

OPT IN/OPT OUT AGREEMENT

At Early Days Nursery, we understand that every family has unique needs and expectations when it comes to childcare. Our aim has always been to provide high-quality care and education, and as outlined in our EYFS and Enhanced Activity Information Sheet. We take great pride in the wide range of opportunities, experiences and resources we offer to support children's learning and development.

Many of these enhancements go beyond the core entitlement funded through the Government's 15 hour and 30 hour childcare offers. As a result, we have always been transparent about the additional charges that help us provide these enriched experiences. In line with the latest Department for Education (DfE) guidance, charges for meals, consumables and enhanced activities are optional. Parents can choose whether to opt in to these additional services. By opting in, parents agree to the associated charges as detailed in our current fee sheet.

Families who choose not to opt in are welcome to access their funded childcare place without these additional services. In these circumstances, parents will need to provide the alternatives outlined below for each category. To ensure consistency and fairness, the options within each category apply as a whole; families may either opt in to all elements within a category or opt out of all elements within that category.

Please note that strong levels of participation enable us to continue providing a rich range of enhanced experiences and opportunities for children. Parent contributions play an important role in helping us maintain and further develop these valuable learning opportunities, enriching the curriculum while supporting the long-term sustainability of the setting so that we can continue to serve families for many years to come.

Please complete the following and to advise us whether you will be opting in or opting out and we can then plan accordingly.

Basic information:	
Name of Child(ren):	
☐ I confirm that the choices selected herein may be applied to siblings/future siblings that may attend Early Days.	
Parent Name:	Date:
Meals, Snacks (Food Consumables)	
Meals and Food Consumables	Opt Out Alternative
Healthy breakfast prepared by Early Days breakfast club staff meeting all OFSTED and HSE requirements for food and nutrition standards.	Provide your own healthy breakfast snack in line with our Food Brought in from Home Policy and current nutrition guidelines.
Healthy morning snack prepared by our in-house Chef meeting all OFSTED and HSE requirements for food and nutrition standards.	Provide your own healthy morning snack in line with our Food Brought in from Home Policy and current nutrition guidelines.
Healthy two course cooked hot lunch prepared by our in-house Chef meeting all OFSTED and HSE requirements for food and nutrition standards.	Provide your own healthy lunch in line with our Food Brought in from Home Policy and current nutrition guidelines.
Healthy afternoon snack prepared by our in-house Chef meeting all OFSTED and HSE requirements for food and nutrition standards.	Provide your own healthy afternoon snack in line with our Food Brought in from Home Policy and current nutrition guidelines. In accordance with the Food Standards Agency guidelines, foods cannot be consumed that have been outside a refrigerator for more than four hours, so we ask that all items sent for afternoon snack do not need refrigeration.
Healthy tea prepared by our in-house Chef meeting all OFSTED and HSE requirements for food and nutrition standards.	Provide your own healthy tea in line with our Food Brought in from Home Policy and current nutrition guidelines. In accordance with the Food Standards Agency guidelines, foods cannot be consumed that have been outside a refrigerator for more than four hours, so we ask that all items sent for afternoon snack do not need refrigeration.
Hot chocolate during specific winter month days	Parents should provide their own hot chocolate sachet(s)

Baking, food play and cooking experiences	Provide your own cooking ingredients, whilst still complying fully to our Food Brought in from Home Policy.
Easter Treats (chocolate Easter egg hunts, dairy and gluten-free options).	Provide your own Easter chocolate, whilst still complying fully to our Food Brought in from Home Policy.
Food prepared for picnic activities, such as Teddy Bear's Picnic	Provide your own food for picnics, whilst still complying fully to our Food Brought in from Home Policy.
Chinese New Year meal	Provide your own food for Chinese New Year celebrations. whilst still complying fully to our Food Brought in from Home Policy.
Specialist food items prepared to complement in class learning themes (for example, if discussing a particular culture).	Provide your own food to match the appropriate in class learning themes whilst still complying fully to our Food Brought in from Home Policy (lists and notice will be given to parents).

Consumables – Nappies (for children in nappies/toilet training)*

Nappies and Associated Consumables	Opt Out Alternative
Nappies	Parents to supply their own nappies. <i>(Where a child's supply of nappies has not been replenished and Early Days is required to provide them, parents will be charged proportionally for the days on which nappies are provided, based on the standard nappy consumables rate applicable to the relevant session).</i>
Wipes	Parents to supply their own wipes. <i>(Where a child's supply of wipes has not been replenished and Early Days is required to provide them, parents will be charged proportionally for the days on which nappies are provided, based on the standard nappy consumables rate applicable to the relevant session).</i>
Nappy changing supplies: nappy cream and nappy bags for nappy disposal and bags for soiled clothes	Provide to supply their own nappy cream and nappy bags. <i>(Where a child's supply of nappies has not been replenished and Early Days is required to provide them, parents will be charged proportionally for the days on which nappies are provided, based on the standard nappy consumables rate applicable to the relevant session).</i>

Activities/Enhanced Provision

The provision listed below is not exhaustive of all our enhanced activities. We follow the children's interests and use our early years knowledge of the EYFS to ensure children can move along with next steps in their development. We also give them time to practice skills, understand how things work within the world around them.

If you choose to opt in to the Enhanced Provision, your child will have access to the itemised activities and resources outlined below. If you choose to opt out, we ask you to bring your own resource as a suggested alternative if none is listed, then children opting out will have access to EYFS activities but not the enhanced activity.

Enhanced Learning Activities/Provision	Opt Out Alternative
Woodland School at Braziers Park (den making, nature play, etc)**	** This is an EYFS activity. However, parents may make an optional charitable donation to Braziers Park.
Enhanced outdoor learning experiences: - Regular local walks and community-based learning experiences - Enhanced outdoor role-play and sensory areas, including our mud kitchen and potion station, with additional resources and materials - Outdoor learning shelters and dedicated exploration areas - Specialist outdoor art and craft activities and resources - Nature exploration and investigation resources - Bird observation camera and associated learning activities - Wormery and hands-on minibeast and nature investigation	An alternative EYFS activity will be provided.

Additional outdoor equipment and resources to extend children's learning, investigation and exploration	
Enhanced Learning Experiences: - Live animal and life cycle learning experiences - Enhanced sensory and exploratory play trays - Edible and food-based sensory play materials - Kinetic sand, slime, fake snow and specialist sensory resources - Scented, coloured and textured sensory experiences - Enhanced loose-parts play and open-ended wooden resources - Enhanced construction and investigative resources - Specialist resources for exploratory and discovery-based learning - Immersive and interactive learning experiences - Additional phonics learning programme and specialist resources - Additional themed resources linked to children's interests and learning	An alternative EYFS activity will be provided.
Specialist tuition including any specialist teaching from an outside agency, including: - Mini Yoga - Sports Minis and Sports Day - Visiting musicians, storytellers and performers - Zoolab - Ipsden Marathon	An alternative EYFS activity will be provided.
Special Events and Celebrations: - Harvest Festival and Ipsden Church - Christmas Nativity/Concert - Easter Celebration at Ipsden Village Church - World Book Day Festivities - Teddy Bear's Picnic - Children in Need event - Graduation Celebrations/Keepsake Gifts/End of Term leaving Book	An alternative EYFS activity will be provided. Parents may choose to provide their own Christmas gifts and graduation gifts as well as provide their own food for these special event celebrations. Food provided must comply our Food Brought in from Home Policy.
Enhanced Creative & Craft Experiences: - Enhanced and specialist materials beyond our standard EYFS provision - Higher-quality and additional materials for special projects and keepsakes - Additional materials for Mother's Day and Father's Day gifts and keepsakes - Christmas, Easter, Harvest Festival, Halloween and Bonfire extended creative activities - Harvest Festival, Halloween and Bonfire Night extended creative activities - Extended materials for cultural and nursery celebrations throughout the year - Specialist materials linked to Artist Studies and themed learning projects	An alternative EYFS activity will be provided.
Additional Clothing & Activity Wear: - Puddle suits and waterproofs - High Visibility jackets for walks - Legionnaires sunhats - Painting aprons and protective clothing	Please supply your own. Hats provided must be compliant with our Sun Care Policy.

Parent Partnership Activities	Opt Out Alternative
At Early Days, we recognise the importance of working closely with parents and families to support children's learning, development and wellbeing both at nursery and at home. As part of our Enhanced Provision, we offer a range of additional resources, activities and opportunities designed to strengthen this partnership and provide families with further support beyond our everyday EYFS provision. Families who opt in are able to make full use of these additional resources and opportunities as and when they are relevant to their child and family.	
Parent partnership activities available: • Home learning resources • Specialist Resources for Adverse Childhood Experiences (coping with death, etc) • Curriculum Evenings • Extended welcome and settling in sessions • Parent mentoring support for challenges faced by your family	Where a child is eligible for funding, funding may be claimed to support families with extended settling-in sessions, provided the claim can be processed within the relevant funding deadlines and with parental consent.

*** Consumables – Nappies (For children in Nappies/Toilet Training)**

We have two levels of nappy costs: For babies and toddlers still in nappies and a transitioning charge for those that are toilet training, as we know those little accidents can still happen.

OPT IN DAILY FEES (does not include any additional non-mandatory hours)

Opt In Daily Charges (8.45 am to 4.00 pm)	Hedgehogs (9-23 Months)	Owlets (2 years)	Owls (3-4 Years)
Enhanced Provision (All activities as outlined above)	£8.00	£10.00	£12.00
Meals (2 Course Hot Lunch and 2 Snacks)	£5.20	£5.20	£5.20
Nappy Consumables (Nappies, wipes, cream, nappy bags)	£1.00	£1.00/40p	

ADD ONS – OPT IN DAILY FEES:

Only available to those attending two or three days with 30 hours of funding:

Breakfast Club (7.30 am to 8.45 am)	Hedgehogs (9-23 Months)	Owlets (2 years)	Owls (3-4 Years)
Enhanced Provision	£2.05	£2.05	£2.05
Breakfast	£2.05	£1.65	£1.65
Nappy Consumables	15p	15p	

Tea Club (4.00 pm to 5.00 pm)	Hedgehogs (9-23 Months)	Owlets (2 years)	Owls (3-4 Years)
Enhanced Provision	£1.80	£1.80	£1.80
Tea	£2.10	£2.10	£2.10
Nappy Consumables	10p	10p	

Extended Tea Club (4.00 pm to 5.30 pm)	Hedgehogs (9-23 Months)	Owlets (2 years)	Owls (3-4 Years)
Enhanced Provision	£2.80	£2.80	£2.80
Tea	£2.10	£2.10	£2.10
Nappy Consumables	15p	15p	

Full Day Tea Club (4.00 pm to 6.00 pm)	Hedgehogs (9-23 Months)	Owlets (2 years)	Owls (3-4 Years)
Enhanced Provision	£3.85	£3.85	£3.85
Tea	£2.10	£2.10	£2.10
Nappy Consumables	15p	15p	

OPT OUT:

Parents may opt out of the above fees and in so doing must comply with all the Opt Out Alternatives as outlined above. This would include providing all food (as per our Food Brought In From Home policy), all consumables for those in nappies or toilet training, puddle-suits, high visibility jacket, aprons for painting, etc.

If parents choose to opt out, activities will adjust to comply to EYFS requirements.

PARENT DECLARATION FOR OPTING IN/OPTING OUT:

I, _____, confirm that I would like to OPT IN / OPT OUT (please delete as necessary) of the non-mandatory additional fees associated with taking up a funded place.

I choose to Opt Out of the following: _____

I understand that if I agree to Opt In, this will be automatically applied for each funding term whilst your child(ren) are at Early Days. If you wish to change your decision and Opt Out, you will need to inform the nursery in writing.

Signature: _____ Dated: _____