

DaisyChain Day Nursery



Parents' Guide to Funding and Fees

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Introduction

A child's early years are so important and we at Daisychain believe that every child deserves the best possible start in life. We pride ourselves on delivering a service that provides the highest standards of care and education, where parents feel comfortable and supported in leaving their child with us whilst returning to their working lives.

We understand that the costs of nursery fees and other childcare costs are a significant amount to your households' outgoings, as a nursery we like to support our families to ensure that they are receiving the funding that they could be entitled to.

The Early Years Funding can be quite complicated to understand and difficult to keep up to date with as legislations as it is always changing. This guide aims to clarify the changes in order to provide greater transparency to parents.

Government Funding Explained

There are currently three government funding programmes available that range from 15 hour to 30 hours of funding per week depending on your personal circumstances.

- 15 hours of Universal Funding for All 3+ year olds
- 2 year old Better 2gether Funding (subject to meeting financial criteria or if the child is in receipt of disability living allowance)
- Working Families Funding for children aged 9 months or older up to 30 hours.

When does my child become eligible for funding?

Funding is only available the term after a child reaches their milestone age (9 months, 2 years, 3 years).

How do I qualify for Working Families Funded Childcare?

- Both parents (if living together) must be working at least 16 hours per week.
- You must earn less than £100,000 per year.

To check eligibility and to apply for these schemes visit www.childcarechoices.gov.uk. This website also offers detailed guidance on additional financial support, such as Tax-Free Childcare, which could save parents up to £2,000 per year per child.

How do I access the funding?

You will need to apply online via the childcare choice's website:

www.childcarechoices.co.uk

The site will sign post you to the government eligibility page. Once you have completed the online application form, you will be given an 11-digit code which you will need to provide to the nursery by completing and returning a funding form which you can get by emailing Helen on admin@daisychain-daynurseries.co.uk in order for us to process your funding with the local council.

Please note your code is only valid for a period of time and it is your responsibility to reconfirm your eligibility every 12 weeks via the government site or we will not be awarded your ongoing funding.

YOU MUST APPLY FOR YOUR CODE:

- During the term before your child is eligible
- Applications must be made no later than the 31st December, 31st March or 31st August
- Applications after these dates will NOT be honoured and you will have to wait a further term before claiming any further entitlement.
- N.B you will be responsible for payments of full fees should you not provide us with the required information in a timely manner or fall out of eligibility without the required noticed given.

How is the funding spread

As Daisychain is open 51 weeks of the year we stretch the funding so that the funding covers each week that the nursery is open. Depending on how many hours per week your child attends will depend on how much funding will be applied each week.

Hours per week	Week funding	Total amount of hours	Weeks were open	Hours per week received
30 hours	X 38 weeks	= 1140 hours	÷ 51 weeks	= 22.35 per week
25 hours	X 38 weeks	= 950 hours	÷ 51 weeks	= 18.62 per week
20 hours	X 38 weeks	= 760 hours	÷ 51 weeks	= 14.90 per week
15 hours	X 38 weeks	= 570 hours	÷ 51 weeks	= 11.17 per week
10 hours	X 38 weeks	= 380 hours	÷ 51 weeks	= 7.45 per week

What does and doesn't the funding cover?

Whilst the funding covers the basic elements of the EYFS, we believe that there is only one start in life and one chance to maximise your child's opportunities and experiences during their formative years. Did you know that Prior to children starting school, 95% of their brain has already developed. Government funding is intended to pay for 15 or 30 hours a week of childcare.

"The base rate funding is calculated to include the cost of all necessary resources and facilities to deliver a child's funded education place as identified within the Early Years Foundation Stage, this includes basic equipment and resources" (Quote from NCC guidance)

The Government funding does not cover:

- Meals and snacks
- Additional Hours
- Additional activities
- Additional services
- Daily consumables

Enhanced Provision

To provide transparency for parents who wish to enhance their child early years education and formative years below is some of the additional activities and services that we at Daisychain provide.



Meals and snacks - We have our own in house cooks who freshly prepares and cooks well balanced, healthy and nutritious meals and snacks. We believe that meals times are social occasions and play an essential role in developing strong relationships, learning table manners, independence and practices patience whilst waiting their turn to self-serve their food.



Playdough Disco - A daily activity that is designed especially for building muscle strength in hands and fingers in readiness for mark making and effective writing when in school. These exercises improve hand eye coordination, listening skills, following instruction, fine and gross motor development.



PE sessions - nursery PE sessions focus on gross motor skills developing fundamental movements, coordination, body awareness, control and confidence. These sessions also encourage following rules, direction and social skills.



Rhyme Time - these are fun sessions that include a mix of songs, rhymes and movement to help with your child's language and motor skills.



Cooking Club - teaches children about food, nutrition and cooking skills through fun, hands on activities.



Gardening Club - Children enjoy the experience of being at one with the environment and growing fantastic fruit and vegetables which are used within our meals, snacks and cooking club.



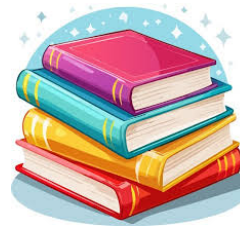
Forest Activities - The children love being able to go explore the local environment carrying out fun and exciting forest activities. This is great for their mental health and wellbeing.



Dramatots - classes are high energy, interactive and fun where the children sing, dance, play and learn as they explore new and exciting themes.



Yoga - for children improves physical health through flexibility strength, and balance while also boosting mental and emotional well-being by increasing concentration, self-regulation and confidence.



Lending Library - The children are always excited to choose a book from the nursery lending library to take home and share with their families.



Activity Take Home Bags - which are loaned out from nursery to be taken and shared at home. This gives a wonderful link between nursery and home.



Stay and Play sessions - These are great opportunities for parents to come in and spend time with their little ones carrying out various activities. We also celebrate special occasions with our families such as Mother's and Father's Day, Easter and Christmas



School Readiness - We pride ourselves and receive great feedback from local school on our children being ready to start school by offering a school readiness programme.



Access to the Family App for day-to-day handover, convenient invoicing and message management.

	
Daily Consumables - Such as sunscreen, laundering of face fannels, towels and sleep time bedding	

Fees and Funding

It is important our nursery fees are as transparent as possible for our parents in order form them to make an informed choice.

For those who do are not eligible for funding the daily rate includes all meals and snacks as well as the entire enhanced provision.

For children receiving the 9 month old working families funding they are exempt from the addition charge for meals, snacks and other enhanced provisions.

The Early Years Statutory *Guidance* states that invoices should detail the free funded hours, additional paid hours, food charges, non-food consumables and additional activity charges. The nursery invoices are all produced through the Famly app and are designed to give you a breakdown week by week of funded hours, additional paid hours, meals/snacks charges and additional activity charges.

Our Fees (non-funded)

	Full time Mon - Fri 8.00am - 6.00pm	Full day 8.00am - 6.00pm	Morning session 8.00am - 1.00pm	Afternoon session 1.00pm - 6.00pm
Under 3's	£358.00	£80.00	N/A	N/A
3 Years +	£360.00	£75.00	£48.50	£48.50

Additional fees on funded days for those in receipt of the working families funding from 2 year old's upwards

2 year old funding	Full Day	Morning Session	Afternoon session
Meals and Snacks	£6.00	£3.00	£3.00
Enhanced Provision	£2.00	£1.00	£1.00

3 year old funding	Full Day	Morning Session	Afternoon session
Meals and Snacks	£10.00	£5.00	£5.00
Enhanced Provision	£10.00	£5.00	£5.00

Opting out of Enhanced Provisions

Should you wish to opt out of paying for our enhanced provision or would like to discuss your options please contact either Lucy or Helen. For any changes in your invoices, we require 4 weeks' notice.

For clarification on 'opting out' of the Enhanced Provision referred to in this document you will need to supply two face flannels, suncream, bedding (if applicable) to include a cot sheet, a flat sheet and a blanket. These items will be given back to you at the end of each day for washing. Your child will also not take part in any of the additional activities that we provide from the list above.

Opting out of paying for meals and snacks

Should you wish to opt out for paying for meals and snacks please contact either Lucy or Helen. For any changes in your invoices, we require 4 weeks' notice.

To ensure the safety and health of all children, the following guidelines must be followed when sending in packed lunches to nursery.

1. Drop of Times

If parents choose to provide their own snacks and meals for which we have no storage, we need to ask you drop them off at designated times. This is not intended to cause an inconvenience; it is simply a matter of practicality given the guidelines impact.

Am and pm snack can be kept in child bag

Lunch - 11.45am for lunch at 12.00pm

Tea - 3.45pm for tea at 4.00pm

2. Food packaging

- We can only accept prepackaged food which must be in there store-bought sealed packaging and containers.
- Allergen information: packing should clearly list any allergens like nuts, dairy, gluten etc
- No homemade food: to reduce the risk of cross contamination.

3. Health and Nutrition

- No unhealthy snack - chocolate, crisps, sugary snacks, junk food, juice or squash cartons.
- Healthy food ideas: include balanced foods like - fresh fruit and vegetables, whole grain sandwiches or wraps, cheese, boiled eggs, hummus or natural yogurt.

4. Allergy safety

- Nut-Free Daisychain is a nut free nursery please do not send anything in with nuts or nut products e.g. peanut butter.

5. Choking hazards

- Safe food sizes: cut food into small manageable pieces to avoid chocking risks fruit and vegetables cut into batons grapes, blueberries and orange segments cut into quarters or smaller.
- No large chunks of food or whole grapes

6. Temperature and storage

- We do not have the facilities to heat food either direct from a shop or from home.

- Lunch boxes should only contain foods that are safely stored at room temperature.

7. Policy enforcement

- Non-compliance if a lunch box does not follow these rules, we cannot serve it. Parents will be asked to provide an alternative or collect their child.

We appreciate your cooperation in making sure all children have a safe and healthy environment.