



CONSUMABLES CHARGE

From April 2025, government guidance requires nurseries offering supported places to clearly break down any charges for consumables and additional services or enrichment experiences. At Joyful Tots, we have always been transparent about what we offer. When you access childcare support and opt to include Consumables, you will be charged in blocks of 10-hour session. These charges are different in accordance with age band.

- Under 3 years old: £30
- 3-5 years old: £20

The breakdown:

- Catering: £18
- Care products: £4
- Enrichment Experiences: £8

Please note: these costs are already included in the fee which is agreed at the time of registration and are not additional.

The following explains what is included in your government support, what we offer beyond that and why we make a Consumables Charge:

Under the new legislation, we must provide transparency to parents and an option to opt out of consumables charges, if the parent only wants to access the supported hours (with no extras)

Government support covers a 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 just meets minimum government ratios.

Childcare support is provided for settings to offer a basic provision of EYFS that meets the statutory requirements.

As the Government support is there to cover the basic provision of EYFS, there are certain things that are *excluded* from support. Examples of these are:

- ✗ Hot meals, desserts and snacks.
- ✗ Nappies, wipes, and sun cream.
- ✗ Extra activities such as our enrichment experiences which includes outings, specialist teachers coming in to teach languages, yoga, music, dance, sports, gardening, cooking, special events or extra-curricular activities.
- ✗ Additional high-quality resources such as sensory equipment, woodwork tools, gardening tools, 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 enriched experiences for young minds which costs more to deliver than the government support.

Parents can choose to *opt in or opt out* of Consumables Charges. If parents want to access their supported hours only, then we will make alternative arrangements for this to support them.

For those parents who OPT IN – here's what is included for your child:

- 🍎 All hot meals and snacks, including breakfast, lunch, dinner, desserts, morning and afternoon healthy snacks and fresh fruit.
- 🧻 Consumables, including nappies, wipes, and sun cream.
- 🌱 Specialist learning experiences, including languages, yoga, music, dance, sports, gardening and cooking sessions.
- 🎨 Enrichment programs, such as mini notes, kick dance, mindful yoga, french language and sports elite.
- 📚 Additional learning resources, such as sensory equipment, baking supplies, art materials, and school readiness programs.
- 🐣 Special interactions, including lifecycle of a chicken, butterflies and group handlings.
- 🎉 Seasonal Specialist events and family fun days (Halloween, Easter, Christmas, Family Fun Days, Sports Day, etc.)

OPT OUT

Parents who opt-out will receive:

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

Opting out means:

- Parents must provide all meals and snacks for their child, in line with our food and nutrition policy. We will make arrangements for you to drop food off at lunchtime for your child and collect afterwards.
- Parents must supply their own consumables, including nappies, wipes, and sun cream.
- Some enhanced provision experiences may not be included (such as fun days, offsite trips & enhanced provision activities such as external providers), but we will always ensure a high standard of care as an alternative.
- Funded hours for opt-out families will be arranged based on availability. This will mean days may change from term to term, dependant on nursery availability.
- There will be no option for additional hours or adhoc bookings. Late collections will be charged as per the fee schedule.

If you have any questions about childcare support or fees, please speak to your Nursery Manager who will be able to help.