

Busy Lizzie's Funding Policy

Busy Lizzie's accepts all types of funding offered by the government. This currently includes:

- 30 hours for working families from the term after they are 9 months old
- 15 hours for eligible 2-year-olds (local authority issued)
- 15 universal hours for all children from the term after they are 3 years old.

The government funding is term time only. As we are a term time only nursery then funding is not stretched across the year.

Children eligible for funding can use their full amount with us providing the spaces are available. Funding is offered on a flexible pattern, between the hours of 8 till 4. The only restrictions that apply are:

- Sessions must be a minimum of 3 hours long
- The latest start time is 9.30am
- There are no drop offs or collections between 11.45 and 12.30 due to lunch time

There are currently no charges for registration or for consumables or any requirement to use more than their funding eligibility. Therefore, if a child is attending up to or under the total funded hours, they are eligible then parents will not be charged for any aspect of their child's time with us.

If a child attends more hours, then their funding covers parents will be charged at an hourly rate. For example, if a child eligible for 30 hours funding attends for 31 hours per week, then the parents will be charged for 1 hour per week.

The only exceptions to this are:

- Late collection fees, charged at £5.50 per 15 minutes at the management's discretion regardless of funding eligibility
- A 7.30 start which is charged at £5.50 for the half an hour and includes breakfast. Only limited spaces are available for this.

For us to claim the funding the parent must complete and sign a parental declaration form which includes how they wish their child's funding to be used. We must also see proof of identification for the child – either a birth certificate or passport.

Busy Lizzie's is bound by the funding rules issued by the government. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Being unable to use codes if they were issued after the governments cut off dates
- Being unable to offer funding until the term after the child turns the eligible age
- Having to reduce or remove a child's working families funding if they are no longer eligible (the child will usually have a 'grace period' of a term if this happens)

If parents have any questions or concerns about how the funding system operates then they should contact us so that we can clarify. More information can also be found on the government's website:

<https://beststartinlife.gov.uk/>