



Nursery Funding & Fees Information

We are committed to being open and transparent about how funded early years places work and what, if anything, you may be asked to pay for.

This page sets out everything you need to know before your child joins our nursery.

Your Child's Free Entitlement

Depending on your child's age and your family circumstances, you may be entitled to funded nursery hours under the Shropshire Council early years entitlement. These hours are completely free of charge to you — we do not charge top-up fees, registration fees, or any other mandatory fees in connection with your child's funded place.

Entitlement	Who it is for	Hours available
Universal Entitlement (FREE)	All 3- and 4-year-olds	15 hours per week, 38 weeks per year
Working Family Entitlement (FREE)	Eligible working families, children from 9 months	Up to 30 hours per week, 38 weeks per year
24U — 2-Year-Old Funding (FREE)	Eligible 2-year-olds in receipt of additional support	15 hours per week, 38 weeks per year

Early Years Funding rate 2026/27:

Our nursery receives funding from Shropshire Council at the nationally set Early Years National Funding Formula (EYNFF) rate. This funding is used in full to deliver high quality early education.

9 months to 2 years old £9.67 per hour

2 Years old £7.70 per hour

3 and 4 Years old £5.88 per hour

Early years Pupil Premium (EYPP) £1.15 per hour

Eligibility for Working Family Entitlement

To access the working family entitlement, parent carers must obtain an eligibility code through the Government's childcare account at GOV.UK. Eligible families will receive a code beginning '50' (or a temporary code beginning '11') which must be validated by us.

Please ensure your code is applied for and renewed on time — missing the termly deadline means funding cannot begin until the following term.

Application deadlines (Shropshire Council):

- Child turns 9 months between 1 Jan and 31 Mar: apply by 31 March
- Child turns 9 months between 1 Apr and 31 Aug: apply by 31 August
- Child turns 9 months between 1 Sep and 31 Dec: apply by 31 December

What We Do Not Charge For

In line with Shropshire Council's Provider Agreement (April 2026) and the DfE Statutory Guidance, we will never charge you for the following as part of your child's funded hours:



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- Top-up fees or any difference between our usual rate and the funding we receive from Shropshire Council
- Learning materials, equipment, toys, books or resources used in the delivery of nursery education
- Business running costs such as rent, utilities or staffing
- Non-refundable registration or deposit fees as a condition of taking up a funded place
- Non-refundable retainer fees in relation to funded places
- Additional support costs for children with SEND as part of their funded hours

Optional Extras (Voluntary Only)

We may offer some additional services or consumables. These are entirely optional — they are never a condition of accessing your child's free place. You can opt out of any of these at any time.

Item	Charge	Notes
Hot lunch / school meal	£2.60	You may send a packed lunch instead at no charge
Lunchtime Cover	£2.00	Where a child attends beyond their funded entitlement hours and remains at nursery during the lunchtime period, a lunchtime cover charge of £2.00 applies. It is only applicable where the child's attendance extends beyond their free entitlement into privately paid time. Please note that this charge covers supervision only. As set out above food and meals are charged separately and remain optional – you are always welcome to provide a packed lunch for your child at no additional cost.

Additional Paid Hours

If you would like your child to attend for more hours than their funded entitlement allows, we offer additional hours at our standard rate. Taking up additional paid hours is never a condition of accessing your funded place.

Details	
Sessions rate	£18.00

Questions About Funding or Fees?

Please don't hesitate to speak to us — we are happy to talk through your entitlement and what it means for your family.

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