



Fees and Funding Policy 2025/26

Introduction

At BeBright Pre School, we are committed to providing high-quality early years education in a nurturing and safe environment. This policy outlines how we apply government funding and structure our fees to ensure transparency and sustainability.

Government Funding Rates (Lincolnshire 2025/26)

Lincolnshire County Council receives the minimum national funding rate for early years provision. The current rates are:

- 3- and 4-year-olds: £5.21 per hour
- Eligible 2-year-olds: £7.60 per hour (disadvantaged entitlement)
- Working 2-year-olds: £7.41 per hour (from April 2025)
- Early Years Pupil Premium £1.00 per hour

These rates are paid directly to the setting by the local authority and do not reflect the full cost of delivering care and education.

Our Fee Structure

To bridge the gap between government funding and the actual cost of delivering our high-quality provision, we charge the following voluntary fees:

Enhanced Curriculum Fee and Consumables Voluntary Fee

- £11.50 for our long day 8:15am-3:45pm or the equivalent to £1.53 per funded hour
- £10 for shorter day 9am-3pm or the equivalent to £1.66 per funded hour
- Half day 9am-12pm or 12pm -3pm enhanced curriculum cost is £5.75 including snacks
- We also offer an optional drop off at 8am and collect at 4:00pm for £4.50 for 3 year olds and £5 for 2 year olds.

- This cost covers:
 - Curriculum enrichment detailed in our 'Opt in/Opt out Literature
 - Consumables (craft materials, hygiene supplies such as nappies, wipes and suncream)
 - Staff training and development
 - Safety and safeguarding enhancements
 -

Meal Charges

- £7.50 per full day long day 8:15-3:45 or £5 per full day 9am-3pm
- Charged at cost, with no profit made
- Includes breakfast, morning snack two course lunch, and afternoon snack

Additional Hours -Voluntary (Non-funded)

- Charged per session and according to age due to staffing costs:

(All fees include all food costs)

Morning or Afternoon Session (9:00 AM – 12:00 PM)

- 2-year-olds: £23.00
- 3- and 4-year-olds: £19.00

Full Day Session (8:15 AM – 3:45 PM)

- 2-year-olds: £57.00
- 3- and 4-year-olds: £55.00

Full day session (9am-3pm)

- 2-year-olds: £51
- 3- and 4-year-olds: £45
- This is for hours outside of funded entitlement or for children not eligible for funding and are voluntary.

Funding Entitlements

We offer the following funded places on a first come first served basis (We reserve two places on our register each year for looked after children or families requiring support through social services)

In any academic year we commit to providing up to 8 two year old spaces on all funding streams and up to 16 pre school spaces on all funding streams. If staffing allows we will increase capacity as and when we are able to.

- Universal 15 hours for all 3- and 4-year-olds
- Extended 30 hours for eligible working families
- 15 hours for eligible 2-year-olds
-

Parents/Carers must apply for eligibility codes where required and renew them as instructed by HMRC. You can claim your child's funding the term AFTER their birthday and we will ensure you sign a parent declaration for us to be able to claim the funding for your child.

How to Claim Government-Funded Childcare in Lincolnshire (2025)

Step 1: Check What You're Eligible For

Depending on your child's age and your circumstances, you may be eligible for:

- 15 hours per week for all 3- and 4-year-olds (universal entitlement)
- 30 hours per week for 2, 3- and 4-year-olds (if both parents work 16+ hours/week and earn under £100,000 each)
- 15 hours per week for eligible 2-year-olds (based on income or benefits)
- 15 hours per week for working parents of 2-year-olds (from April 2024)

You can check your eligibility and apply at:

 www.childcarechoices.gov.uk

Step 2: Apply for a Funding Code (If Required)

For 30-hour funding and working parent entitlements, you'll need to:

1. Create or log in to your childcare account at Childcare Choices.
2. Complete the application form.
3. If eligible, you'll receive an 11-digit eligibility code.
4. Renew your code every 3 months to keep your funding active.

Step 3: Apply in Time

You must apply the term before you want the funding to start:

Term	Child's Birthday	Apply By
Autumn (Sept)	1 Apr – 31 Aug	31 August

Spring (Jan)	1 Sep – 31 Dec	31 December
Summer (Apr)	1 Jan – 31 Mar	31 March

Step 4: Share Details with Your Preschool

Once you have your code:

- Give it to your childcare provider along with:
 - Your National Insurance number
 - Your child's date of birth
- Sign a Parent Declaration Form (We will provide you with this and guide you with completing it at your home visit)



Additional Help

You may also be eligible for:

- Tax-Free Childcare (up to £2,000/year per child)
- Universal Credit for Childcare
- Childcare Vouchers (if still offered by your employer)

If you have questions, you can contact:  Early Years Entitlements Team – EYE@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Important Notes

Voluntary Contributions and Opt-Out Policy

Government-funded hours do not cover the cost of:

- Meals and snacks
- Consumables (e.g., nappies, wipes, craft materials)
- Enhanced curriculum activities (e.g., enrichment sessions, outdoor learning)
-

To maintain transparency and fairness, these costs are included in our standard session fees. However, we understand that not all families may wish to pay these voluntary contributions.

If you choose not to opt in, we will provide suitable alternatives as outlined in our 'Opt In/Opt Out Policy', which you will be provided with at your visit to pre school, it is also available upon request and via the Famly app.

Due to the financial deficit, we experience between the government funding rate and the actual cost of delivering our high-quality provision, we are only able to offer up to 5 places per session without voluntary contributions. These places will be prioritised for:

- Children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)
- Children in receipt of Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP)
- Adopted or fostered children
- Children on a safeguarding plan

We are fully transparent about all charges. Itemised invoices are sent monthly via the Famly app.

Please note:

We do not profit from government funding or meal charges. Our fees are carefully structured to ensure the sustainability of our setting and to continue delivering high-quality early years education.

We will ask you to confirm to all policies and procedures via a permission on Famly.

Thank You

We appreciate your continued support and understanding. Your contributions help us maintain a safe, enriching, and inspiring environment for your children.

This policy was adopted by: BeBright Pre School

On

Date to be reviewed

Signed on behalf of the provider

Name of signatory

Role of signatory