



Consumables and enhanced provision policy

Your funded hours

Government guidance requires nurseries offering funded places to clearly break down charges for consumables and additional services or enhanced provision. On our annual show round day the consumable charge is discussed and is included in our registration form provided to families.

This policy explains what is included in your government funding, what we offer beyond that, and why we make a consumable charge.

Under the new legislation, we have created this policy to provide transparency to parents and an option to “opt-out” of consumables charges, if the parent only wants to access the funded hours (with no extras).

What is covered by government funding?

Government funding covers basic 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

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

What is NOT covered by government 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:

- Snacks and cooking
- Nappies, wipes and sun cream
- Extra activities such as, paid visitors, outings, gardening cooking, music or special events and parties or extra-curricular activities.
- Additional high-quality resources such as sensory equipment, woodwork tools, food tasting, baking supplies or specialist educational sessions

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 of care and learning

we are proud of, we offer an enhanced provision-which costs more to deliver than government funding provides.

The reality of nursery funding: An underfunded political problem

Many early years settings are choosing to stop offering funded places because government funding does not cover the true cost of quality early years education.

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

For the past 6 years we have covered the cost of our enhanced provision by making a monthly charge called 'Consumables'. This has allowed us to provide our funded children with a rich curriculum full of learning opportunities and experiences.

At Stowupland Preschool, we want to continue offering funded places, but this is only possible if parents understand why we make a monthly consumable charge and 'opt-in' to the charge.

Without this cost being met in this way, we may need to reduce the level of enrichment activities we provide or stop providing funded places in the future, We appreciate that our parents have opted to send their child to Stowupland Preschool as they want the full experience for them. Charging a consumable fee to parents accessing our enhanced provision will allow us to maintain the expectational care and learning experiences we are known for.

Opt in: Parents will continue to receive the below:

- Morning and afternoon snacks, additional ice pops in the summer and food tasting
- Consumables: including, nappies, wipes and sun cream
- Specialist learning experiences, including outings, gardening and cooking sessions
- Additional learning resources, such as sensory equipment, baking supplies, art materials, school readiness and phonics programmes
- Special events: celebrations (Christmas, Autumn resources and church visit), parents evening, Christmas parties, Summer term: Animal encounter and leavers party.
- Online learning journal
- Enhanced staff ratios
- High percentage of staff qualified in Early Years, First Aid and Food Hygiene
- One-to-one and small group time
- Nursery visitors: Police, PE sessions
- Themed weeks: science, space and beach week

Opt out: Parents who opt-out will receive the below:

- Access to the basic EYFS provision as funded by the government
- Their funded hours free of charge

However, in line with the list, opting out will mean the points above will not be included in provision. Please be aware that:

- Parents must provide all snacks for their child in line with our food policy and healthy eating guidance set by the Department of Education. All snacks must be brought into the session daily and handed to a member of staff. All snacks must be healthy, ideally following our snack menu. Foods must be prepared (i.e oranges peeled and grapes sliced).
- Parents must supply their own consumables, including nappies, wipes and sun cream. Parents will be called during the session if the consumables 'run out' and parents are expected to bring consumables promptly for the safety and care of the child. All consumables must be provided daily in your child's bag.
- Some enhanced provision experiences may not be included, but we will always ensure a high standard of care
- No online journal

Policy Declarations

Agreed by Chair of Committee Print name: Kirstie Moore Signature: K. Moore
Agreed by Setting Manager Print name: Kayleigh Simpson Signature: K. Simpson

Frequency of review: 6 Monthly Annually **2 Yearly**

Staff Declarations

I declare that I have read and understood the above named policy. I will endeavour to uphold the principles and ethos of this policy, and follow the procedures as described.

Staff members Name:	Signature;	Date:
