



# **Fee Charging Policy**

2024/2025

## Our Aim

Spilsby Playgroup operates a service which is fair and competitively priced. We aim to offer a high quality service, in a safe and stimulating environment where the needs of individual children are met.

#### **Fee Structure**

The hourly rate is £5.00 for 3-year-old children and £5.50 for 2-year-old children.

We provide day care across various sessions from 8am until 5pm, Monday to Friday Term Time Only:

For children attending over and above the Government funding entitlement allocated hours, hourly fees apply:

For parents wishing their child to have a cooked lunch, this can be provided and is charged at  $\pounds 2.53$  per meal. If a child is absent on the day, if you let us know before 9am then no charge will be incurred.

#### **Payment of Fees**

All fees are to be paid in advance. An invoice will be passed to you a week before fees are due. The invoice will provide a 'pay by' date. Invoices will be issued each 3 0r 4 weeks (twice in each half term)

Fees are payable by Bank Transfer (details included on the invoice) and Childcare Vouchers.

Payment by other methods (cash/cheque) are welcome but will incur a processing charge of  $\pounds 2.50$  per month. The processing charge of  $\pounds 2.50$  will be added to all accounts for those who have opted out of paying via Bank Transfer or Childcare vouchers (including Free Entitlement places incurring additional fees).

If your child misses a session due to illness or a family holiday, that session must still be paid for as the Playgroup is keeping his/her place open. In the case of continuing illness, please inform the Playgroup as soon as possible in order to put an appropriate action in place

In the event of an emergency closure, we will not charge parents fees for the period of closure.

We require 4 weeks notice if you decide to take you child away from our setting. If this notice is not given, we reserve the right to invoice you for this period.

#### **Non-Payment of Fees**

Where fees are not paid within 7 days of the due date (as on the invoice) a reminder will be sent to the parent/carer for fees to be paid within a 7 day lay period. Where fees are still not paid after this lay period, your account will be subject to a late payment charge of  $\pounds 10$  and subsequent  $\pounds 5$  per week where fees continue to remain unpaid.

If fees continue to be outstanding (and no contact is made to arrange a payment plan) proceedings through the small claims court will be instigated to reclaim the outstanding amount.

Continued non-payment of fees will result in your child's place within playgroup being in jeopardy.

If you are struggling to pay your fees, please talk to us when you get your initial invoice and we will support you with a payment plan. If you bring this to our attention in a timely manner and maintain any agreed payment plan then late fees will be waived.

# **Early Years Entitlement**

Spilsby Playgroup is in receipt of Early Years Entitlement Funding for three and four year old children and we are also eligible to receive funding for eligible 2 year old children. This means you can access (if eligible) free sessions at Spilsby Playgroup.

See our Early Years Entitlement Policy for details on eligibility and the application process.

If you receive benefits or are a working family you may be able to get help towards the cost of childcare. For further details and application go to <u>www.childcarechoices.gov.uk</u>

## **Linked Policies**

Our fee policy links directly with the following other policies within our setting:

- Early Years Entitlement Funding policy
- Non attendance policies sickness, continued absence
- Non collection policy
- Non-payment of fees policy
- Privacy Policy

All information on your child and your personal details are completely confidential and will be stored in a safely as long as needed, as described in our Privacy Policy.

This policy was agreed by the Spilsby Playgroup Management, April 2024 and will be reviewed in April 2025.