

Fees and Stretched Funding Information - Effective from April 2026

Early Years Funding:

Early years funding is government support that helps families access early education and childcare for children aged 9 months to 4 years, depending on eligibility. The funding covers a set number of hours each week and is paid directly to your childcare provider.

According to government and local authority guidance, families may receive **15** or **30** hours of funded childcare over 38 weeks, depending on their child's age and family circumstances.

Early Years stretched Funding:

At Stepping Stones the 15- or 30-hour funding is stretched over 51 weeks. This equals 11.18 or 22.36 hours per week depending on the number of hours entitlement. Fees are based on 51 weeks per year, paid monthly in advance.

Term Time Only Sessions:

We also offer a limited number of term-time only sessions. Please contact the office for more information.

Please note that the school term consists of 39 weeks per year. Our private fees will be payable if you wish for your child to attend during the additional week outside the funded period.

Fees:

The government funding covers early education hours only. For each funded session a child attends, parents are asked to contribute towards optional additional services that are not included within the government-funded entitlement. These include meals, snacks, consumable resources and any extra activities or services you choose to access.

The exact contribution will depend on the sessions your child attends and the optional services you select. All funded hours can be taken without these extras if preferred. Please refer to the Policy Terms document for information on the different services provided.

Please find below a breakdown of our voluntary charge

Additional Voluntary Charge	Meals and Snacks	Consumables	Activities and Outings	Total per day
4 Hours	£5.00	£1.00	£2.00	£8.00
5 hours	£6.00	£1.00	£3.00	£10.00
8 Hours	£8.00	£3.00	£5.00	£16.00
9 Hours	£9.00	£3.50	£5.50	£18.00
10 Hours	£10.50	£4.00	£5.50	£20.00

Please note that we require a minimum booking pattern of two sessions per week to support consistency and wellbeing for the children in our care.

Stepping Stones do not provide childcare services that can be booked by the hour.

Extended Session Hours:

If needed, you can extend the hours of your child's session temporarily. This is subject to availability and requires a request from the parent or guardian with 24 hours notice. Any extended hours will be charged at our private hourly rate.

Additional Information:

Our non-funded fees and any additional hours taken on top of funded entitlement are charged at £10 per hour. **This rate is fully inclusive of meals, consumables, and activities.**

Absence and Holidays:

Any absences due to sickness or holidays are charged at our standard hourly fees, including during funded hours. Unused hours cannot be carried over or used at another time. However, they can be included in the headcount and funded entitlement claim.

All Year-Round Fees:

Our annual childcare costs, taking bank holidays and our closure over Christmas into account, are divided into 12 equal payments for consistent monthly billing.

Available sessions and cost breakdowns:

Non-Funded Rates

Session	Start	End	Hours	Cost
Short Morning Session	9am	1pm	4	£40.00
Long Morning Session	8am	1pm	5	£50.00
Afternoon	1pm	6pm	5	£50.00
8 Hour Day	8am/9am	4pm/5pm	8	£80.00
9 Hour Day	8am/9am	5pm/6pm	9	£90.00
10 Hour Day	8am	6pm	10	£100.00

15 Hour Funding Rates:

15 Funded Hours (11.18 stretched)

4 Hour Sessions	Weekly Hours	Non-Funded Hours	Cost	Voluntary Charge	Week Total	Month Total
1 Session	4	0	£0.00	£8.00	£8.00	£34
2 Sessions	8	0	£0.00	£16.00	£16.00	£68
3 Sessions	12	0.82	£8.20	£22.36	£30.56	£129.88

15 Funded Hours (11.18 stretched)

5 Hour Sessions	Weekly Hours	Non-Funded Hours	Cost	Voluntary Charge	Week Total	Month Total
1 Session	5	0	£0.00	£10.00	£10.00	£42.50
2 Sessions	10	0	£0.00	£20.00	£20.00	£85
3 Sessions	15	3.82	£38.20	£22.36	£60.56	£257.38

15 Funded Hours (11.18 stretched)

8 Hour Sessions	Weekly Hours	Non-Funded Hours	Cost	Voluntary Charge	Week Total	Month Total
1 Session	8	0	£0.00	£16.00	£16.00	£68
2 Sessions	16	4.82	£48.20	£22.36	£70.56	£299.88

15 Funded Hours (11.18 stretched)

9 Hour Sessions	Weekly Hours	Non-Funded Hours	Cost	Voluntary Charge	Week Total	Month Total
1 Session	9	0	£0.00	£18.00	£18.00	£76.50
2 Sessions	18	6.82	£68.20	£22.36	£90.56	£384.88

15 Funded Hours (11.18 stretched)

10 Hour Sessions	Weekly Hours	Non-Funded Hours	Cost	Voluntary Charge	Week Total	Month Total
1 Session	10	0	£0.00	£20.00	£20.00	£85
2 Sessions	20	8.82	£88.20	£22.36	£110.56	£469.88

30 Hour Funding Rates:**30 Funded Hours (22.36 stretched)**

4 Hour Sessions	Weekly Hours	Non-Funded Hours	Cost	Voluntary Charge	Week Total	Month Total
1 Session	4	0	£0.00	£8.00	£8.00	£34
2 Sessions	8	0	£0.00	£16.00	£16.00	£68
3 Sessions	12	0	£0.00	£24.00	£24.00	£102
4 Sessions	16	0	£0.00	£32.00	£32.00	£136
5 Sessions	20	0	£0.00	£40.00	£40.00	£170

30 Funded Hours (22.36 stretched)

5 Hour Sessions	Weekly Hours	Non-Funded Hours	Cost	Voluntary Charge	Week Total	Month Total
1 Session	5	0	£0.00	£10.00	£10.00	£42.50
2 Sessions	10	0	£0.00	£20.00	£20.00	£85
3 Sessions	15	0	£0.00	£30.00	£30.00	£127.50
4 Sessions	20	0	£0.00	£40.00	£40.00	£170
5 Sessions	25	2.62	£26.40	£44.72	£71.12	£302.26

30 Funded Hours (22.36 stretched)

8 Hour Sessions	Weekly Hours	Non-Funded Hours	Cost	Voluntary Charge	Week Total	Month Total
1 Session	8	0	£0.00	£16.00	£16.00	£68
2 Sessions	16	0	£0.00	£32.00	£32.00	£136
3 Sessions	24	1.64	£16.40	£44.72	£61.12	259.76

30 Funded Hours (22.36 stretched)

9 Hour Sessions	Weekly Hours	Non-Funded Hours	Cost	Voluntary Charge	Week Total	Month Total
1 Session	9	0	£0.00	£18.00	£18.00	£76.5
2 Sessions	18	0	£0.00	£36.00	£36.00	£153
3 Sessions	27	4.64	£46.40	£44.72	£91.12	£387.26

30 Funded Hours (22.36 stretched)

10 Hour Sessions	Weekly Hours	Non-Funded Hours	Cost	Voluntary Charge	Week Total	Month Total
1 Session	10	0	£0.00	£20.00	£20.00	£85
2 Sessions	20	0	£0.00	£40.00	£40.00	£170
3 Sessions	30	7.64	£76.40	£44.72	£121.12	£514.76

Number of Hours Attended per Week	All Non-Funded Children Monthly Fees Payable	9 MTHS 2 & 3+ Years Additional Hours & Enhanced Provisions with 15hrs stretched funding applied (11.18 hours)	9 MTHS 2 & 3+ Years Additional Hours & Enhanced Provisions with 30hrs stretched funding applied (22.36 hours)
4	£170.00	£34.00	£34.00
5	£212.50	£42.50	£42.50
6	£255.00	£51.00	£51.00
7	£297.50	£59.50	£59.50
8	£340.00	£68.00	£68.00
9	£382.50	£76.50	£76.50
10	£425.00	£85.00	£85.00
11	£467.50	£93.50	£93.50
12	£510.00	£129.88	£102.00
13	£552.50	£172.38	£110.50
14	£595.00	£214.88	£119.00
15	£637.50	£257.38	£127.50
16	£680.00	£299.88	£136.00
17	£722.50	£342.38	£144.50
18	£765.00	£384.88	£153.00
19	£807.50	£427.38	£161.50
20	£850.00	£469.88	£170.00
21	£892.50	£512.38	£178.50
22	£935.00	£554.88	£187.00
23	£977.50	£597.38	£217.26
24	£1,020.00	£639.88	£259.76
25	£1,062.50	£682.38	£302.26
26	£1,105.00	£724.88	£344.76
27	£1,147.50	£767.38	£387.26
28	£1,190.00	£809.88	£429.76
29	£1,232.50	£852.38	£472.26
30	£1,275.00	£894.88	£514.76
31	£1,317.50	£937.38	£557.26
32	£1,360.00	£979.88	£599.76
33	£1,402.50	£1,022.38	£642.26

34	£1,445.00	£1,064.88	£684.76
35	£1,487.50	£1,107.38	£727.26
36	£1,530.00	£1,149.88	£769.76
37	£1,572.50	£1,192.38	£812.26
38	£1,615.00	£1,234.88	£854.76
39	£1,657.50	£1,277.38	£897.26
40	£1,700.00	£1,319.88	£939.76
41	£1,742.50	£1,362.38	£982.26
42	£1,785.00	£1,404.88	£1,024.76
43	£1,827.50	£1,447.38	£1,067.26
44	£1,870.00	£1,489.88	£1,109.76
45	£1,912.50	£1,532.38	£1,152.26
46	£1,955.00	£1,574.88	£1,194.76
47	£1,997.50	£1,617.38	£1,237.26
48	£2,040.00	£1,659.88	£1,279.76
49	£2,082.50	£1,702.38	£1,322.26
50	£2,125.00	£1,744.88	£1,364.76

Deposit

If a place is offered and accepted, a deposit of **£200** will be required to secure your child's place. This will be refunded from your first month's invoice.

The deposit is non-refundable, should the place not be taken up following acceptance.

A non-refundable registration fee of **£50** will also be required to cover administrative costs and your child's settling sessions. Exception: The registration fee is not payable if your child is only accessing stand-alone funded hours.

This can be paid by BACs transfer to:

Stepping Stones

Account No: 29644068

Sort Code: 306537

Please quote your name clearly in the reference line for your bank transfer.

