



# FUNDING OPTIONS AT LITTLE BARN OWLS

A guide to help families understand the  
funding options at LBO



# GOVERNMENT FUNDING



## How is Government Funding Applied Throughout the Year?

The government offers up to 30 funded hours per week, but to ensure year-round support, this funding is stretched over 51 weeks. This means families can claim up to 22 hours per week instead of 30, ensuring a consistent allocation of childcare hours across the full nursery year.

## Who is Eligible for Funded Nursery Places?

- 9 months to 3 years: Eligible children can receive 11 funded hours per week if they meet government criteria.
- 3 to 5 years: Eligible children can receive 22 funded hours per week
- All 3- and 4-year-olds are entitled to 11 hours per week, regardless of eligibility.

## Changes from September 2025

- All children aged 9 months to 4 years can access up to 22 funded hours if parents meet eligibility criteria.
- Some 2-year-olds can receive 11 hours if parents claim certain benefits.
- All 3- and 4-year-olds continue to receive up to 11 hours, regardless of eligibility.

This expansion ensures more families have access to affordable early years education.

More information and eligibility guidance can be found at [childcarechoices.co.uk](https://childcarechoices.co.uk)

# CHANGES TO GOVERNMENT FUNDING



From April 2025, the government is changing how Free Entitlement (EYFE) hours are offered in childcare settings. In some cases, the government funding rate per hour is significantly lower than our operating costs. Whilst we fully support the government's intention to help parents access more affordable childcare, these changes mean it is no longer viable for us to continue offering the high-quality care and education, experiences, and resources that children deserve with the government funding available. As such, and through necessity, we are introducing a two tiered funding option:

## Your Funding Options:

1. Full Package – Includes funded hours plus access to enriching experiences, high-quality resources, outings, and enhanced learning opportunities.
2. EYFE-Only Package – A fully government-funded option covering core care and learning, but without access to additional activities, resources, and consumables.

At Little Barn Owls, we are committed to providing exceptional early years education, no matter which package you choose. Our nurturing environment, dedicated staff, and engaging curriculum ensure that every child thrives.

To learn more and choose the best option for your family, please get in touch with us today!

# FULL PACKAGE

£26 per funded day

For families who want their child to experience the best of what our nursery has to offer, our Full Package would be the option for you!

## Enrichment Provision

Give your child the gift of discovery and adventure! Our enhanced provision includes:

### ✓ Farm School

Hands-on experiences with animals, gardening, and learning about nature.



### ✓ Forest School

Outdoor exploration that builds confidence, resilience, and creativity.



### ✓ Atelier Sessions

Creative art and project-based learning that nurtures curiosity and expression.





### ✓ **Enhanced Learning Opportunities**

A curriculum that extends beyond The EYFS, fostering deeper engagement.

### ✓ **Specialist Learning Materials** – Including, but not limited to:

**Enhanced Sensory Experiences** – Textured exploration, light play, and immersive environments.

**Creative Digital Technology** – Access to cameras, scanners, digital microscopes, and interactive learning tools.

**Baby Massage** – A nurturing, calming experience for younger children.

**Enhanced Creative Materials** – Clay, wire, projections, loose parts play, and open-ended resources that spark imagination.



# Advanced family App

Stay connected and involved in your child's learning! The Full Package includes:

- ✓ **Individual Learning Journal** – Regular updates, observations, and photos of your child's progress.
- ✓ **Direct Communication with Key Workers** – Stay informed about your child's day, achievements, and needs.
- ✓ **Exclusive Updates & Resources** – Access insights, guidance, and nursery announcements at your fingertips.

## Free Family Events & Special Days

Build memories with your child through exclusive events designed for families:

- ✓ **Fun Days & Graduation Days** – Celebrate milestones and achievements together.
- ✓ **Stay & Play Sessions** – Engage in your child's learning environment.
- ✓ **Parent Project Shares** – Experience the magic of what your child creates and learns.
- ✓ **Mother's/Father's Day Celebrations** – Special events to honor parents and guardians.



## Food and Consumables

Your child's health and well-being are a top priority. The Full Package also covers:

- ✓ **Healthy Breakfast, Lunch, Tea, and Snacks** – Fresh, nutritious meals, designed by trained chefs and prepared daily.
- ✓ **Essential Consumables** – Including nappies, wipes, creams, sun cream, and other hygiene products.
- ✓ **High-Quality Resources** – Art supplies, learning materials, and sensory experiences.
- ✓ **Enhanced Safety & Hygiene Products** – Ensuring a clean and safe environment for all children.



# EYFE ONLY PACKAGE

Our EYFE-only Package is covered entirely by government funding and allows families to use up to 11 or 22 hours of funded entitlement per week (15 or 30 hours spread across 51 weeks of the year).

This package includes:

- ✓ Standard Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) provision
- ✓ A safe and nurturing environment
- ✓ Engaging activities that support early development
- ✓ Basic Learning Journal

This package does not include our LBO Enhanced Provision. EYFE-only bookings do not include:

- ✗ Meals, snacks, nappies, sun cream
- ✗ Farm School
- ✗ Forest School
- ✗ Atelier sessions with Artist in Residence
- ✗ Enriched provision (experiences beyond the EYFS - see Full Package details)
- ✗ Special Events and Ceremonies (Graduation, Parent Events, Seasonal Events)
- ✗ Advanced Learning Journal, Documentation and Project Shares



# Cost Breakdown of the Full Package

## (£26 per funded day)

The Full Package is carefully priced at £26 per funded day, covering all the additional benefits your child will receive:

Category	Cost Per fully funded Day
Enhanced Famly App & Learning Documentation	£4.00
Enrichment Provision (Farm School, Forest School, Atelier, Specialist Learning Materials, Project-Based Learning)	£12.00
Food & Consumables (Healthy Meals, Nappies, Wipes, Cream, Suncream, Hygiene Products)	£7.00 <small>*discounted rate for those on Full Package</small>
Regular special days and family events	£3.00
Total	£26.00

# EYFE-only details

The EYFE-only Package ensures quality early education, but does not provide the additional opportunities that enhance your child's learning journey.

As per LBO Policies and Procedures, Ts&Cs, and Health and Safety Guidance, children are not permitted to bring any food from home into the nursery. As such, there will be an optional\* **£10 Meals Service** charge applied per day for EYFE-only children to cover all meals and snacks.

\*Those who do not wish to pay the charge are welcome to collect and feed their children outside of the nursery at lunchtime.

Parents will not be permitted to pay for extra hours on the EYFE-only Package. Those who wish to attend more than the EYFE-only hours will automatically be enrolled in The Full Package.

Parents will be required to provide all consumables daily, packed into the child's bag. This MUST include:

Sun cream

Nappies (where needed)

Wet wipes

Nappy sacks

Nappy creams

In the event of items being forgotten, 'Emergency Consumables Charges' will apply.

Parents will be responsible for covering the costs of extra-curricular activities.

Parents will be responsible for covering some or all of the cost of trips and outings.

# The packages summarised



## FUNDING PACKAGE COMPARISON



Little Barn Owls Forest and Farm School Nurseries offer two packages for parents claiming government funded hours.  
As of April 2025, prospective families will be asked to opt for one of two funding packages.

Please see the comparison table below to find out which package works best for your family.

### WHAT'S INCLUDED?

	Full package	EYFE-only
Access to outdoor provision	✓	✓
Access to everyday continuous provision	✓	✓
Access to Forest School	✓	✗ *
Access to Farm School	✓	✗
Trips and off-site activities	✓	✗ **
Use of Atelier spaces with Atelieristas	✓	✗
Daily food service - inc. all meals and snacks	✓	✗ **
Nappies, wipes, creams & disposables	✓	✗ ***
Special Events and Ceremonies	✓	✗

Spaces on the Basic Package are limited and we cannot guarantee availability.  
Spaces on the Basic Package will be allocated on a first come first served basis, prioritising those wishing to attend on both Monday and Friday.  
\*The Basic Package allows families to claim fully funded hours on Mondays and Fridays only, between the hours of 8am and 6pm.  
\*\*Food package surcharges apply. For health and safety reasons, children are not permitted to bring food from home into nursery.  
\*\*Off-site activities and trips will be charged accordingly  
\*\*\*Disposable every day use items must be supplied by parents daily

## Why Choose the Full Package?

Investing in the Full Package means investing in your child's early years, ensuring they receive the richest experiences, deepest learning opportunities, and a fully immersive nursery journey. For just £26 per funded day, your child will thrive in an environment that supports their growth, development, and happiness.

Additional hours are available above the 22 funded hours, charged at our nursery hourly/date rate.

Please enquire for further information.

**If you're unsure of which package is the best fit for you, please contact us:**



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