your invoice. We will contact you with a reminder if fees are late. If, after 2 weeks of this reminder the invoice has still not been settled, we reserve the right to stop providing childcare.

If, after 4 weeks the debt has still not been cleared, we reserve the right to take court action and cancel your nursery space with immediate effect.



Late payments will be charged at £5 per day on sums remaining due and outstanding. We reserve the right to review our policies, procedures, and fees. Where we plan to make changes, at least 4 weeks' notice will be given.

If you pay for your child's place and they are absent for any reason, their place must still be paid for by you in full. Whether you are funded, or pay for your place, families wishing to terminate their childcare contract, or reduce their contracted hours, must provide a minimum of 4 weeks' written notice to uol@kidsinbloom.co.uk

If the nursery wishes to terminate the childcare contract, reduce a child's contracted hours, or change a child's contracted sessions, we will also give 4 weeks written notice. Please note, we do reserve the right to terminate the contract with immediate effect under certain circumstances, such as unacceptable behaviour from parents/carers.

If you pay for your child's space, the full notice period of 4 weeks will need to be paid for in full, whether your child attends nursery during this time, or not.

Where a funded child leaves the setting before the end of the agreed notice period, we will seek authorisation from the local authority to claim any funding applicable to your entitlement up to the end of the notice period, together with any additional fees which formed part of your childcare arrangement.

Any funding entitlement claimed beyond the notice period is transferrable to your new childcare provider via the local authority where the funding criteria is met.

Although families can request in writing to increase their contracted hours or change their session days/times, please note that Kids in Bloom is not obligated to accommodate such requests as the Nursery is usually full to capacity.

Where a time lapse has occurred between completing joining forms and a child's start date, families should check that the information shared about funding and fees remains current.

This policy, along with our admissions policy, will be issued to all families as part of the registration process.