

Meals and Consumables Policy



At Grass Roots Private Day nursery we aim to be fair and inclusive in our meals and consumables policy. We aim to make our Nursery as accessible to as many families in the community as possible.

NOTE - Government funding is intended to cover the cost of delivery of 15 or 30 hours a week of high quality, flexible early childhood education and care. It is **NOT** intended to cover the cost of meals, consumables, additional hours or additional services.

The government has released some guidance following the introduction of the extended hours funding which states "You shouldn't use this funding to cover the cost of consumable items, such as drinks, meals or nappies, or additional services, such as baby yoga, music lessons and school trips. You can charge parents for additional items or services, but you mustn't make this compulsory for any parents taking up a publicly funded place for their child."

Aims of the Policy

Ensure that charges are fair and affordable.

To uphold the Government's policy of funded entitlement for 15/30 hours a week over 38 weeks of the year, this will be maintained subject to session availability. Stretched entitlement is also available to parents and carers.

The free entitlements will be delivered consistently so that all children accessing any of the free entitlements will receive the same quality and access to provision, regardless of whether they opt to pay for optional hours, services, meals or consumables.

Ensure that childcare is flexible and meets the needs of working parents.

Ensure that parents can identify on their invoice the charges made in relation to additional hours above the 15/30 funded hours.

A review will be made each year in January to be implemented in the Summer Term alongside the fees review.

Any increase in charges will be made primarily to sustain the Nursery provision.

Parents will be informed well in advance of any increase in charge (at least 6 weeks/1 half term).

Charges

Our charges* are as follows:

Breakfast £1.10	Morning Snack £0.60	Lunch £2.60	Afternoon Snack £0.60
Light Dinner £1.60	Consumables £0.60		

*These charges are voluntary but if you choose to opt out of the charges then you will have to provide your child with the following:



Morning Session 7.30am - 12.30pm - wipes, nappies, suncream, breakfast cereal and milk (weetabix, cornflakes or porridge), fruit/vegetables for snack (pre-prepared) and a starchy carbohydrate (toast, crumpet, pitta) , lunch (healthy and following early years guidelines for a healthy lunch).

Afternoon Session 1pm - 6pm - wipes, nappies, suncream, fruit/vegetables for snack (pre-prepared), light dinner (healthy and following early years guidelines for a healthy lunch)

Please note:

- Unfortunately, due to storage we do not have the facilities to store any items in our fridge therefore all foods brought in must not require refrigeration.
- Food brought into nursery must strictly adhere to our healthy eating policy and be in line with the government guidance we follow <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/example-menus-for-early-years-settings-in-england>
- The food we offer at the nursery is very important to us and supplying high quality healthy food is a vital part of our ethos therefore we will be imposing very strict guidance on foods which are suitable to be brought into the nursery.
- If food brought in isn't in accordance with our policies we will provide your child with our nursery food and will apply a charge to your account.
- If required, you must supply us with enough nappies and wipes for your child's day at nursery. If you do not supply us with nappies or if your child uses more than expected, we will apply a charge to your account. The current charge is 50p per nappy (subject to change)
- A clearly named bottle of sunscreen must be supplied from April until October. This must be a minimum factor 30. We advise these stay at the nursery or in your child's bag daily. If sun cream is not supplied but is required, we reserve the right to add a charge to your account. The current charge is 55p per day (subject to change).

Invoicing

All families will be issued an invoice monthly unless the balance equals zero. The invoice will be itemised to provide clear and transparent information concerning the charges as agreed in the parent contract. It will allow parents/carers to see that the entitlement is received completely free of charge and understand additional fees that have been applied. Detailed receipts will be issued for all cash payments.

Parent consent

I have read and fully understand the above conditions. I am choosing to not pay the meals and consumables charge and therefore am aware of what I need to supply each day and agree to follow the policies set out above and within the healthy eating policy. I am clear on the charges that will be made if any items are not supplied.

Child's Name:

Date:

Parent / Carer Name:

Parent / Carer Signature:

This policy will be reviewed by management annually, who are responsible for ensuring the dissemination of this policy to all staff, volunteers and parents.