

Noah's Ark Pre-School



Early Years Funding Policy (EEFP)

Policy statement

3 and 4 year old universal and extended funding

There is universal funding which provides up to 570 hours of free childcare a year effective from the term following the child's 3rd birthday, this is normally delivered for 15 hours a week over 38 weeks a year (term time). The universal funding is available to all eligible 3 to 4 year olds. Funding is claimed by and paid directly to the provider from the local authority in which they are based. Funding for extended 15 hours has to be applied for by eligible parents through HMRC. The eligibility code received from HMRC will be used by the setting to obtain additional funding from the local authority.

2 year old funding entitlement and working parents funding entitlement

This is an eligibility based funding for up to 570 hours of free childcare a year effective from the term following the child's 2nd birthday. Applications for 2-year-old funding are made via the local authority and places can only be allocated once eligibility has been confirmed. Eligibility is confirmed by the local authority that the provider is based within and then claimed and paid directly to the provider. Eligibility for 2 year working funding is confirmed through HMRC via eligibility code.

Further information on early years funding can be accessed via your local authority website (www.afcinfo.org.uk).

Admissions

As a pre-school, we follow the normal school academic year with a main intake in September. However, if spaces are available, admissions are possible in January or April. Applications for entry in September will be accepted until the last day of the spring term. Applications received after this date will be considered if spaces are available.

Registered Charity Number 1077417

Priority will be given to baptised Catholic children requiring a full time pre-school place who are already 3 years of age at the time of admission in September. Places will be allocated in the following order:

1. Baptised Roman Catholic children requiring a full time place (5x3 hrs am or pm) or (5x6.5 hrs all day) at the pre-school.
2. Non-Catholic children requiring a full time place (5x3 hrs am or pm) or (5x6.5 hrs) at the pre-school.
3. Baptised Catholic children requiring a part time place at the pre-school.
4. Non-Catholic children requiring a part-time place at the pre-school.

Delivery and charges

At present, Noah's Ark Pre-school offers two sessions a day, 5 days a week. The morning session runs from 8.40 to 11.40 and the afternoon session from 12.15 to 3.15. We also offer places for all day children for 30 hour funding and charge £3 for an extra 35 minutes at lunchtime (8.40am until 3.15pm). We may offer an additional hour at lunch time for children who do not access all day care at £6 per day if spaces are available.

We operate 38 weeks (570 hours) of the academic year. Parents who access our sessions when their child is not yet eligible for Government funding will be invoiced at £19 per session.

Starters and leavers

Noah's Ark is able to offer a funded place if your child starts after the designated headcount week. You can also leave mid-term prior to giving 4 week's notice.

Deposit and Registration payments

Children who access our settings' sessions through Government funding will not be charged a deposit or registration fee. Children who are not yet eligible for Government funding will be charged a non-refundable deposit.

Parental Declaration

Noah's Ark will provide a parental declaration form issued by the Local Authority at the beginning of the academic year. Parents will need to fill this form in and return it in the time frame specified. Parents are only required to sign their form in the following term namely spring and summer if their hours of attendance have not been changed. Without this form, Noah's Ark will be unable to receive funding for the child and an invoice will be issued instead.

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Queries and complaints

If you have any queries or complaints regarding the delivery of EEF at Noah's Ark, please talk to the setting manager first who will try to solve the issue as soon as possible. If you still have further questions, please contact Achieving for Children Early Years Team at early.years@achievingforchildren.org.uk