

LBW Funding policy (Dorset Council)

At Little Beans we pride ourselves on catering for all families and helping where we can to make sure we provide quality, affordable childcare. We accept 2-year, 3 year and 4-year funding for families to access across our variety of sessions on offer however we only have a limited number of funded only places, please enquire with the nursery management team to see what sessions are available on a funded only basis. Alongside this, if you fall within certain criteria, you can also claim additional funding such as early years pupil premium or deprivation funding.

When a child starts at Little Beans, we will give you forms to fill out with all the details we need to claim for your funding. Each parent is required to sign an agreement of the terms and conditions for your child to receive this. The agreement is with Dorset council and as a nursery we claim funding on your behalf. As per this agreement with yourselves, the rules of funding are set by the Council and we at Little Beans alongside yourselves must adhere to these rules. To verify your child's identity and age for the purposes of any funding claim, you will need to provide us with their original birth certificate or passport so that we can verify it and take a copy for our records.

With all variations of funding, the funding takes effect from the term after their qualifying birthday. You must have provided us a valid code by the end of the month before a new term starts. Term dates can be found on our website and within our monthly newsletters.

Consumables Fee: For funded children a fee of £1.20 is charged for every hour that your child attends. This is to cover consumables such as snacks, resources, activities, trips and the extra-curricular tutors we use. We can consider charging consumables on an individual basis – therefore we ask for you to be open, honest and to communicate with management if you are going through financial hardship and need support.

There are different types of funding depending on your child's age and your family financial situation. More information on the types of funding and support you can access can be found here: [Childcare Choices | 30 Hours Childcare, Tax-Free Childcare and More | Help with Costs | GOV.UK](#)

Little Beans accepts all types of funding listed below:

2-year old funding for families in receipt of additional government support: If you are eligible to claim this 2-year funding, we will not ask for a registration fee or deposit. You can claim up to 15 hours a week which you can either spread across the whole year or use term time only. If spreading your funding across the year you will receive 11 hours per week. If you receive 2-year olds funding due to receiving some additional form of government support then (a) consumables will not be charged to you and (b) when you go on to claim 3- or 4-year olds funding for that child, consumables will not be charged. However, where a parent's financial situation changes during this time, we will re-evaluate and consider charging the consumables fee for these families.

[Help paying for childcare: Free education and childcare for 2-year-olds - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

2-year-old funding for working families: If you are eligible to claim this funding you can choose to spread the funding across the whole year or use it term time only. If you spread the funding across the year, you will get 11 hours per week or 15 hours per week for term time only. You must ensure you reconfirm your eligibility every 3 months, failure to do so may result in withdrawal of funding and you will then be liable to pay full fee's to cover the cost of the sessions.

You can use the website below to check your eligibility for 2-year-old working families funding:

[Apply for free childcare if you're working - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-free-childcare-if-youre-working)

3-4 year olds funding: Every child is entitled to 15 hours funding starting from the term after their 3rd birthday. Some families can claim an additional 15 hours a week, if you fit a certain criteria. For each child, you can choose to spread the funding across the whole year or use it term time only. If you spread the funding across the year, you will get 11 hours per week (plus a further 11 if you claim 30 hours).

You can use the website below to check if you are eligible for the 30 hours:

30 hours free childcare – <https://www.gov.uk/30-hours-free-childcare>

If you are claiming 30 hours funding for 3-4 year olds, or 15 hours for working families of 2 year olds you will need to make sure that you check your eligibility each term. This is done via the same government portal that you used to apply for the funding. If you do not re-check your eligibility each term, you risk being charged full fees for your child's sessions.

We do not charge a deposit if you are only attending for your funded hours and will not be incurring any additional fees monthly.

Session Fee: As per our terms and conditions on our prospectus any hours that funding doesn't cover will be charged at an hourly rate of £7.20.

We do accept funded children to do extra sessions outside of the funding agreement they have with the Council. These extra sessions will be charged at the hourly rate specified above - £7.20.

Additional funding: In addition to the 2, 3- and 4-year olds funding, *Little Beans* can get extra funding for some children. Depending on your circumstances some children get given early years pupil premium (EYPP), deprivation funding or disability access fund (DAF). As a nursery we discuss between ourselves and other professionals how we can use this funding to best help each child that is eligible. For your child to be eligible for DAF you will need to be claiming Disability Living Allowance (DLA).

Little Beans