



Tuesday 15th November 2022

Changes to free entitlement hours from January 2022.

Dear Parents/Carers,

From January as you will have seen in our communication before the half term holidays our free afternoons are ending; this was given to help with the effects of missed time in settings due to covid. It has been extremely beneficial and has had a fantastically positive outcome on the standards of achievements in our Early Years setting but was time limited and the time has now come to move this funding to another area of our provision.

As of January, we will be returning to our original 15 hours' free entitlement, 30 hours- if you have a '30 hours code' and for those who do not have a code but would like their children to have 30+ hours of nursery provision we will re-introduce the paid 'Community Powers sessions' to top up your hours if you would prefer to have full days and more hours.

15 Hours

All families are at least entitled to 15 hours nursery provision, this means your child will be able to attend nursery every morning for a session. – **8.40-12.00**

Historically, we have found that children achieve better socially and academically if they attend our setting solely for 5 mornings. However, we do appreciate that you may prefer that your child builds up to this or shares a place with another provider and takes up a **part time place**.

From January 2023 part time places will return to the pre COVID timetable and will be: Mondays Wednesdays and Friday mornings only.

The number of mornings from 3 to 5 can be increased at the beginning of each half term as long as we have notice 2 weeks before the end of the previous half term.

30 hours

Please note if you are wishing to use a 30-hour code from January, you will need to apply for it now for it to be valid next term.

If you have a 30-hour code, you can choose your sessions and spread them over the full week or attend part time at your choice as long as we have the hours allocated and therefore can book a place accordingly.

If your child receives Early Years Pupil Premium, we can use this additional funding for more hours. Please let us know if you would like this to happen.

Community Powers

Pre COVID our Community Powers provision within our school afternoon nursery sessions was highly popular with families who

Community Powers is a paid session in which you can top up your child's 15-hour free morning entitlement for your child to stay the afternoon for a cost of £10 per afternoon plus the cost of a lunch (or no charge for lunch if you wish to provide a packed lunch) This price is less than previously charged pre COVID. Places need to be booked via the office the week before, although drop in / last minute booking sessions may be available for a fixed cost of £15 per session on the morning of the session but confirmation will need to be given from the school office.

We are heading towards having our morning places being full by Easter. For continuity for our children and balance of provision going forwards we will return to giving preference of places to children who attend 5 mornings.

If you have any queries about nursery hours and funding, please contact Mrs Athey.

Booking Community Powers or providing a 'code' please contact Mrs Kennedy and for all other nursery enquiries Mrs Marsden our highly talented Early Years Team Leader.

