## Funded Childcare Policy



- 1. The purpose of this policy is to outline the terms of Fledglings' published fee structure. According to government guidance, this policy is to provide clarity, consistency and transparency regarding nursery fees, ensuring all families understand their financial commitment and available funding options.
- 2. Fledglings offers high-quality early years care and education. To maintain this standard, we operate a fee structure that reflects our operating costs, staffing and resources. Whilst some families may be fortunate enough to be eligible for government funded childcare (check your eligibility here <a href="Homepage | Best Start in Life">Homepage | Best Start in Life</a>), this funding does not cover the full cost of a nursery place. Fledglings has chosen to offer funding options to assist families with childcare costs. Our fee structure ensures the sustainability of our provision and allows us to deliver a well-rounded experience for every child.
- 3. Opting in means you agree to:
  - Pay any additional fees not covered by government funded hours
  - Accept the published rates and payment terms as set out in our current fees schedule
  - Allow the nursery to claim any eligible funded hours on your behalf, while covering the shortfall privately through agreed payments.
- 4. Parents/carers are required to opt in who:
  - Claim funded hours but wish to access more than the core funded provision
  - Require additional hours
  - Wish their place to be guaranteed each term.
- 5. Process for Opting In: To opt in, parents/carers must
  - Review the current fees schedule below (fees are reviewed annually in April)
  - Sign the opt in agreement form (on Famly)
  - Complete and return funding documentation in a timely manner
  - Set up a payment method (preferred method tax free childcare linked to Famly)
  - Acknowledge payment terms
- 6. You can choose not to opt in if you require only two funded days per week (7:45am-5:45pm) if you are eligible for 30 hours funding per week (you are not allowed to claim more than ten hours per day). Fledglings will inform you of the availability of these days each term You will not be able to access any additional services, including, but not limited to:

Meals & snacks	Nappies, wipes & nappy sacks	Disposable cleaning wipes
PPE	Water bottle	Tissues
Creams	Suncream	Kidslingo
Increased staff ratio for trips &	Increased staff ratio for focussed	Emergency medication
outings	teaching time sessions	
Rhythm time	PE sessions	Stay & play, parties
Preschool uniform	Snowsuits	Spare clothing inc bag
Footytotz	Learning journey	Famly updates

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All of the consumables would need to be provided on a daily basis. All meals and snacks would need to be provided in accordance with our healthy eating policy and weekly menu choices. Milk and water will be provided. We will inform you if additional activities are taking place each week and will aim to change your child's day of attendance accordingly.

- 7. The average monthly cost for 3 /4 /5 days per week if receiving 30 hours funding:5 days/week £1244.88/month 4 days/week £894.25/month 3 days/week £543.63/month
  This is broken down into the following categories:
  Additional hours (cost per academic year): 3 days/week £3,447.42, 4 days/week £7,655.55, 5
  - Additional hours (cost per academic year): 3 days/week £3,447.42, 4 days/week £7,655.55, 5 days/week £14,938.50
  - Cost of providing all meals & snacks £10.99 per day Cost of providing all consumable items £2.965 per day Cost of providing all additional services £6.15 per day
- 8. If you wish to opt out you will enter into a new contract with the setting, which will detail all of the additional items which must be provided, together with details of the offered days and hours. You will have a balance of 120 hours per academic year you are able to utilise at another setting.

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