



Foresteers Outdoor Preschool

Funded Early Learning Policy

Reviewed January 2026

Reviewed by Hayley Smith - Preschool Manager

The number of hours of funded childcare you can get depends on the age of your child. If your child is:

- 15 hours funded education and childcare for 2-year-olds (families on certain low income benefits or children with additional needs)
- 15 hours funded childcare for all 3 and 4-year-olds (universal entitlement)
- 15/30 hours funded childcare for eligible children between 9-months to 4 years-old (working parents)

You will not be eligible if your child does not usually live with you.

Please visit www.childcarechoices.gov.uk to find out what support you are eligible for or the Sheffield Directory:

http://www.sheffielddirectory.org.uk/kb5/sheffield/directory/advice.page?id=_dg8Dvgg5Zc

Please bring your child's birth certificate or passport to the preschool to confirm their date of birth.

WPE/FEL Terms and Conditions

We offer FEL (15 hours) and WPE (15 or 30 hours) funded places within 2 sessions, 9am-4pm for a school day or 7.30am-5.30pm for a full day.

The Forest School fee at Foresteers Outdoor Preschool covers the cost of delivering an enhanced early years curriculum rooted in the Forest School pedagogy, a child-led, holistic approach to outdoor education, rooted in Scandinavian traditions, that uses natural environments for regular, hands-on learning to build confidence, self-esteem, resilience, and social-emotional skills through play, exploration, and

supported risk-taking, focusing on the child's interests rather than prescribed tasks. We facilitate ongoing care of our outdoor environments, ensuring children can develop confidence, resilience, and a lifelong connection with nature in all weathers.

1. 9am-4pm Funded Hours/Working Parent Entitlement /school day paid rate - forest school fee of £35 per day for 2, 3, 4 year olds
2. 7.30am-5.30pm Funded Hours/Working Parent Entitlement, full day paid rate - forest school fee of £50 per day for 2, 3, 4 year olds

To ensure we support accessibility for disadvantaged children we provide 1 free place and places with a discounted forest school fees £17.50 per session for 2 year old children claiming certain benefits.

To ensure we support families with SEND children we have places for children claiming DAF and EYIF on a reduced forest school fee of £15.

If you are struggling to make payments or want to discuss payment options you must speak to Eliza or Hayley, families financial situations are taken into consideration on an individual basis.

If you take a family holiday during the 38 funded weeks, only the first four weeks of your holiday will be funded each year. If you wish to take additional holidays or extended leave to your home country and would like us to keep your child's place open then we will need to charge you for any sessions not covered by the Funded Early Learning holiday entitlement. Alternatively you can reapply for a place at Foresteers Outdoor Preschool when you return to Sheffield, although a place cannot be guaranteed.

If you wish to leave nursery and/or change provider midway through the term, you will be asked to give 4 weeks notice. Within this notice period you will not be able to claim EFEL/FEL/WPE at another provider and you will be liable for any paid for sessions.

We will ask you to sign a Parental Agreement Form each term to confirm how many WPE/FEL/ hours per week and weeks of the term you intend to claim at Foresteers Outdoor Preschool, forest school fees where applicable and if you are claiming any hours at another setting.

This policy was adopted on	Signed on behalf of the preschool	Date for review
<i>1st January 2026</i>	<i>Hayley Smith</i>	<i>December 2026</i>