



FINANCE FACT SHEET

(UPDATED MARCH 2026)

Funding Information

All children aged 3 and above are entitled to:

- 15 hours Universal Free Entitlement Funding each week.
- An additional 15-hour Extended Funding for families who meet the eligibility criteria.
- Funding begins the term after your child turns three (September, January or April).

*You may use your funding at **one setting** or **split across multiple providers**, including childminders. Please indicate the number of funded hours you wish to use at Seedlings on your application form.*

*You **will not be charged** for funded hours. Hot lunches, additional hours, and consumables fees (see below) are charged separately.*

To keep your funded place:

- You must sign a **funding form** at the beginning of every funding period (three times per year).

Before your child starts, you must bring in **their original birth certificate or passport** for proof of eligibility.

Nursery Start Year	Start Term	Birthday Range
2026	January	1 Sep 2022 – 31 Dec 2022
2026	April	1 Jan 2023 – 31 Mar 2023
2026	September	1 Apr 2023 – 31 Aug 2023
2027	January	1 Sep 2023 – 31 Dec 2023
2027	April	1 Jan 2024 – 31 Mar 2024
2027	September	1 Apr 2024 – 31 Aug 2024
2028	January	1 Sep 2024 – 31 Dec 2024
2028	April	1 Jan 2025 – 31 Mar 2025
2028	September	1 Apr 2025 – 31 Aug 2025
2029	January	1 Sep 2025 – 31 Dec 2025
2029	April	1 Jan 2026 – 31 Mar 2026
2029	September	1 Apr 2026 – 31 Aug 2026

Funding Eligibility 2026–2029

Session Times (2026)

- 8:45–9:00am — Gate opens
- 11:45am–12:15pm — Lunch time
- 3:10–3:15pm — All children to be picked up

Charges for Additional (Unfunded) Hours

- £5 per hour for any hours beyond your funded allocation.
- £30 for full day

Consumables Charge (NEW)

From 2026, Seedlings is introducing a Consumables Charge to cover items not included in free entitlement funding, such as:

- Snacks
- Craft materials
- Toiletries (e.g., wipes)
- Baking/cooking ingredients
- Additional resources

A consumables fee of **£2.50** per day will be added to invoices for all children, whether funded or unfunded. (Families experiencing financial difficulty should speak confidentially to the office).

Meals

- Hot lunch is available for **£2.61 per day**.
- Alternatively, children may bring a packed lunch.
- Hot meals must be ordered **online one week in advance**.

Invoicing & Late Collection

Invoices are issued **half-termly** and must be **paid in advance** of the sessions attended.

Payment secures your child's place and staffing arrangements. **Fees remain payable regardless of attendance**, including where a child does not attend due to illness, holidays, or other absence.

Fees will **not be refunded or reduced for unattended sessions**, as costs and staffing remain unchanged. Where a setting closure occurs, parents will be contacted directly.

If you experience unexpected financial difficulty, please contact the school office as soon as possible to discuss available support.

Late collection may result in an additional one-hour charge.