***Exciting news- from Sept 25 funding is changing….***

If you’re an eligible working parent in England, you can [apply for your code online on GOV.UK](https://education.us21.list-manage.com/track/click?u=70e953ffe9c2e0a0c2e0f9c2d&id=b69c4a460e&e=cf8ebefbeb) for:

* Up to [30 hours childcare](https://education.us21.list-manage.com/track/click?u=70e953ffe9c2e0a0c2e0f9c2d&id=e0d7239efe&e=cf8ebefbeb) per week for your child from the term after your child turns 9 months until they turn 4 years old, over 38 weeks of the year.
* If you’re a parent of a 3 or 4 year old, you can get 15 hours childcare irrespective of income levels, benefit status, or family circumstances.
* If you’re a parent receiving some form of additional government support, like Universal Credit, if your child has an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan or is a looked after child, you can also get 15 hours early learning for your 2 year old.

**If you** [**meet the criteria**](https://education.us21.list-manage.com/track/click?u=70e953ffe9c2e0a0c2e0f9c2d&id=13bd3a0351&e=cf8ebefbeb)**, you can start using your hours the term after your child reaches the right age. Be aware, these are different to school terms – childcare terms start on 1st January, 1st April, and 1st September.**

**You can use your hours alongside other schemes like** [**Tax-Free Childcare**](https://education.us21.list-manage.com/track/click?u=70e953ffe9c2e0a0c2e0f9c2d&id=30585abbf0&e=cf8ebefbeb) **or** [**Universal Credit Childcare**](https://education.us21.list-manage.com/track/click?u=70e953ffe9c2e0a0c2e0f9c2d&id=e32cd9e877&e=cf8ebefbeb)**.**

**You can use the tax free childcare account also to save yourself 20% off each invoice by paying**

**your invoice to us through them.**<https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-tax-free-childcare>

 ***Changes at Dell Cottage……***

* We will be accepting funding flexibly for each family during the hours we are open from Sept 25 (from 9-5) term time only.
* Invoicing will now look different, showing your funded hours, private hours, food charges, and non consumable charges.
* When you have applied for your code, then please email it to us, along with parent date of birth and national insurance number, as we need to check it on the BCP funding website our end. You will also need to reconfirm your code every 3 months. You will get an email reminder about this. There is also a hard copy to complete, which we will give out.

**From Sept 25 new rates are as follows;**

Under 1s- £10.00 no funding

9 months with working families funding – up to 30 hours funded, £10 per hour after

1 year old with working families funding- up to 30 hours, £9.00 per hour after

2 year olds with 2 year disadvantaged funding – no additional charges for the first 15 hrs, £8 per hour

2 year olds with working families funding, up to 30 hours, £8.00 per hour after

3-4 year olds with working families funding up to 30 hours, £6 per hour after

3-4 year olds with statutory funding up to 15 hours funding , £6 per hour after

There are some additional charges which are outlined in our fees policy.

***Food charges***

am snack £1.00 lunch £3.00 pm snack £1.00

***Non food consumables for all ages are;***

£2 am £2 pm

*Non food consumables - tapestry, music and dance groups, materials/ingredients for enhanced provision, suncream, spare nappies, nappy creams, parties, celebrations, enhanced ratio provision*

*These are voluntary costs and are not compulsory to pay to be able to reserve a funded space. All children will opt into the payments when signing up and will need to speak to the manager on a 1-1 basis to receive a non-contribution paying policy if you wish to opt out of paying these. If you wish to opt out of any of the extra charges, please make sure your child comes prepared as these will not be supplied by the nursery without charge. For more information on options please ask the manager and this will be dealt with on an individual basis.*

*Dell Cottage reserves the right to increase the costs of private hours at any time if lack of voluntary costs deems to make the business running financially unviable.*

* **Lunches and dinners;** £3.00/ **breakfast**; 50p – we will be introducing more choices at breakfast eg cereals, brioches, yoghurts
* **Extra hours**: Extra requested individual hours or sessions will be charged at the age-appropriate rate. Funding does not cover ad hoc sessions or hours. Any pre booked extra hour will be added to the invoice and are non refundable.
* Extra charges will be enforceable for any early drop offs or lateness in pick-ups after 10 minutes by the hour. This is to cover staff ratios.
* All year-round attendance is payable for any non- funded children or those under 2 years. This is to enable them to settle at the setting. Term time places may be considered for exceptional circumstances. Funded children can take term time only spaces on prior arrangement
* The Early Years grant hours may be taken for a minimum of 3 hours a day or a maximum of 8 hours per day. Dell Cottage does not offer stretched hours. The amount of hours used per month will be recorded at the bottom of your invoice
* New age rates will be charged the session after your child changes age.
* Siblings will receive a 10% discount on their hours (the bill with the lowest total will receive this discount). Registration fee is £15.00 for additional siblings booked when child is in attendance.
* Invoices are to be paid upon receipt or by the end of the first week of the month, after this, if no contribution to the payment has been made by the 9th of the month, late payments will incur a 5% charge of the invoice or a minimum of £10.00, which will be added to the following months invoice.
* All children are encouraged to attend a minimum of two sessions a week giving them a sense of feeling settled at Dell Cottage Day Nursery
* If a child has to go home due to illness, full fees still apply in any case
* Children are entitled to two weeks half fees holidays of the hours they usually attend. Full fees will be charged at all other times. Food and consumable costs can be removed with 4 weeks prior notice. These fees will not be deducted without notice or in arrears of absence.
* One month’s notice is required in writing should you wish to change your child’s hours, food and non-consumable requirements, take holiday or leave Dell Cottage Day Nursery. Full fees will apply for the month after notice has been given. Confirmation will be given as soon as possible for any hour’s changes. *Any monies paid in advance are non-refundable*
* If your child would like to return to us in the holidays when they have left for school, they are more than welcome. Ad hoc sessions are available at £5.00 per hour for over 5s. Children under 5 are £6.00 per hour.
* Please note, there is always a minimum of 2 staff, even if there is only one child at nursery at the beginning or end of the day.
* Children with special educational needs - places are available upon agreement and funding settlement with county. 1:1 costs, will occur for any extra hours booked over funded hours in line with the Teir that is agreed by county. Funding runs term time only. Places in holidays will be upon agreement and paid at the 1:1 rate per hour.

Our Ofsted registration number is– **EY315470**

We accept most Childcare vouchers, (we do not accept Bright Horizons vouchers)

**booking fees:** £30.00 - Payable on enrolment in advance to secure place or a place on the waiting list.

£15.00 for siblings with child already in attendance £15.00 short term holiday care

***We are already building up a long waiting list at Dell Cottage going into Sept 2026, so I would like you to think ahead and please book in or let me know any intentions you are thinking of for the future. We would like to give current parents priority on this. Once the new funding is released it will be much more competitive to get a space or increase.***

***I know September seems a long way off but I tend to plan ahead!***

**Any questions please ask- it’s complicated for us too, so no question is a silly question!**

**Useful links**

<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>

<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/universal-credit-childcare>

<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/15-and-30-hours-childcare-support>