





Guide to childcare costs:

## Essentials and Extras

These are just what they sound like; all the important elements of care that we consider essential, along with those enriching, Playschool things that make our nursery what it is. The government funding isn't meant to cover the costs of things like these, so like most nurseries, we'll ask you to contribute towards them. When you see what you're paying for, we think you'll understand:



#### Toiletries, hygiene products including **\$2** sleep hygiene



We do all we can to keep your child feeling clean and comfortable. We work with you to support them with potty training, building their confidence and independence. When accidents happen, we reassure children and sort the situation with minimal fuss. We support children to learn how to blow their noses and wash their hands to promote infection control. Children get tired at Playschool and

occasionally will have an unplanned sleep. Staff respect the rights of the child to sleep if necessary and we provide clean bedding and a safe place to rest.

Meals, drinks, and snacks



Our on-site chef prepares healthy, delicious food every single day, offering a choice of nutritious snacks, balanced main meals incorporating proteins, carbohydrates and at least 3 choices of fruit and vegetables. Fresh milk or water is available throughout the day for children to drink. We follow 'Eat Better, Start Better' guidance and work with you to ensure your child receives a suitably varied diet as they grow. Our chef is also a qualified early years practitioner and regularly cooks with the children.



#### **Enhancements** and Activities



We offer fun, exciting and educational experiences for your child to learn essential life skills. Our specialist team create opportunities for your child to build their learning and development in every area, including physical, personal, and social, as well as skills in language and communication. Your child receives dedicated care during their time at Playschool. We work with enhanced ratios to those that are legally required e.g. 1 adult to 4 two-year-old children (legally 1:5) and 1 adult to 8 three- & four-year-olds (legally 1:13 as a teacher led provision).



### Playschool curriculum programmes

Each cohort at



Playschool has its own curriculum priorities which our qualified and experienced staff use to celebrate the age and stage of the children. As they develop, children are gently prepared for their next steps which they can then take with confidence and the necessary skills.

The environment in Playschool is carefully considered and adapted to suit each individual child, to promote development of 'Characteristics of Effective Learning', wellbeing and engagement.

NURTURE: INSPIRE: CHALLENGE







# Partnership with parents & home learning

This is something we take very seriously at Playschool, from settling in and home visits to sharing progress both at home and at Playschool through our online learning journeys. We regularly invite parents into Playschool to see their children learning and to meet other families in their child's cohort. We provide book bags and a lending library for the older children, to encourage sharing of stories at home.

Our qualified, experienced staff are confident to discuss child development with parents helping them navigate some of the trickier stages!

Flexible booking systems
We provide care for children
from 3 months old until they

transition into full time education. We are open all year apart from 1 week at Christmas. We allow families to use all available funding schemes for their bookings at Playschool. We offer a choice of drop-off and pick-up times to suit your individual family. Term time days are booked separately from school holidays to allow maximum flexibility. We stretch your funding in a flexible way across the whole academic year. All these services cost us staff time to administer.

Of course, these are just some of the things that make Playschool special. At Playschool your child will benefit from a National Curriculum based education following the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) framework.

Playschool does offer some totally funded places, where parents will not need to pay for their child. These are released each term but are very limited and typically have long waiting lists, depending on staffing levels and availability. As parents do not need to contribute towards these places, there is an operational and financial impact on our nursery - so to ensure the care we provide is not affected, and that we can run sustainably, we must limit the number available.