This document should be read together with Keren's Nursery Funding, Fees & Optional Charges Policy, which forms the nursery's primary policy document regarding funded childcare, optional services and charging arrangements.

Keren's Nursery Early Years Funding Made Simple

Early Years funding can be a bit challenging to grasp and here we will try and make it clearer to understand, but should you require any further information do not hesitate to your nursery manager. Information provided by the Government and how to apply for the various funding options, can be found at https://www.beststartinlife.gov.uk/

- As of September 2025, subject to eligibility, children aged 9 months to reception age can receive 30 free hours of childcare.

Funding Availability*

Universal 15 Free Hours
Available to all 3 and 4-year-olds

30 Free Hours
for 9mns to 4-year-olds
subject to eligibility

Universal 15 Free Hours for 3- and 4-year-olds

All children aged 3 and 4 years old are eligible for 15 free childcare hours per week from the term AFTER they turn 3. Children are entitled for the 15 weekly free hours across 38 weeks of the academic year, totalling 570 hours for the academic year.

30 Free Hours for 9mns to 4-year-olds

This funding is available to families where the following conditions are met. Firstly, both parents must work for at least 16 hours per week earning at least the minimum national wage and secondly, that each of the parents do not earn over £100,000 per year in income. If you successfully apply for this funding, you will receive a code. Once you receive your eligibility code from the local authority, it is your responsibility to share it with us alongside with your NIN **as soon as possible**. It's important to note that the funding is not applied automatically. After we receive your code, we will verify it with the local authority and then inform you of when the funding will be applied to your account. See above link to apply.

Children Accessing Free Hours Only Offer

Children accessing 15 free hours only:

Subject to availability, parents can access non-stretched 15 free weekly hours only between 9am – 12pm Monday to Friday. For children accessing free hours only the nursery charges a refundable £50 deposit which is refundable after their first month of attendance and only become non-refundable in the event that they do not take up their space at the agreed time. This funding is only available for a limited period of 38 weeks in any financial year.

Children accessing 30 free hours only:

Subject to availability, parents can access non-stretched 30 free weekly hours only between 9am – 3pm Monday to Thursday and 9am – 2pm on Friday (due to religious reasons). For children accessing free hours only the nursery charges a refundable £50 deposit which is refundable after their first month of attendance and only become non-refundable in the event that they do not take up their space at the agreed time. This funding is only available for a limited period of 38 weeks in any financial year.

Keren's Nursery does not charge registration fees. Children accessing free funded hours only do not pay for security contributions.

Additional Services available on a voluntary basis:

Meals: Meals are chargeable for children accessing free funded hours. This charge is voluntary, however, as a Jewish nursery we must adhere to Kosher food only requirement within the nursery premises. Therefore, parents wishing to provide their child with food must source it from a Kosher provider in a sealed and Kosher labelled packaging. Furthermore, any kosher food brought into the premises must be vegetarian, nut free and with all allergens clearly marked.

Extra-Curricular Activities: Keren's provides extra-curricular activities which are chargeable for children accessing free funded hours. This charge is voluntary, parents not wishing for this charge to apply may inform the nursery and their child will be excluded. Children not participating in optional extracurricular activities will continue to receive fully supervised EYFS-compliant nursery provision during those sessions. Extra-curricular activities change from time to time and may include but not limited to, Yactivities Music, You and Me Baby Drama, Kidaktive, Yoga, Forest School and Gymboree.

Stretched Funding Explained

Keren's nursery is open approximately 45.6 weeks during the academic year, and as such is not a "term-time only nursery". As the funding is available for 38 weeks and not for 45.6, we "stretch" the funding across 45.6 weeks of the year so that our children will receive free funded hours during the entire academic year. If we applied the funding unstretched, we would charge families full nursery fees after their child completed 38 weeks of the academic year, causing financial stress. We prevent this disruption by stretching the funding across the entire academic year providing the same predictable level of funding and fees.

That means that 15 free weekly hours which unstretched, last for 38 weeks, will equal 12.5 free weekly funded hours, or 2.5 free funded hours per day, when stretched over 45.6 weeks. Similarly, 30 free weekly hours which unstretched, last for 38 weeks, will equal 25 free weekly funded hours, or 5 free funded hours per day, when stretched over 45.6 weeks.

See below sample invoice of a child attending 5 days of 8am-6pm and who is in receipt of 30 free funded hours. The chargeable items include none funded hours, extra-curricular activities and meal costs which are chargeable for funded children. See below additional information to FAQ.

DRAFT INVOICE

Holland Park

Holland Park
Holland Park Synagogue
8 St James' Gardens
London
W11 4RB

SI **Sample Invoice**

Date issued: 10/12/2025
Due date: 17/12/2025
Invoice period: Jan 1, 2026 - Jan 31, 2026
Invoice number: -

Item type	Description	Cost	Quantity	Total cost
Regular session	5x (8-6) 5 Day 3+ Funded 30 hours per week 95 funded hours: £0.00 95 chargeable hours: £1,294.00			£1,294.00
Regular item	5 Days £6.13 Security Contribution per week			£23.29
Regular consumable	5x Meals per week			£367.27
Regular consumable	5x Extra Curricular Activities per week			£200.07
				Total: £1,884.63

Payment instructions

Bank Details

Account Name	KERENS HOLLAND PARK
Sort Code	60-09-05
Account Number	70720967
Bank	NatWest

Frequently Asked Questions

This document should be read together with:

- Keren's Nursery Funding, Fees & Optional Charges Policy;
- Keren's Nursery Optional Services & Commercial Pricing Methodology;
- Nursery Fee Structures;
- and Parent Funding Declarations.

Q: What Government funding is available?

Subject to eligibility, children may access:

- Universal 15 funded hours for eligible 3- and 4-year-olds;
- Working Parent Entitlements of up to 30 funded hours for eligible children aged 9 months to 4 years.

Funding eligibility is determined by Government and Local Authority criteria.

Q: Is Government funding applied as a discount on my invoice?

No.

Government funding is delivered as funded childcare hours rather than as a cash discount against nursery fees.

The funded hours allocated to your child will be clearly identified on:

- Parent Declaration Forms;
- and nursery invoices.

Q: What is stretched funding?

Government-funded childcare is ordinarily funded across 38 weeks of the academic year.

Keren's Nursery operates approximately 45.6 weeks per academic year and therefore stretches funded hours across the operational year in order to provide:

- continuity of childcare;
- predictable monthly invoicing;
- and consistent childcare provision throughout the academic year.

Accordingly:

- 15 funded hours over 38 weeks are delivered as 12.5 funded hours per week across 45.6 weeks;
- 30 funded hours over 38 weeks are delivered as 25 funded hours per week across 45.6 weeks.

Q: Why do I still pay nursery fees if my child receives funded hours?

Government funding applies only to eligible funded childcare hours.

Where children attend beyond their funded entitlement, the remaining childcare hours are privately funded childcare hours and are therefore chargeable.

Invoices may also include optional services including:

- meals;
- extracurricular activities;
- outings;
- and other optional services.

All invoices clearly distinguish between:

- funded childcare hours;
- privately funded childcare hours;
- and optional services.

Q: Are meals and extracurricular activities mandatory?

No.

Meals and extracurricular activities are optional services and are not a condition of accessing funded childcare hours. Parents may opt out of optional services in accordance with nursery policies.

Children accessing funded childcare will continue to receive fully supervised EYFS-compliant nursery provision regardless of whether optional services are selected.

Q: What happens if I choose to opt out of nursery meals?

Parents may opt out of nursery meal provision.

As Keren's Nursery operates in accordance with Kosher food requirements, any food brought into the nursery must:

- be sourced from a Kosher provider;
- arrive sealed and clearly Kosher-labelled;
- be vegetarian and nut-free;
- and have allergens clearly identified.

Q: What happens if I opt out of extra-curricular activities?

Children not participating in optional extracurricular activities will continue to receive fully supervised EYFS-compliant nursery provision during those sessions.

Q: Why do meal charges differ between children?

Meal charges may vary according to:

- the child's age band;
- attendance duration;
- attendance structure;
- and the overall nutrition provision delivered throughout the nursery day.

Children attending longer nursery sessions may receive broader nutrition provision throughout the day including:

- breakfast;
- snacks;
- lunch;
- tea;
- and dinner.

For administrative simplicity and transparent invoicing, nutrition provision is grouped into two principal invoice categories:

- Breakfast
- Lunch

These invoice categories encompass the broader nutritional provision delivered throughout the nursery day.

Q: Why do extra-curricular activity charges differ between children?

Extra-curricular activity charges may vary according to:

- age group;
- attendance duration;
- attendance pattern;
- enrichment exposure;
- and session structure.

Children attending extended nursery days may access broader extra-curricular and enrichment provision throughout the day.

Q: Why are nursery fees different for different attendance patterns?

Nursery fees vary according to:

- child age band;
- staffing ratios;
- attendance duration;
- session structure;
- operational delivery requirements;
- and optional services selected by parents.

Different attendance models may therefore result in different childcare and optional service charges.

Q: Why are private childcare hour charges different between children?

Private childcare hours are commercially priced and may vary according to:

- age band;
- attendance pattern;
- staffing ratios;
- operational requirements;
- and session structure.

Private childcare pricing is structured independently from Government-funded childcare entitlements.

Q: Can I access funded childcare without purchasing additional services?

Yes.

Subject to availability and operational session structures, parents may access funded-only childcare places without purchasing:

- additional childcare hours;
- meals;
- or extra-curricular activities.

Q: What do nursery fees include?

Nursery fees may include:

- privately funded childcare hours;
- funded childcare hours;
- meals;
- extra-curricular activities;
- outings;
- security contributions;
- and optional services selected by parents.

Invoices clearly identify all applicable charges.

Q: Why is there a security contribution?

Keren's Nursery maintains enhanced safeguarding and security arrangements in order to support the safety and wellbeing of children, staff and families.

Security contributions apply only to privately funded childcare arrangements and are separately itemised on invoices.

Children accessing funded-only places are not charged security contributions.

Q: Why do I need to complete a Direct Debit mandate?

The nursery requires an active Direct Debit arrangement for families paying monthly fees in order to manage:

- nursery fees;
- additional childcare sessions;
- outings;
- and other optional services where applicable.

Q: When are invoices issued?

Nursery invoices are generally issued during the month prior to the applicable fee period.

Monthly Direct Debit collections are normally processed on the 1st day of each calendar month unless otherwise agreed in writing.

Q: Who can I speak to if I need help understanding my invoice?

Parents may contact the Nursery Management Team at any time for clarification regarding:

- funding arrangements;
- invoices;
- optional services;
- attendance structures;
- or nursery fees.