

EARLY YEARS FUNDING

What's available?

30 Hours Free Childcare for Eligible Working Families
For children aged 9 months to 4 years

15 Hours Free Childcare for Families with 2-Year-Olds
For families receiving additional Government support

15 Hours Free Childcare for Families with 3 and 4-Year-Olds
Universal Funding – regardless of income or working status

How and when to apply

Funding begins from the term following the child's birthday or the term after they turn nine months old.

When your child turns the relevant age	When you can claim funded hours	When to apply
1 January to 31 March	Term starting on or after 1 April	The term before 1 April
1 April to 31 August	Term starting on or after 1 September	The term before 1 September
1 September to 31 December	Term starting on or after 1 January	The term before 1 January

Please note: Funding Eligibility Codes are only valid for 3 months, so your code will need to be renewed on a regular basis. Failure to renew your code could result in you not being eligible for funding for an entire term. Please inform the nursery of any changes to your funding eligibility.



Check your eligibility and apply at:
<https://beststartinlife.gov.uk/eligibility-checker/>

Tax-Free Childcare

Get a 20% top-up from the government to use towards nursery fees and extras.
Find out more and apply at: <https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>

Stretched Funding

At Number 9 The Nursery, the government-funded 15 and 30 hours are stretched across the full year, as we do not offer term-time-only places.

This means 15 funded hours are delivered as 11 hours per week, and 30 funded hours are delivered as 22 hours per week.



30 Hours Funding

30 Hour Entitlement	2 Fully Funded Days	3 Full Days	4 Full Days	5 Full Days
Hours	8am-6pm	All Days: 7.30am-6pm	All Days: 7.30am-6pm	All Days: 7.30am-6pm
Funded Hours <i>No cost to parents</i>	20	22	22	22
Non-Funded Private Hours <i>Chargeable hours at the hourly rate (currently £9.19)</i>	0	9.5	20	30.5
Food, Consumables & Extra Activities (See full details below)	£26.00	£26.00	£26.00	£26.00
Total Weekly Cost	£26.00	£113.31	£209.80	£306.30

Under the 30-hour entitlement, a 2-day plan provides 20 funded hours, while a 3-day plan provides access to the full 22 funded hours with an additional 2 hours charged as private hours. Fully funded sessions are capped at a maximum of 10 hours per day in line with government guidelines. For 1 or 2 day FULLY FUNDED places, parents may book an optional Early Bird Session (7:30–8:00am) at a cost of £5.50. For children attending 3 to 5 days and accessing private hours, the hours are 7:30am to 6:00pm on all booked days.

15 Hours Funding

15 Hour Entitlement	1 Fully Funded Day	2 Full Days	3 Full Days	4 Full Days	5 Full Days
Hours	8am-6pm	All Days: 7.30-6pm	All Days: 7.30-6pm	All Days: 7.30-6pm	All Days: 7.30-6pm
Funded Hours <i>No cost to parents</i>	10	11	11	11	11
Non-Funded Private Hours <i>Chargeable hours at the hourly rate (currently £9.19)</i>	0	10	20.5	31	41.5
Food, Consumables & Extra Activities (See full details below)	£13.00	£13.00	£13.00	£13.00	£13.00
Total Weekly Cost	£13.00	£104.90	£201.40	£297.89	£394.39

Under the 15-hour entitlement, a 1-day plan provides 10 funded hours, while a 2-day plan allows access to the full 11 funded hours, with 10 additional hours taken as private paid hours. Fully funded sessions are capped at a maximum of 10 hours per day in line with government guidelines. For a 1 day FULLY FUNDED place, parents may book an optional Early Bird Session (7:30–8:00am) at a cost of £5.50. For children attending 2 to 5 days and accessing private hours, the hours are 7:30am to 6:00pm on all booked days.

Food, Consumables and Extra Activities

Early Years Funding provided by the government is intended to cover **childcare only**. It does not include the cost of meals, snacks, nappies, wipes, non-consumable supplies, or the enriching extra activities we offer. For children attending funded days, there is a non-mandatory supplement charge applied to cover food, consumables and extra activities. This package is designed to provide convenience for families and a fully inclusive nursery experience for children, while ensuring funded childcare remains accessible to all.

Non-Mandatory Daily Charge: £13 per funded session

£9.50: Food (Breakfast, Morning Snack, Lunch, Afternoon Snack & Tea)

£2.00: Extra Activities

£1.50: Consumables (Nappies, wipes, children's paracetamol, suncream)

30 Hour Entitlement: This charge will not be applied on the third day when using two funded hours

15 Hour Entitlement: This charge will not be applied on the second day when using one funded hour

Food

Number 9 The Nursery is extremely proud to have been awarded Advanced Accreditation by the Early Years Alliance Nutrition Support Programme in recognition of our commitment to healthy eating. We have a fantastic onsite Chef, who creates a rotating seasonal menu alongside a nutritionist in our 5-star hygiene-rated kitchen, ensuring we meet all the dietary needs of growing children. You don't have to worry about whether your child is getting the nutrients they need – we've got you covered from morning to night! Everything is cooked fresh, from scratch, every day, and we pride ourselves on offering hot, restaurant-quality meals that are both nourishing and delicious.

Mealtimes at Number 9 are not just about food – they are social, educational and joyful parts of the day where children learn table manners, explore new tastes, and develop healthy habits for life. Shared meals are also a great way to get children 'school ready'!

Consumables

We ensure a continuous supply of high-quality consumables for the children. Nappies, wipes and Sudocrem are provided for their personal care, along with children's paracetamol and SPF 50 sun cream when required.

Activities

We want to provide memorable learning experiences that go beyond the standard nursery curriculum!

When you join Number 9, we help build motor skills, confidence and self-expression with our **BabyBallet** classes. Strengthen cognitive development and learn turn-taking in our **Music Lessons**. Support speech development and reduce behavioural frustration with our **Sing and Sign** classes. Build resilience and listening skills in our **Pro-Stars** sports sessions. Enhance cultural awareness and early language acquisition in our Number 9 **French Club**.

Throughout the year, children also enjoy experiential learning through **exciting visits** from animal farms – we've welcomed ponies, reptiles, owls, and even reindeer! We also spark their curiosity and sense of wonder through **special events** such as Magic Shows.

Visits and trips give children hands-on experiences that bring learning to life and give them confidence navigating new environments. Whether it's going to Godstone Farm or attending a classical music concert in the local community, the contributions from our families ensure we can continue to provide these trips and give the children memories they'll talk about long after their nursery day ends.