



Funded Early Education at Curious Learners Childcare Ltd

This guide explains how funded sessions work at Curious Learners Childcare Ltd. It includes information about the funding options available, our current fees and charges, and details of our All-Inclusive Enhanced Provision choices. We hope this pack helps you understand the options available and supports you in choosing the childcare arrangement that best suits your family's needs.

Government-Funded Childcare

At Curious Learners Childcare Ltd, we offer a range of Government-funded childcare options to help families with their early years childcare costs. These include:

- **30 hours funded childcare** for eligible working families.
- **15 hours universal funding** for all eligible 3 and 4-year-olds.
- **15 hours funded childcare** for eligible 2-year-olds who meet the Government's criteria.

Families can choose to use their funded hours either:

- **Term-time only** across 38 weeks of the year, or
- **Stretched across 50 weeks**, providing a smaller but consistent number of funded hours each week throughout the year.

Funding dates, our Christmas closure period, and bank holiday arrangements will be shared with families at the start of each academic year, helping you to plan ahead and make childcare arrangements with confidence.

If you would like your child to attend sessions in addition to their funded hours, the funded entitlement will be applied first, and any additional hours or sessions attended will be charged in accordance with the fees outlined below.

Children can begin accessing their funded entitlement from the term following the date they reach the eligible age. For working families, the funded childcare entitlement is available from the term after a child turns 9 months old, subject to eligibility criteria being met.



When your child turns the relevant age	When they can get their hours from
1 January to 31 March	Term starting on or after 1 April
1 April to 31 August	Term starting on or after 1 September
1 September to 31 December	Term starting on or after 1 January

Stretched Government Funding

If you choose to stretch your child's funded hours across 50 weeks of the year, the number of funded hours available each week will depend on when your child becomes eligible for funding.

Children who become eligible during the Spring (January) or Summer (April) term will receive funding on a pro-rata basis from their eligibility date. As a result, the total number of funded hours available to stretch over the remainder of the funding year may be lower than for children who are eligible from the Autumn term.

For children eligible for 30 hours funded childcare, the stretched allocation will be adjusted accordingly to reflect their full entitlement.

Please note that we are unable to offer stretched funding for children who start part-way through a term. If your child joins us mid-term and you wish to use your funded entitlement, fees will be calculated based on the funding available and the sessions attended.

If you would like to discuss this further, please speak to the nursery manager.

Start Date	Remaining weeks in academic year	Funded hours per week
1 st September	50 Weeks	11.4 hours
1 st January	33.4 Weeks	10.77 hours
1 st April	20.8 weeks	9.37 hours

Sessions

At Curious Learners Childcare Ltd, we are proud to offer a range of flexible childcare session options designed to meet the needs of our families while supporting children's learning, development, and daily routines.

Our sessions are carefully structured to make the best use of funded childcare hours and to provide consistency for children throughout their time with us. All session options are subject to availability and are offered in line with nursery capacity and operational requirements.



The following session options are available:

Full Day (10 hours)	08:00 - 18:00
9 hr Full Day	08:00 - 17:00 / 09:00 - 18:00
8 hr Full Day	08:00-16:00 / 09:00-17:00
Short Day (7 hours)	08:00-15:00 / 09:00-16:00
Morning or Afternoon Session	08:00 - 13:00 / 13:00 - 18:00
Short Morning / Short Afternoon Session (All week only / Term Time Only)	08:45 – 11:45 / 13:00 – 16:00
School Day	09:00 - 15:00

Fees

Fees are calculated based on the number of sessions your child is booked to attend each month and are payable in advance.

As staffing, resources, and your child's place are reserved based on their booked sessions, nursery fees remain payable for any absences, including holidays, sickness, or other time away from the setting. Fees are therefore based on **booked sessions rather than attendance**.

Invoices are issued monthly, and payment is due by the **last working day of each month** for the month ahead.

Our current fees are outlined below:

	Babies (0-2 years)		Toddlers Room (2-3 years)		Pre-School Room (3-4 years)	
	All Year-Round	Time-time only	All Year-Round	Time-time only	All Year-Round	Time-time only
Hourly Rate	£9.00	£10.00	£8.50	£9.50	£7.50	£8.50
Early Drop Off	Permanent booking: £6.00			Adhoc booking: £8:00		
Adhoc Hourly Rate	£12.00					

Early Drop Off:

We offer early morning drop-off from 7:45am. Please speak to a member of management for more information regarding this additional service.



Deposit

Once your child has been offered a place and their sessions have been agreed with the Nursery Manager, a deposit is required to secure their place at Curious Learners Childcare Ltd. The deposit must be paid within 5 working days of the offer being made.

Please note that if you choose not to take up the place offered after paying the deposit, Curious Learners Childcare Ltd is not obliged to refund this payment.

Children Attending Funded Sessions Only

A deposit of £20.00 is required for children attending funded sessions only. This deposit will be credited against your childcare account and deducted from your first full month's invoice until the full amount has been returned. If your invoice balance is £0.00 due to funded sessions fully covering your childcare, the £20.00 deposit will be refunded within four weeks of your child's start date.

Children Attending Additional Paid Sessions

For children attending sessions beyond their funded entitlement, a deposit of £75.00 is required. This deposit will be held on your child's account and will be refunded when your child leaves the nursery, provided that:

- A minimum of 4 weeks' written notice has been given; and
- Your childcare account is fully up to date with no outstanding balances.

Please note that deposits cannot be used to pay for additional childcare hours, late collection charges, late payment fees, or any other outstanding charges on your account.

All Inclusive Enhanced Provision:

Government-funded childcare covers the cost of delivering the **Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) educational provision** only. It does not cover the cost of additional services and resources provided by the nursery, such as meals, snacks, consumable materials, extracurricular experiences, or access to digital learning platforms.

The charges outlined above apply only to funded sessions where families choose to access these additional services and resources.

For sessions that are fully paid for by families, no additional charges apply, as our standard childcare fees are all-inclusive and cover meals, snacks, consumable resources, and access to our digital learning platforms.



Opting in to Our All-Inclusive Enhanced Provision

Choosing our **All-Inclusive Enhanced Provision** means your child can enjoy a variety of freshly prepared, nutritious meals and snacks throughout the day alongside their friends.

Designed to make family life that little bit easier, our all-inclusive option allows you to simply drop off and go, knowing that everything your child needs is provided by the nursery. There's no need to pack daily essentials such as wipes, nappy sacks, creams, bedding, face cloths, or food—we take care of it all.

This convenient option helps ensure your child has everything they need for a comfortable, enjoyable, and enriching day at nursery, while giving you one less thing to think about. Below is information and about out All Inclusive Enhances Provision.

Meals	Digital Learning Platform	Consumables
8:00-18:00/ 08:00-17:00 - £8.50	£1.00 per Funded Session Access to our Digital Learning Platform Daily Updates on your child Termly progress reports Parent Consultation Easy Messaging Service Keep up to date on Nursery news Paper free enrolment process Printed learning journey when your child leaves In app payments and invoices	£1.50 per funded session
09:00-17:00/09:00-18:00 - £8.00		Wet Wipes
08:00-15:00/08:00-16:00 - £7.00		Nappy Sacks
09:00-15:00/09:00-16:00- £6.00		Waste and Nappy Disposal
08:00-13:00 – £5.50		Sudocrem
13:00-18:00 - £4.50		Suncream
8:00-11:00 - £1.50		Graduation
13:00-16:00- £0.50		Christmas Parties
		Bedding (bed sheet and blanket)
		Washing facilities
		Celebration days (easter gifts, Christmas gifts)
		Special events: celebration-themed crafts, food-tasting activities, baking experiences, summer picnics, Christmas activities, and additional resources to support special celebration days.
		Special learning experiences such as getting caterpillars for hands-on learning and Incredible Eggs, who bring eggs and an incubator for our children to see baby chicks hatch!



Opting Out of Enhance Provision

Our All-Inclusive Enhanced Provision is entirely optional for families.

Families who choose to opt out will continue to receive:

- Access to the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) provision as funded by the Government.
- Their eligible funded childcare hours free of charge.

If you choose to opt out, certain additional services and resources included within our All-Inclusive Enhanced Provision will not be available as part of your funded sessions. Below is information about any items, resources, or services that families are required to provide themselves.

Meals	Digital Learning Platform	Consumables
<p>You will need to provide your child with meals and snacks that follow our packing a healthy lunchbox policy to align with the government requirements.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No access to our digital learning platform • Handover will be given on collection • Mandatory assessments only • Invoice will be emailed monthly 	<p>You will need to provide your own consumables each session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wet Wipes • Nappies • Nappy Sacks • Sudocrem • Face cloths (2 per session) • Bedding (bed sheet and blanket) • Messy play apron <hr/> <p>Special events: celebration-themed crafts, food-tasting activities, baking experiences, summer picnics, Christmas activities and parties, and additional resources to support special celebration days and graduation celebrations.</p> <p>Special learning experiences such as getting caterpillars for hands-on learning and Incredible Eggs, who bring eggs and an incubator for our children to see baby chicks hatch!</p> <p>These will be charges at an additional charge which will be shared with you accordingly.</p>

Please note that choosing not to access the All-Inclusive Enhanced Provision will not affect the quality of care, learning, or support your child receives. We remain committed to providing a safe, nurturing, and enriching environment for every child in our care.

Families are responsible for providing any required items in accordance with nursery policies, ensuring they are supplied in sufficient quantities and clearly labelled with their child's name. Where essential items are not provided and the nursery is required to supply them, charges may be applied at the Manager's discretion in line with the current Enhanced Provision rates.