



Little Explorers Pre-School  
Station Road  
Ditton Priors, Bridgnorth,  
WV16 6SS  
T: 01746 712506  
littleexplorers.ditton@gmail.com  
Charity No:1044412  
URN: EY477567

## Fees, Funding and Consumables Policy

### Opening Hours

Little Explorers is a term time setting opening for 38 weeks a year inline with Shropshire Council Term dates. Our PD days are set to match Brown Clee Primary School and are listed on our website along with confirmation of term dates.

<https://www.littleexplorers-ditton.co.uk/calendar>

We are closed for Bank Holidays.

Our core opening hours are 9am – 3pm.

We offer a breakfast session from either 8am or 8.30am and an afterschool session until 3.30pm or 4pm, both which must be booked in advance.

### Charges – Private and additional hours

**£7.50 per hour** which is broken down as follows:

£6.50 per hour for childcare

£1 per hour for consumables.

We review rates annually in April and where exceptional circumstances occur may review more frequently or at another point in the year.

Our last fee review was in April 2026.

### Funding

Little Explorers accepts Government funding. Information on if your child is eligible and on how to claim can be found here:

<https://beststartinlife.gov.uk/childcare-early-years-education/15-and-30-hours-support/>

As we are a term time only setting, we do not stretch funding over the year. The maximum amount of hours that can be used a week is 30 and we are able to share funding with other settings if your child attends another. Please let us know if this is the case.

When applying for funding, it is the responsibility of parents to ensure they have applied before the deadline date set by the government. It is also the responsibility of the parent to reconfirm their child's eligibility every 3 months. This is a government requirement, and we are unable to request funding on your behalf if the deadline is missed.

Any hours used outside of your funding allowance will be charged at our private/additional rate as set out above.

## Consumables for Funded Hours

For Funded hours our consumables contribution must be voluntary and as with our private hours is billed at £1 per hour. The consumables contribution for funded hours covers services and items that are not covered by government funding. By paying this contribution it allows children to fully access the enhanced experiences we offer here at Little Explorers.

If you have any questions or concerns about our consumables contribution, please contact us.

As set out by the Department for Education, our consumables charge is not a condition of accessing your funding entitlement and for families who struggle to pay for this contribution we offer an alternative arrangement where you are given a list of items to provide each day. This is a matter between a family and Little Explorers and we ask you to contact us to arrange a time to discuss this matter privately.

If a family does choose to “opt out” of paying our consumables contribution, this must be done before the start of each half term so that the alternative arrangements can be put in place ready.

## Payment Options

Invoices are sent out at the beginning of each half term, and all invoices must be settled by the due date stated on the invoice.

We ask that invoices are paid by BACS and that you use your child’s name as reference. Payment details are shown on your invoice.

We also accept Childcare Vouchers, Tax Free Childcare Payments and Government Funding for children aged from 9 months old.