



Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

**Fee changes with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021**

I am writing to inform you of fee increases which will take effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 and would apologise for not having been able to do so before now however, I very much hope you will understand as this has been an extremely challenging time for us all.

In writing to you later than we would normally do so, should this cause you any difficulties then please contact your Nursery Manager.

As in previous years, York Childcare Trustees have conducted a review of nursery fee rates in order to notify parents / carers of increases required for the beginning of the new financial year. The continued increases to the National Minimum Wage and rising operating costs have driven the need to increase our charges. We do so as part of a careful budgeting strategy in order to ensure that we can continue to operate on a sustainable basis.

As a consequence, with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021, the main rates that will apply are:

| <b>STANDARD FEES</b>  | <b>UNDER 3</b> | <b>OVER 3</b> |
|---|----------------|---------------|
| DAILY 8am to 6pm<br>(Including snacks & home-cooked 2 course lunch)           | £59.50         | £56.50        |
| MORNING (8-1) 5hrs  | £35.25         | £32.75        |
| MEALS & SNACKS  | £5.50          | £5.50         |
| AFTERNOON (1-6) 5hrs  | £35.25         | £32.75        |
| 3 HOUR SESSIONS   | £23.25         | £22.50        |
| ADDITIONAL DAILY<br>CHARGE FOR CHILDREN US-<br>ING 30 HOURS FUNDING<br>PLACES | N/A            | £14           |

- The additional charge at Joseph's Nursery to parents / carers who take advantage of the earlier opening time of 7.30am will increase to £5.50 per day.
- A cooked two-course lunch, morning and afternoon snacks are included in the cost of a full day place

- York Childcare nurseries do not charge any fees for days when our nurseries are closed, averaging 8 Bank Holidays and the 3 days between Christmas and New Year, but in accordance with employment law we do still pay our staff for these days.
- Any family booking a full-time place (i.e. 5 full days a week) is entitled to a 10% discount.
- The Assisted Places scheme is available to support families in need subject to certain criteria (e.g. families on a very low income, eligible for certain state benefits). Applications can also be made to this fund when families suffer sudden financial changes that can lead to hardship. The current Assisted Place rate fee is available on application/ on the website and you are welcome to speak to your nursery manager who will guide you through the application process.
- Information about government funding is available via the Childcare Choices website at [www.childcarechoices.gov.uk](http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk) – please take a look and see if you are eligible for any additional support which you're not already claiming.
- We offer our parents/ carers the opportunity to spread out the cost of childcare equally throughout the year which might be helpful if your child is entitled to Early Years Funding, as this funding is only available for 38 weeks of term time within the year. Please ask your nursery manager for details or contact Kate Joicey on [generaloffice@yorkchildcare.co.uk](mailto:generaloffice@yorkchildcare.co.uk)

I would mention that although the government contributes towards the cost of early years education and care, the amount received still falls short of the actual cost of delivery. We anticipate that this year the shortfall will be between £14 and £22.50 per day per child, depending on sessions booked.

If you have any queries you are always welcome to contact us.

To contact a member of our administrative team please email:

[generaloffice@yorkchildcare.co.uk](mailto:generaloffice@yorkchildcare.co.uk). The Trustees who are on the Finance Sub-Committee have kindly offered to liaise with any parents /carers who would like to discuss this fee increase. If you would like to contact one of them please email [trustees@yorkchildcare.co.uk](mailto:trustees@yorkchildcare.co.uk) and we will put you in touch.

Yours faithfully



Karen Mawson  
(CEO) on behalf of the Board of Trustees