

Your Funded Nursery Hours

Opt-out of consumable charges policy

At Little Buttercups we strongly believe that your child's education should be rich, engaging, ambitious and delivered by a highly qualified and experienced staff team. We have always offered above and beyond the basics and we are very proud of the Enhanced Provision we offer, including an enriching learning environment, a nutritious menu and a range of extracurricular activities.

The Government Funding is provided for settings to offer a basic provision of Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) that meets the statutory requirements such as staff to child ratios and education. The funding doesn't include the everyday consumables and extras that are essential for us to run as a high-quality nursery.

We have always been open and transparent about our charges. The updated government guidance requires nurseries offering funded places to break down any charges for consumables into 3 categories, Food, Non-food and Activities. This document explains what is included in your government funding, what we offer beyond that and why we make a voluntary Consumables Charge. Under new legislation we have to offer an option to 'opt out' of the Enhanced Provision we routinely offer if parents only want to access the funded hours (with no extra benefits)

However, please note that our consumable charges are not a condition for accessing a government funded place

We feel we are providing excellent value for money in a sustainable way, but if you would like to discuss this in more detail, please contact Charlotte

Many nurseries are choosing to stop offering funded places because the funding simply does not cover the true cost of delivering quality childcare. At Little Buttercups we are very proud of the quality care we provide and want to continue doing so, but this is only possible with the support of our families. Unlike some nurseries we aren't restrictive when you can use your funded hours as long as they fit within our session times.

Please see below a current non-exhaustive list of additional supplementary benefits we provide:

Food

Nutritional home cooked meals and snacks prepared from scratch by our qualified kitchen team. We follow DoE Early Years Foundation Stage Nutrition Guidance April 2025

Breakfast served 8am - 8.30am

Morning snack 10am

2 course cooked lunch 12.00

Afternoon snack 2pm

2 course cooked tea 4pm

2 cooks wages, refrigeration, waste food collection, trained staff, kitchen equipment and resources, PPE for food preparation and serving, All staff are trained in food hygiene and allergy awareness in early years

Non - Food Consumables

Waste disposal, non-statutory training, Wellcom, noodle now training, - connect – parent app , I pads, internet and IT safety, IT support, hosting website, wipes, freshly laundered face cloths, suncream, Twinkl account – quality resources, LCC consultancy fees membership, NDNA membership, daily washing & drying, individual fresh laundered bedding, mobile phones for safety on outings, prams for outings, high vis vests for outings, calpol and piriton, wet suits , forestry school resources, spare clothing when needed, sensory equipment, children's baking supplies, plants and seeds for gardening, gardening gloves, trowels, watering cans.

Activities

Additional activities provided by nursery staff:

squiggle while you wiggle, gardening, dough disco, forestry school visits, outings in our local community with high staff: child ratio to ensure safety , baking, celebrating festivals from varied cultures such as Chines New Year, Portugal Day, Christmas activities and parties and a gift for each child, birthday balloon for each child, leavers party and gift for each child when transitioning to school. Enhanced learning activities and resources for the children.

Activities provided by outside suppliers:

Football with a qualified coach, Heartbeeps, Little English, Dancing with Imogen and Toddle rhyme and sign.

What are my options?

If you decide you would like to opt out of our enhanced provision your child will still receive their funded hours and a basic EYFS provision. A meeting with Charlotte or Hayley must be arranged prior to opting out to ensure you fully understand the implications, and you must give one full term written notice. Please remember we are here to support you and ensure your child has the best possible experience with us

You will need to supply all snacks and meals whilst adhering to our 'food from home and packed lunch policy' (please see attached)

You will need to supply all wipes, nappy sacks, suncream (minimum SPF 50), calpol , piriton, spare clothing must be provided appropriate to the weather, including sunhat and outdoor splash suit. Please note these items will need to be clearly labelled with your child's name and brought in daily as we do not have sufficient storage space. You will not receive access registration for the parent zone app, we will provide all information at the daily handovers and through termly parent catch up meetings.

You will also need to provide clean bedlinen every day your child attend, this should consist of a cot sheet and cellular blanket and be labelled with your child's name. These will be given back to you every day for washing.

Your child will not be able to take part in outings and visits and extra curriculum activities; we will arrange for your child to go into the care of a different room for this time whilst still accessing age appropriate EYFS activities

We will discuss this with you further should you decide to opt out.

September 2025

Little Buttercups of Trawden

Packed lunch and food from home policy 2025

Children's food preferences and eating habits are formed early in life with consequences for a range of health and development outcomes in later life. It is therefore important that the food we provide offers appropriate amounts of energy and nutrients and encourages the development of healthy eating habits in young children, both to support appropriate growth and development, and as part of national priorities to reduce childhood obesity and ensure every child has the best start in life. We support healthier food provision within our nursery in line with current government dietary recommendations.

If you choose to 'opt out of our consumables policy' which includes nutritious home cooked meals and snacks you must adhere to the following:

Our mealtimes are breakfast 7.30-8.30am, lunch 12.00, tea 4pm, snack times are 10am and 2pm
Please note you will need to deliver your child's food at the above times and collect their containers and waste 30 minutes after, unfortunately we do not have adequate storage facilities. Please ensure all containers and drinks bottles are labelled with your child's name and include an ice pack

All meals and snacks must be healthy and nutritious and follow DfE Early Years Foundation Stage Nutrition Guidance April 2025 and include a variety of fruit, vegetables, protein foods, starchy foods and dairy or dairy alternative. For further advice on the guidance please see:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-years-foundation-stage-nutrition>

Take away foods, crisps, chocolate, chocolate biscuits, sweets, popcorn will be NOT allowed. Please note we are not allowed to re heat food.

Only milk and water to drink. Juice, cordial or fizzy drinks are NOT allowed

Choking: Small round foods such as grapes and cherry tomatoes must be sliced in half lengthwise. Please do not send marble sized, sticky or hard foods that are easy to swallow whole including cubes of cheese. Cheese should be cut into narrow batons.

We may have children and staff within nursery with severe allergies please make sure you do NOT send in nuts or any food containing nuts

Food containing any of the other major allergens must be clearly labelled, these include:

- Milk
- Eggs
- Fish
- Crustacean/shellfish
- Wheat
- Soyabean
- Tree nuts (almonds, walnuts, pecans)

Please note a member of staff will need to check all food upon delivery before allowing it into your child's room