

## Important Information for Pre-school Parents

### Amblecote Preschool: Funding, Sessions and Charges

#### Early Education Funding Entitlements/15 Hours Universal Entitlement (Ages 3–4)

All children aged 3 and 4 are entitled to **15 hours of funded early education** each week, starting from the term after their third birthday. National eligibility dates are:

Child's Date of Birth	Funding Begins
1 April – 31 August	1 September
1 September – 31 December	1 January
1 January – 31 March	1 April

#### Extended 30 Hours Entitlement

Some families may be eligible for **up to 30 hours of funded childcare** for children aged 2, 3 or 4. Eligibility information is available at: [Best Start in Life - Best Start in Life](#)

We aim to support families by offering flexible patterns of attendance where possible. Families not eligible for 30 hours may choose to pay for additional sessions.

#### Applying for a Pre-School Place

- Applications are made **directly to the school**.
- A **waiting list** is used when places are full.
- Places are allocated by Date of Birth and Not on a first come first served basis.
- Flexible attendance patterns may be offered depending on availability.

**Please note:** A place in Pre-school does **not** guarantee a place in our reception class. Reception admissions are managed by **Dudley Council** in line with their published criteria.

#### Session Times and Daily Routines

##### Morning Session

8.30am – 11.30am Soft start available between 8.30am and 8.45am.

##### Afternoon Session

12.30pm – 3.30pm Flexible finish available between 3.15pm and 3.30pm.

##### All Day Session

8.30am – 2.30pm (Monday–Friday) Optional extended care until 3.30pm for **£4 per day**.

If collecting at 2.30pm, families must leave the school site and return at 3.10pm if collecting older siblings.

## Important Information for Pre-school Parents

### Lunchtime Provision (Optional Extra)

#### 11.30am-12.30pm

Families who require childcare after the morning session or before the afternoon session can access supervised lunchtime care.

- Cost: **£4 per session**
- Children bring a packed lunch
- Supervised by Pre-school and lunchtime staff
- Parents may choose to take their child home for lunch instead

This lunchtime provision is an **optional extra** and is **not included** within funded hours, in line with national funding guidance.

Before and after school clubs are available once a child turns **4**, but these are also **not included** in the funded entitlement.

### Additional Payable Sessions

Families using only the 15-hour universal entitlement, or those wishing to add extra hours, may purchase additional sessions:

- **Morning or afternoon session:** £17.50
- **Full day:** £35.00

Subject to availability, we may also offer places to **2-year-olds** who will turn 3 the following term. Charges remain the same.

### Our Commitment to Families

We are committed to providing clear, accessible information so families can make informed decisions about their childcare. Our approach supports:

- children's well-being, learning and development
- strong and respectful partnerships with parents
- inclusive access to early education
- transparency around funding and optional charges
- consistent routines that promote security and independence

We welcome questions from families and are always happy to discuss how we can support your child's early learning journey.