



Snack, consumables and activity & Enhanced Provision Charges





Cost Breakdown -The Reality

Funding Hourly rates the Essex County Council Pay us compared to our Private Rate Fees

	2 Year Olds	3-4 Year Olds
Essex County Council Pay us	£7.96	£5.54
Bright Sparks Private Rate	£13.00	£13.00
The shortfall – The Reality	£5.04	£7.46

We **ONLY** claim for the funded hours that your child is booked into Pre-School for if you require more hours, we suggest you book in for the full funded hours your child is entitled to.

The cost of the Snack, consumables and activity and charge is:

1 and 2 year funded Children: £3.00 per hour

3 and 4 year funded Children: £2.50 per hour

These costs allow us to maintain the high standards of provision that families at Bright Sparks Pre-School expect.





Your Funded Pre-School Hours

Government guidance is requiring Pre-School's offering funded places to clearly break down any charges for Snack, consumables and activities and additional services or Enhanced Provision. At Bright Sparks Pre-School, we have always been transparent about what we offer, and this information is published on our website and explained on your initial visit when you view the setting.

This document explains what is included in your government funding, what we offer beyond that, and why we ask for a snack, consumable and activity charge.

This document has been produced with the most recent Government Guidance in mind. If you would like anything explained further, please speak to the Pre-School Owner.





What is covered by my Government Funding?





Government Funding covers the basics

Government Funding covers Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) provision, which includes items such as:

- 🌟 Small world figures, role play materials, puzzles, books and basic Craft supplies.
- 🌟 Sand and water play.
- 🌟 Loose parts and construction toys.
- 🌟 A staffing level that meets minimum government ratios.

Under 2 years: 1 adult for every 3 children.

2 years old: 1 adult for every 5 children.

3 years and over: 1 adult for every 8 children

Funding is provided for settings to offer a provision of EYFS that meets the statutory requirements.





What does the Government Funding NOT include?





Bright Sparks Pre-School



What is outside

of the scope of the funding?

As the Government Funding is there to cover the basic provision of EYFS, there are certain things that are EXCLUDED from funding.

Examples of these are:

- ☺☺ Enhanced Staffing ratios for children (1:5 for all ranges)
- ☺☺ Healthy snacks
- ☺☺ PPE

Extra-curricular activities such as:

- ☺☺ Music communication sessions
- ☺☺ Yoga sessions
- ☺☺ Dough disco sessions
- ☺☺ Little scientists
- ☺☺ Little chefs
- ☺☺ Forest school inspired learning (Warley)
- ☺☺ Community engagement activities
- ☺☺ Summer Graduation
- ☺☺ Christmas Plays
- ☺☺ Christmas Parties
- ☺☺ Religious Festivals
- ☺☺ Daily play dough making sessions
- ☺☺ Parent engagement sessions
- ☺☺ Individual tapestry account and special book
- ☺☺ Additional high-quality resources such as sensory equipment, baking supplies, weekly enhancements and specialist educational sessions
- ☺☺ Community walks and visits





We strongly believe that Early Years education should be rich, engaging and full of real-world experiences. To go beyond the basics and provide the quality and care and learning we are proud of, we offer an enhanced provision – which costs more to deliver than government funding provides. High staffing levels support children’s personalised learning and teaching in the moment.





The Reality of Government Funding





An underfunded political problem

Many Pre-Schools are choosing to stop offering funded places because government funding does not cover the true cost of quality early years education, causing many settings to close.

Historically, settings have covered this cost by charging for all the additional things they do, over and above a “basic provision”.

We have always covered the cost of our enhanced provision by making a Termly charge we called “Snack, consumables and activities”. This has allowed us to provide our funded children with a rich curriculum full of learning opportunities and experiences.

At Bright Sparks Pre-School, we want to continue offering funded places, but this is only possible if parents understand why we make a Termly Snack, consumables and activities charge and “opt in” to continue to pay it, as they have been doing since we opened.

Without this cost being met in this way, we may need to reduce the level of enrichment activities we provide, stop providing funded places in the future, or reduce staffing levels.

We appreciate that our parents have opted to send the child to Bright Sparks Pre-School as they want the full enriched Bright-Sparks in the moment planning experience. Charging a Termly “Snack, consumables and activities” fee to parents accessing our Enhanced Provision will allow us to maintain the exceptional care and learning experiences we are known for.





Your Choice

Opt In

- ☀️ All snacks including breakfast for those attending breakfast club and healthy snacks morning and afternoon
- ☀️ Breakfast club being available through Government funded places
- ☀️ Community walks and engagement programme
- ☀️ Forest school inspired learning (Warley)
- ☀️ Little scientists
- ☀️ Little chefs' sessions
- ☀️ Music communication sessions
- ☀️ Enrichment programs
- ☀️ Dough disco
- ☀️ Yoga
- ☀️ Letters and sounds daily sessions
- ☀️ Daily play dough making sessions
- ☀️ Additional learning resources, such as sensory equipment, baking supplies, art materials and School readiness programs
- ☀️ Specialist days and visits, military, vets, people who help us, animal interactions, music and movement packages, library sessions (Shenfield)
- ☀️ Seasonal Specialist events and family run days (Halloween, Easter, Christmas, Family fun days, sports days etc)
- ☀️ Enhanced EYFS curriculum opportunities





Opt Out

Parents who opt-out will receive

🌟 Access to the EYFS provision as funded by the government.

However, opting out means:

- 🌟 Parents must provide all meals and snacks for their child, in line with our food policy
- 🌟 Breakfast Club sessions will no longer be included in Government funded hours
- 🌟 Some enhanced provision experiences may not be included, but we will always ensure a high standard of care as an alternative
- 🌟 Funded hours for opt-out families will be arranged based on availability.
- 🌟 A staff ratio that meets the minimum staffing ratio





Next steps





What happens next?

The Consumables and Enhances provision document will be shared with you when you view the setting.

Once the Pre-School place has been confirmed, you will receive an email with the additional service package allowing you to opt in or opt out.

At Bright Sparks Pre-School, we want to continue offering funded places, but this is only possible with the support of our families. In some cases, the funding we receive for our Children is up to £7.46 an hour less than our standard charge.

We hope that our parents see the value in our Snack, consumables and activity charge and choose to opt in so we can continue to operate as we always have done and can continue to provide the exceptional experiences that make our Pre-School special.





Bright Sparks Pre-School



This agreement outlines the terms under which parents /guardians may choose to enrol their child into the “Additional Service Package” provided by Bright Sparks Pre-School. This package is offered as an additional service beyond the government-funded early years entitlement and is subject to an additional charge.

Opt In

Fees for the Additional Service

- 👶 The current charge for the Additional Service and enriched curriculum is £3 per funded hour for 1 year and 2-year-olds and £2.50 for 3 year and 4-year-olds. This also covers our high adult child ratio of 1 to 5.
- 👶 This fee covers additional costs for extracurricular activities, snack and consumables as outlined in the snack consumables and activity and enhanced provision charges document. **This fee also allows for a high staff child ratio of 1:5 no matter the child's age.**
- 👶 Payment is required in advance on a Termly basis.

Consent and Agreement

- 👶 By signing this contract, parents confirm their understanding that extracurricular activities as outlined in the snack consumables and activities and enhanced provision charges document are an optional, additional service separate from the free early years entitlement.
- 👶 Parents acknowledge the associated costs for the duration of time that your child attend Bright Sparks Pre-School.

Acknowledgement and Signature

I, the undersigned parent/guardian, have read and understood the terms outlined in this contract. I acknowledge that Package Service including the extracurricular activities are an optional service, and I agree that there is a snack consumable and activities charge that will apply for the duration that my child attends Bright Sparks Pre-School.

Opt in

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Child's Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Opt out

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Child's Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

For any queries, please contact us at centralmanager@brightsparkspre-school.co.uk.

Thank you for choosing Bright Sparks Pre-School.

