

## **NOTICE TO PARENTS - CLAIMING GOVERNMENT FUNDING FOR CHILDREN FROM 9 MONTHS OLD**

Cheshire East Council provide Funded Early Education Entitlement Places for parents of children aged from 9 months up to 5 years old. We offer each eligible child the full 15 hours funding entitlement per week and 30 hours of funding to eligible parents. Please check your eligibility or find out more details on how to claim by following this link: <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

These funded hours can be used over 38 weeks of the year (broadly matching Cheshire East term dates) or used over 52 weeks using fewer than your total hours per week (stretched funding). Parklands Day Nursery are offering both "stretched" and "term time" options.

### **STRETCHED FUNDING OPTION**

Working parents tend to favour this package as children's spaces are guaranteed for 52 weeks of the year and the funding is spread throughout providing more consistent monthly fees.

- Funded hours are stretched over 52 weeks which equates to using 11 or 22 hours each week depending on whether 15 or 30 hours are claimed for.
- Funded hours can only be used on full day sessions - 7.30am-6pm.
- Hours claimed for each week will be split over 2 or 3 full days depending on whether 15 or 30 hours are claimed for.
- Claiming 15 hours (11 hours per week) - 5.5 funded hours is used on one full day.
- Claiming 30 hours (22 hours per week) - 7.3 funded hours is used on one full day.
- Remaining hours, 3 meals and a snack will all be chargeable.

### **TERM TIME OPTIONS**

Parents who have more flexibility with their work tend to favour these packages. Parents are still able to book nursery sessions outside of term times but only subject to availability and full charges will apply.

### **FREE FUNDED PACKAGE**

- Claiming 15 hours - 3X 7.30am-12.30pm OR 1pm-6pm.
- Claiming 30 hours - 1X 7.30am-5.30pm AND 4X 7.30am-12.30pm OR 1pm-6pm.
- We may be able to accommodate parental choice of days.

- Attendance is for 38 weeks of the year (broadly matching Cheshire East term dates).
- Parents can supply food (guidance will apply) or eat at home.
- There are no additional charges.
- Priority will be given to 2 year olds who receive means tested funding or children in need of SEND support.

#### SHORT DAY PACKAGE

- Claiming 15 hours - 2X 8.30am-4pm.
- Claiming 30 hours - 4X 8.30am-4pm.
- Attendance is for 38 weeks of the year (broadly matching Cheshire East term dates). Attendance is not guaranteed outside term time.
- 3 meals will be chargeable.

#### FULL DAY PACKAGE

- A maximum of 7.5 funded hours can be used on one full day - 7.30am-6pm.
- Claiming 15 hours - 2X 7.30am-6pm.
- Claiming 30 hours - 4X 7.30am-6pm.
- Attendance is for 38 weeks of the year (broadly matching Cheshire East term dates). Attendance is not guaranteed outside term time.
- Remaining hours, 3 meals and a snack will all be chargeable.

Please note:

- It is not required that parents use the entire 15 or 30 hours of funding.
- There is no option to bring your own food with the short or full day funded packages.
- The funding year runs from the term that you first begin claiming. When there is no longer a clear year left prior to going to school to stretch funding over 52 weeks, it will be spread over the amount of weeks left and an adjustment will be made to the number of hours used each week.
- Adjustments to the number of hours claimed each week may be necessary in other circumstances such as increasing/decreasing claimed hours mid term, using funding at a second setting or enrolling at nursery/leaving nursery mid term.
- Any of the above adjustments may incur a charge of £20 for each occasion due to the admin time necessary.
- **Parents may only change between funding options or packages at the point of completion of a full year due to necessary complex individual calculations.**

- Funded hours which fall on a bank holiday can be used to book an additional session within the month following the bank holiday. Availability of days will be dependent on staffing levels and the usual charges will apply to the session.
- A Free Early Education Entitlement Parental Declaration form will need to be fully completed and handed into the office during the term prior to the claim period, along with any relevant documentation and code. If we are unable to verify this code prior to the Cheshire East cut off date you will be charged for sessions at the usual non-funded rates.

Our fee structure from week beginning April 1<sup>st</sup> 2026 is set out below:

### **NON-FUNDED SESSIONS**

FULL DAY - 7.30am-6pm - £80 (includes 3 meals & a snack)

HALF DAY - 7.30am-12.30pm - £50 (includes breakfast & lunch)

HALF DAY - 1pm-6pm - £50 (includes tea & a snack)

### **STRETCHED FUNDING FULL DAY SESSIONS - claiming 15 hours per week**

#### **(stretched to 11 hours)**

3-5 year old 5.5 HOUR FUNDED DAY - 7.30am-6pm - £49 (includes additional hours, 3 meals & a snack)

9 months -3 years old 5.5 HOUR FUNDED DAY - 7.30am-6pm - £40 (includes additional hours, 3 meals & a snack)

### **STRETCHED FUNDING FULL DAY SESSIONS - claiming 30 hours per week**

#### **(stretched to 22 hours)**

3-5 year old 7.3 HOUR FUNDED DAY - 7.30am-6pm - £40 (includes additional hours, 3 meals & a snack)

9 months - 3 years old 7.3 HOUR FUNDED DAY - 7.30am-6pm - £36 (includes additional hours, 3 meals & a snack)

### **TERM TIME FREE FUNDED PACKAGE**

HALF DAY - 7.30am-12.30pm - £0

HALF DAY - 1pm-6pm - £0

FULL DAY - 7.30am-5.30pm - £0

### **TERM TIME SHORT DAY PACKAGE**

8.30am-4pm - £18 (includes 3 meals)

### **TERM TIME FULL DAY PACKAGE**

7.30am-6pm - £36 (includes additional hours, 3 meals & a snack)

Additional hour - £12

Adjustments to claimed funding hours mid-term - £20

Late collection fee - £20 for each part of a 15 minute block

A second sibling will receive a discount of 10% of fees

A discount of £15 per week will apply to full time children

*\*Our fees and funded hours packages are usually reviewed annually and are subject to change by the start of the funding term.\**

Parklands are also registered for the government's Tax Free Childcare Scheme. "If you are eligible for Tax-Free Childcare, you'll set up an online childcare account for your child. For every £8 you pay into this account, the government will pay in £2 to use to pay your provider. You can get Tax-Free Childcare at the same time as 30 hours free childcare if you're eligible for both." Follow this link for more information

<https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>

Please contact us in the main office if you have any queries or need any help in completing your Parent Declaration Form.

Many thanks,

Gail, Vicky and Jane

Management Team

Parklands Day Nursery