



**Statement of intent**

We want to reassure parents and the families we work with that we are committed to offering excellent value for money.

Our approach to managing fees and payments is designed to be clear, fair, and straightforward, so you always understand what you are paying for and why. We aim to make all financial processes as simple and transparent as possible.

We also ensure that payments and refunds are handled promptly and efficiently, giving you confidence that your money is managed responsibly and with care.

**Aim**


Our aim is to be open, honest, and fairly priced, so parents always feel confident about our fees.

We manage all payments and financial matters carefully and promptly, with a strong focus on clear communication, helpful support, and trust, ensuring a positive and straightforward experience for families.

**Nursery Fees from September 2026 until further notice**

| Age Group / Funding        | Term Time 8.30 – 15.30 (5 Days) | Full Year (5 Days) | Full Year (4 Days) | Full Year (3 Days) |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 0–2 Years Standard         | 4,121.69                        | 1,906.94           | 1,525.34           | 1,144.80           |
| 0–2 Years 30 Hours Funding | 588.86                          | 1,054.57           | 673.17             | 291.77             |
| 2–3 Years Standard         | 4,121.69                        | 1,906.85           | 1,525.74           | 1,144.64           |
| 2–3 Years 30 Hours Funding | 815.52                          | 1,139.57           | 741.17             | 342.77             |
| 3–5 Years Standard         | 3,746.59                        | 1,838.75           | 1,470.74           | 1,102.73           |

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## Essendene Lodge School

Entitlement Statement — Academic Year 2025/2026

| Age Group / Funding                   | Term Time 8.30 – 15.30 (5 Days) | Full Year (5 Days) | Full Year (4 Days) | Full Year (3 Days) |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>3–5 Years<br/>15 Hours Funding</b> | 2,481.14                        | 1,597.93           | 1,196.13           | 794.33             |
| <b>3–5 Years<br/>30 Hours Funding</b> | 875.29                          | 1,186.86           | 785.06             | 383.26             |

### Early Years Funding Information

Fully funded places do not require a deposit or registration fee. Please feel free to speak to your Nursery Manager if you would like any further information.

### 3-4 year-old Funding


The government provides Early Years Funding for children starting from the term after their 3rd birthday. This funding is designed to offer **15 or 30 hours per week of free, high-quality, flexible childcare during term time**. (Standard Offer - 15/30 hours term-time across 38 weeks, Stretched Offer - 11.18/22.35 hours across 51 weeks).

Please note that funded hours cover childcare only and do not include meals, consumables, or any additional hours beyond the funded entitlement. The funded childcare hours themselves are provided at no cost to families, with no extra charges applied.

- **15 hours of funding** is available to all eligible 3–4-year-old children.
- To access the **additional 15 hours (totalling 30 hours)**, families must apply online to check eligibility. Generally, both parents must be working **at least 16 hours per week** and earn **below a certain income threshold**.

To access any funding entitlement, a **completed funding form** must be returned to the setting at the time of application or when the child becomes eligible.

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| <b>3-year-old Funding</b>         |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| <b>A child Born in the period</b> | <b>Will be eligible for a free place</b>                 |
| 1st Apr - 31st Aug                | 1st Sept following child's 3rd birthday<br>(Autumn Term) |
| 1st Sept - 31st Dec               | 1st Jan following child's 3rd birthday<br>(Autumn Term)  |
| 1st Jan - 31st Mar                | 1st Apr following child's 3rd birthday<br>(Autumn Term)  |

For more information or help with the application process, please speak to the Nursery Manager.

### **9 Months – 2 years old Funding**


We also accept **funding for children from 9 months old**. To qualify, families must meet certain eligibility criteria to apply online visit here. <https://www.gov.uk/free-childcare-if-working/apply-for-free-childcare-if-youre-working> If eligible, you will receive an 11-digit eligibility code. You must confirm your code, national insurance number and child's date of birth so we can check that the code is valid.

These entitlements are offered **completely free**, and we **do not charge any "top-up" fees** to cover the difference between the government funding and our standard hourly rate. However, please note that **any additional hours beyond the funded entitlement**, as well as the cost of **meals, consumables, or extra activities**, will be charged separately.

Additional hours will be charged according to the following table:

| <b>Age Group</b> | <b>Actual Hourly Rate</b> |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| 0-2 Years        | <b>8.97</b>               |
| 2-3 Years        | <b>8.97</b>               |
| 3-4 Years        | <b>8.65</b>               |

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There will also be a daily consumable charge billed according to the following table:


| Age Group | Food | EC   | Total Daily consumable cost |
|-----------|------|------|-----------------------------|
| 0-2 Years | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00                        |
| 2-3 Years | 2.00 | 2.00 | 4.00                        |
| 3-4 Years | 4.00 | 4.00 | 8.00                        |

Please, find below an example of such calculation for a 3-year-old with 15 hours funding attending all year round.

| 3-5 Years 15 Hrs FT         |          |          |        |
|-----------------------------|----------|----------|--------|
| Days                        | 5        | 4        | 3      |
| Total Hrs                   | 50       | 40       | 30     |
| Free Hrs                    | 11.18    | 11.18    | 11.18  |
| Chargeable hours            | 38.82    | 28.82    | 18.82  |
| Charge Per week             | 335.98   | 249.44   | 162.90 |
| Daily charges               | 40.00    | 32.00    | 24.00  |
| Total Weekly Charges        | 375.98   | 281.44   | 186.90 |
| Monthly charges - (X 51/12) | 1,597.93 | 1,196.13 | 794.33 |

Further information regarding funding can be found on <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

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