01904 409763 headoffice@yorkchildcare.co.uk www.yorkchildcare.co.uk

Friday 11th February 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Fee changes with effect from 1st April 2022

I am writing to inform you of fee increases which will take effect from 1st April 2022.

We appreciate that 2022 is likely to be tough year for all concerned with inflation already around 5% and National Insurance and utilities costs increasing from April. On top of that the National Minimum Wage is rising by over 6%.

Given all of these challenges I am pleased to announce that childcare costs are only to increase by 2.7% for over 3's and 0.8% for under 3's.

Over the next two years we are looking to equalise fees for under and over 3's as we appreciate that the funded 30 hours for children over 3 causes a fee discrepancy between the age groups.

As a consequence, with effect from 1st April 2022, the main rates that will apply are:

STANDARD FEES	UNDER 3	OVER 3
DAILY 8am to 6pm (Including snacks & home- cooked 2 course lunch)	£60.00	£58.00
MORNING (8-1) 5hrs MEALS & SNACKS AFTERNOON (1-6) 5hrs 3 HOUR SESSIONS	£36 £5.75 £36 £23.75	£33 £5.75 £33 £23
ADDITIONAL DAILY CHARGE FOR CHILDREN USING 30 HOURS FUNDING PLACES	N/A	£15

- The additional charge at Joseph's Nursery to parents / carers who take advantage of the earlier opening time of 7.30am will remain at £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. Families claiming funded hours on a full time place during term time will have the discount applied to their non term time hours where they pay for five full days.
- 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 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 qeneraloffice@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 £15.10 and £23.10 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. 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 and we will put you in touch.

Yours faithfully

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Karen Mawson

(CEO) on behalf of the Board of Trustees