**Funded 15 & 30 hours policy**

As a Community Interest Company, Bell Day Nursery aim to offer the extended entitlement to our families in accordance with the contract with Essex County Council.

The 15 and 30 hours are free at point of delivery however, in order to remain sustainable, we reserve the right to implement a charge for the extra services which we provide, as per government regulations included in the publication Early Years Entitlement: operational Guidance as copied below:

*“Government funding is intended to deliver 15 or 30 hours a week of free, high quality, flexible childcare. I is not intended to cover the costs of meals, other consumables, additional hours or additional activities. Parents can therefore expect to pay for any meals offered by the provider alongside their free entitlement. Parents can also expect to pay for other consumables or additional activities offered by the provider, such as nappies or trips.”*

This extra services charge includes enhanced ratios such as 1:6 for for 3-year-olds. We are advised to have a 1:8 ratio for 3 year olds in the Early Years Statutory Framework. In addition to this the charge will also cover extra curricula activities in the setting such as extra staffing for swimming lessons, Well-being, Born2 move and Forest School. Other activities planned are cooking, sports, walks and the use of the minibus.

The charge will be reviewed annually, currently it is £1.47 per hour. Children in receipt of EYPP will not be requested to pay this charge. If paying the extra services charge causes hardship please contact us and we will discuss an alternative arrangement.

We would also like to state that we do not offer term time only schedules, we stretch the funding that you receive across the year so that your monthly invoice remains the same as the funding received is only for 38 weeks of the year.

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| **This policy was adopted on** | **Signed on behalf of the nursery** | **Date for review** |
| *28/02/2025* | G.Searle | *28/02/2026* |