



Atherton House School

6 Alexandra Road, Blundellsands, Liverpool, L23 7TF
Telephone: 0151 924 5578

29th November 2019

Dear Parent/Carer,

Schedule of fees for 1st January 2020 to 31st December 2020

The outcome of the General Election could bring great change to the UK. Despite the widespread uncertainty, we believe the childcare sector remains at the heart of British society, providing an oasis for future generations to develop and thrive. We therefore remain very proud of the team at Atherton House School for providing an outstanding level of care. We are writing with our revised schedule of fees in order to provide you with one months' notice. This is in keeping with previous years and our standard Terms and Conditions. As we are sure you will appreciate, we reserve the right to conduct a further review of our fees should there be an unexpected material change to any of our costs as a direct result of the election.

As you may be aware, the Government is still providing funding for qualifying 2 and 3 year old children for up to 30 hours per week. Although broadly successful in its application, the funding rates currently available to childcare providers across England fall significantly short of costs. The Department of Education announced in late October, that the hourly rates for 2020/21 will only rise by 8 pence per child. However, it is important to note that this increase will not be fully disseminated by Local Government to providers. According to the National Day Nurseries Association's research published in September 2019, this funding shortfall has already resulted in a 153% increase in the number of nurseries closing across England since the initiative was introduced in August 2017.

The largest increase and the biggest impact on the industry has been the growing National Living Wage. As mentioned in my letter to you last year, the Government increased the Minimum and Living Wages significantly and plan to do so once more in April 2020. In addition to this, the childcare sector has seen increased demand for experienced qualified practitioners, due to many deciding to take up employment in other sectors of care. We have therefore invested heavily in attracting the highest calibre of candidates, whilst ensuring those already in our team are incentivised to stay.

Although it is necessary to increase our fees to ensure sustainability of the nursery, the impact and the financial burden for our parents and carers is actually **anticipated to fall**. This is mainly due to the availability of funded hours being pledged to increase. The impact of this could, depending on the outcome of the election, assist parents/carers of 2, 3 and 4 year olds by anywhere between £600 and £1,200 per year towards the cost of childcare.

Having taken all these factors into consideration we have decided, whilst trying to minimise the impact on our parents/carers, that our rate needs to be increased by £2.50 a day and £1.50 for a half day including all nappies, wipes and formula milk. These increases are reflected in the schedule of fees attached. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me directly. We would like to thank you for your support during 2019.

Yours sincerely

Jackie Seddon
Nursery Manager



FEE SCHEDULE

1st January 2020 – 31st December 2020

Monthly Fees	5 days	4 days	3 days	2 days
All day	£1021	£933	£700	£467
Morning	£729	£583	£438	£292
Afternoon	£729	£583	£438	£292

*All above figures are rounded to nearest £. Actual invoices will vary slightly.

*Subject to change with 1 month's written notice

Our full time rate is £245 per week, £49 per day. A 12.5% discount has been applied for a full time place.

Full day care is available 50 weeks per year:

We are closed on Christmas Eve, and we re-open on the first working day after New Year.
We are closed on Bank Holidays.

Session times:

Morning: 8am – 12:45pm
Afternoon: 1.00pm – 5:45pm

10% discount is available for siblings and will be deducted from the youngest child.

Nursery vouchers can be used in part or full payment.

Government grant for 2, 3 and 4 year olds will be deducted from fees.

All fees are due on the 1st of each month in advance.

Payment MUST be by Childcare Vouchers, Tax Free Childcare, Government Grant or Direct Debit, or a combination thereof.

If fees remain unpaid by the 7th working day following the 1st of the month, an administration late payment charge of £25 will be charged to cover the cost of the time involved in processing late payments.

Any payments that fall into an unauthorized overdue situation of two months, may become subject to transfer to Hek Jones Solicitors with additional charges in relation to their fees being added to the amount owed.