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Sarah Gordon-Weeks – Principal

19 January 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are excited to announce that we are going to trial expanding our 2-year old Cherry nursery to offer all day places (30 hours per week) from April 2024.

Currently, we offer 15 hours a week either taken as a morning session (8:45am-11:45am) or an afternoon session (12:15pm-3:15 pm).

Additionally to this, from April 2024 we are pleased to begin offering places from 8:45am to 3:15pm. Children will then attend both the morning and afternoon sessions as well as adding an option for children to remain for lunchtimes (11:45am to 12:15pm).

Some families will be eligible for funded 15 hours (half day sessions) and therefore if they wish to take up the 30 hour offer they will only need to pay for the additional 15 hours and added lunch time too if they require. The costs for this are outlined below.

Session	Cost per child
Lunch time (30mins)	£4 per day £20 per week
3 hour nursery session	£7.95 per hour £23.85 per day £119.25 per week

Children who stay for lunch can either bring a packed lunch or book and pay for a school lunch in advance.

It is important to note that as we are a school-based nursery, we offer term-time only places. We also do not have the provision for wrap-around care (breakfast club or after school club) for nursery pupils at this time. Unfortunately, we also cannot offer flexible or ad-hoc nursery hours over the week, children have the option of 15 or 30 hours per week only at present.

In order for us to plan staffing and resources accordingly, we request that any families who wish to take up this offer of a 30 hour place in the 2-year-old nursery from April 2024, apply to us by **10th February 2024**. If you are a new family to Dashwood then please come in and fill out an application form and if your child already attends Dashwood, please call the office to speak to us.

















- To find out if you are eligible for the new 2-year-old funding offer to working parents please follow this link to apply https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-childcare-if-youre-working
- To find out if you are eligible for 2-year-old funding for families receiving some forms of additional government support please follow this link https://www.gov.uk/help-with-childcare-costs/free-childcare-2-year-olds

We hope this expanded offer for 2-year-old provision will further support families in our community with education and childcare, particularly those who are working or seeking to go back to work.