



Administration

Fees

Policy statement

We aim to ensure that all families are aware of our Fee Structure.

We aim to make the Fee Structure simple.

We aim to ensure that our provision is affordable for all families.

7 Key features of effective practice

| The best for every child | High quality care | The Curriculum | Pedagogy | Assessment | Self-regulation and executive function | Partnership with Parents |
|---|-------------------|----------------|----------|------------|--|--------------------------|
| https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1007446/6.7534_DfE_Development_Matters_Report_and_illustrations_web_2_.pdf | | | | | | |

Fee Structure

- Hourly rate for 2 year olds (from 1st March 2025) £8.20
- Hourly rate for 3 and 4 year olds (from 1st March 2025) £7.60
- There is a “care package” fee of £2 per session charged to help toward the costs of consumables (morning and afternoon) This includes a nutritional morning snack, wipes, creams, baking ingredients and additional curiosity led resources.
- Early Bird (830-9am) £3.50
- After School Club (3-5pm) £12.00
- 5% sibling discount is offered.
- Fees can be paid by Bank Transfer, Standing Order (on monthly Payment Plans), or the Government tax-free childcare scheme <https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>
- **Please note, due to significantly increased bank charges we can no longer accept cash or cheques as forms of payment.**
- We require £100.00 as a deposit to hold a pre school place, this would be refunded when the child joins the setting on their second invoice.

- We charge an initial £25 registration fee to cover administrative costs and a book bag for your child to transport artwork..
- If the child's place at Pre School is not taken up the deposit will be non-refundable.
- East Sussex County Council (ESCC) funding periods run as follows; **Autumn Term:** September to December | **Winter Term:** January to April: **Spring Term:** May to July.
- For Rotherfield Village Pre-School term dates – Please see the Diary Page on our website.
- From the term after your child turns two or three, the government funds 15 hours per week of your child's time at pre-school. **Please note that your child becomes eligible for funding the term after their second, or third birthday (September - January - April).**
- Each Early Years setting can decide how to offer these hours. We offer these government funded hours as follows:

| New Pre-School Session Times | Non-Funded Families | | Government Funded Families | |
|---|---------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| New Fee Rates | 2's (£8.20) | 3 & 4's (£7.60) | 2's (£8.20) | 3 & 4's (£7.60) |
| Morning 9-12pm (3hrs) | £24.60 | £22.80 | - | - |
| Morning 9-1pm with lunch club (4hrs) | £32.80 | £30.40 | £8.20 | £7.60 |
| Afternoon 1-3pm (2hrs) | £16.40 | £15.20 | - | - |
| Afternoon 12-3pm with lunch club (3hrs) | £24.60 | £22.80 | £8.20 | £7.60 |
| All Day 9-3pm with lunch club (6hrs) | £49.20 | £45.60 | £8.20 | £7.60 |
| Childcare Package Per Session | £2.00 | £2.00 | £2.00 | £2.00 |
| Childcare Package Per Full Day | £4.00 | £4.00 | £4.00 | £4.00 |

Please note however that our sessions (doors open) are as follows:

Morning: 9.00 - 3.00 9.00 - 12.00 9.00 - 1.00

Afternoon: 12.00 - 3.00

- The government will also fund 2-year-old children of working families now, please go to <https://www.gov.uk/help-with-childcare-costs/free-childcare-2-year-olds> for further information or ask in the office for details. **Please note that your child becomes eligible for funding the term after their second birthday (January – April – September).**
- Please contact the office if you would like clarification on when your child will become eligible for funding.
- You will be responsible for your invoice if you have not confirmed your eligibility for funded hours booked.
- **Please note we publish an incremental fee increase each September in line with inflation.*

Information on Funding

- When your child becomes eligible for funded hours, you will receive a parental declaration form through us to complete. Please return this form to us promptly to enable us to make the claim on your behalf.
- ESCC requires an identification number from either your child's Birth Certificate or Passport as proof of age, which we are obliged to document on your funding form. Please bring your child's identification document (birth certificate/passport) with you when you return the form so that we can take a copy and make a note of the number. (as part of our GDPR compliance, we only record the ID number from this document). If needed, copies of birth certificates can be obtained from <https://www.gov.uk/browse/births-deaths-marriages>.
- You may be eligible to claim Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP). This is additional funding for early years pre-school settings to improve the education they provide for disadvantaged 3- and 4 year-olds including, but not restricted to, those adopted from care. In order to check your availability for EYPP, please fill out the EYPP section of the form, including your NI no & DOB and /or DLA details.
- **Please note that your child becomes eligible for funding the term after their birthday (September - January - April).** If you are unsure of when your child will qualify, please contact the office.
- Government funded hours through East Sussex County Council (ESCC) allow applications for funded hours strictly during set times in September, January, and April. The funded hours applied for at each application cannot be increased or exceeded until the next funding application. Any additional or increased hours provided between applications will be charged for at our usual hourly rate.
- For funded children, any hours booked over the maximum 15 hours will be charged at the current hourly rate. In addition, if you book an ad hoc session you will be charged in full as EYEE funding does not cover such sessions.
- Non-funded children will be charged for all hours attended.

Increasing your Child's Sessions

- Please always request changes to hours in writing to office@rotherfieldpre-school.co.uk
- If your child is funded, any increase in hours will be chargeable at our current hourly rate until the next funding period begins. You will be able to claim up to 15 Universal funded Hours per week with Rotherfield Village Pre-School. Please see our Fee Structure for the conditions that apply to claiming these hours.

- If you are claiming the 30 funded hours and wish to share these between us and another setting, you will need to claim the **Universal Funded Hours** with us and the Extended Funded Hours at the other setting.
- If your child is not funded, you can increase your child's hours in writing at any time during the term, ratios permitting.

PLEASE NOTE THAT WE STAFF FOR THE TERM BASED ON THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN BOOKED. IF YOUR CHILD DOES NOT ATTEND FOR ANY REASON, YOU WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR PAYING FOR THE NUMBER OF HOURS YOU HAVE REQUESTED PRIOR TO THE START OF TERM.

Billing Procedure

- Invoices for fees will be issued on the 15th of each month.
- Fees will be payable in advance of the hours required.
- Fees are payable within 14 days.
- If full payment is not received after this time, an email will be issued stating that payment is due immediately. If payment is not received within 7 days from the date of the email, funded children's hours may be affected.
- Please keep your accounts in order. If there are outstanding fees, your child's place will be at risk.
- Late payment of fees after the 14 days, or the agreed monthly standing order date will be charged at 10% of the total bill for each outstanding week.
- Please note that the hours booked at the start of term will be chargeable as we staff per term. Any absent days through sickness or holidays are also chargeable. Please also note that due to staffing we cannot swap days and that any change in your normal sessions will be chargeable.
- Any additional hours provided during the term will be invoiced at our hourly rate and payable within 14 days.
- If you leave our setting, we require 6 weeks written notice.

Difficulties with Payments

If you are having difficulties in paying your invoice, please speak to the office as soon as possible in order that a payment plan can be agreed and implemented. A payment plan will be drawn up stating a weekly/ monthly amount to be paid, for a set period of weeks/ months. Our preferred payment method for payment plans is via standing order, on an agreed regular monthly date.

Late Collections

We have had to introduce a late collection fee as we occasionally have children that are regularly picked up late. The implication of this at the 3pm pick up is that for safeguarding reasons, two members of staff must sit with the child/ children. We will therefore be charging £25.00 per each late collection to cover the cost of the members of staff staying on beyond their allocated hours. This will be implemented if children are collected later than 3.10pm and added to your invoice.

For late collections for sessions finishing at during the day sessions, at 12 and 1 o'clock, there will be an additional fee payable of £25.00 for anything over 10 minutes. This is due to staff not being able to leave on time to maintain ratios.

We do of course appreciate that situations beyond your control occasionally occur and, in these instances, of course we will not charge the late collection charge.

Please telephone us as soon as you think you may be late so that we can prepare your child.

Additional Information

- In the instance of long-term childhood illness, and a child is absent for a long period due to illness, the pre-school will decide on a case-by-case basis the fees due.
- For new starts – please note as we staff on a termly basis. We require 6 weeks written notice if you wish to delay your child's start date. If 6 weeks' notice period is not met, an invoice will be generated from the date you have requested, and you will be responsible for making the payment for the hours you have specified.
- Funded hours start on a Monday morning of each week. If the pre-school must close unexpectedly, your ESCC funded hours will apply in the same manner as any other week.
- Parents/ Carers will not be charged for closures due to exceptional circumstances where the pre-school remains closed for a continuous period of 3 days or longer. Please see our Unexpected Closure Policy.

HM Government Tax-Free Childcare

To find out if you are eligible for Tax-free Childcare please look at: <https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>

30 Hours

We do not offer 30 hours of childcare offered by the Government, however, we are able to offer this in conjunction with other childcare settings. In these instances, we would claim up to 15 hours per week of the **Universal Funded Hours** and the remaining Extended Funded Hours would be claimed at your additional setting.

For further information of EYEE funding please look at:

<https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/childrenandfamilies/childcare/free-childcare/download/>

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| This Policy was reviewed by | Laura Argent |
| This policy was adopted by | Rotherfield Village Pre-School Directors |
| Date | Dec 2024 |
| Review Date | Dec 2025 |

Review Log

| Review Date | Brief Details of Amendments | Amended By | Agreed By |
|-------------|---|------------------|--|
| August 2021 | Amended annual increase. Cash and cheque payments no longer accepted due to bank charge increase. Updated ESCC Funding Rate. Clarified EYPP. | Sandra Cawsey | Rotherfield Pre-School Staff and Directors |
| June 2022 | Amend annual increase | Sandra Cawsey | Rotherfield Pre-School Staff and Directors |
| July 2023 | Cost changes, registration fee, removed cheques, amended funded rates, | Shereen Milledge | Rotherfield Pre-School Staff and Directors |
| May 2024 | Changes of funding rates, name changes, removed invoices being termly, changed to monthly. Changes invoices being payable in advance. | Laura Deveson | Rotherfield Pre-School Staff and Directors |