Brunel Nursery School

Charging Policy

The Early Education and Childcare Guidance (1st April 2025) issued by the Department for Education (DfE) has been updated to ensure greater clarity and consistency around the management of the funded entitlement for parents, providers and local authorities. Early Years providers have a responsibility to ensure that parents are made aware that they can 'opt out' of additional extras in connection with the funded entitlements to ensure that their child can access the funding free of charge.

What does the funded entitlement offer?
Government funding is intended to deliver 15 or 30 hours a week of free, high quality, flexible childcare for up to 38 weeks of the year. The 15 or 30 hours must be able to be accessed free of charge to parents.

This includes:

- Trained staff delivering the EYFS
- Use of the premises and learning environment
- Access to age-appropriate toys, furniture and resources
- Basic consumables required to meet learning and care needs e.g. water, tissues and craft materials.

Government funding is not intended to cover the cost of meals, other consumables, additional hours and additional services (Early Education and Childcare Guidance – A1.32). The DfE guidance makes it clear that providers can charge for additional extras provided that parents are given an alternative option to access the funded hours free of charge (A1.33).

Our Offer
Our setting is committed to offering the funded entitlements to eligible families as we understand that they play a pivotal role in supporting parents/carers in covering the costs of childcare to enable them to work and to support children with their development. As the funding does not cover the costs of providing meals, consumables and additional activities, our setting requests a voluntary donation of £10 per term sessions to help mitigate this cost. This donation helps to cover the cost of snacks, birthday presents and party food.

Snacks
We follow current guidelines and legislation to promote healthy eating and ensure that our children are provided with a range of fruit and vegetables so that they are receiving at least one of their five a day. All children will have access to water and milk (through the nursery milk scheme) regardless of whether the family opts out of the voluntary donation.

Uniform
A nursery uniform is available to purchase for parents who wish to do so. We charge £6 for a polo shirt and £7 for a sweatshirt. This uniform is not compulsory.

30-hour Supervision
If your child attends both morning and afternoon sessions, a member of staff is required to supervise your child for the half hour break between these sessions. We charge £1.00 per child per day per child to help cover the costs of providing this supervision.

Consumables
All families must provide their own nappies, wipes and suncream for funded and non-funded sessions.

Julian Rogers
Headteacher
November 2026

Links to guidance:
Early education and childcare - https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-education-and-childcare--2/early-education-and-childcare-valid-from-1-april-2026