



**THESE ARE ILLUSTRATIVE FIGURES AND ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE FOR THE
2026-27 INTAKE**

Dear Parents/Carers

Nursery Payment Options 2026/27

Oswald Nursery has the following payment options for nursery places for September 2026.

Option 1- for those who are NOT entitled to a 30 hour free code

First 15 Hours – Free for all children
17.5 hour top up - £95 per week

Option 2- for those who ARE entitled to a 30 hour free code

First 30 Hours for eligible families via the government initiative – Free with code
2.5 hours top up - £15 per week
Please note that it is not possible to opt-out of the 2.5 hours top-up

30 Hour Free Code Government Initiative

30-hour codes can be applied for using your government gateway account. Apply for your code for this for September start by 31st August. Please then send the code to finance@oswaldroad.manchester.sch.uk.

If you do not apply in time you will be liable to pay for September 2026 – December 2026.

2.5 hours top up - £15 per week

Our school hours are 32.5 per week, therefore those with a 30-hour code will be required to pay a top-up fee of £15 per week starting September 2026.

17.5 hour top up paid places - £95.00 per week

If you are not entitled to a 30-hour code you can pay for your place using the payment options for nursery provision September 2026 – July 2027. Payments can be made in advance monthly, half-termly, termly or annually.

Payer Fees

- **Termly**
Autumn 2026 - **£1,330.00**
Spring 2027 - **£1,140.00**
Summer 2027 - **£1,140.00**
- **Annually**– 1 payment of **£3,610.00**

30 Hour Code Fees

- **Termly**
Autumn 2026 - **£210.00**
Spring 2027 - **£180.00**
Summer 2027 - **£180.00**
- **Annually** – 1 payment of **£570.00**

Once your child has started with us, we will be able to issue you with your login details for School Spider where you can make your payments.

Many thanks for your co-operation.
Yours sincerely
Finance Team

Check you're eligible for free childcare if you're working

You may be able to get free childcare for your child aged 9 months to 4 years old if you live in England.

If parents/carers are living and working in England, 3 and 4 year olds may be entitled to 30 hours free childcare.

You must live in England to apply for free childcare. The amount of free childcare you can get depends on:

- your child's age and circumstances
- whether you're working (employed, self-employed, or a director)
- your income (and your partner's income, if you have one)
- your immigration status

Your child's age and circumstances

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

- 9 months to 2 years, you can get 15 hours per week for free childcare
- 3 to 4 years old, you can get 30 hours free childcare

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

If you foster your child, you can claim free childcare if you're working as long as-

- You're in paid work outside your fostering role
- Your adjusted net income is under £100,000

you cannot use the online application to get free childcare. Speak to your social worker and your local authority if you want to apply.

If you're working

You can usually get free childcare if you (and your partner, if you have one) are:

- in work or starting a new job
- on sick leave or annual leave
- on shared parental, maternity, paternity or adoption leave

If you start a new job or are on shared parental, maternity, paternity or adoption leave – the date you start a new job or return to work will affect when you can get free childcare.

Date of starting or returning to work	When you can get your hours from
1 May to 30 September	Term starting on or after 1 September
1 October to 31 January	Term starting on or after 1 January
1 February to 30 April	Term starting on or after 1 April

If you're not currently working

You may still be eligible if your partner is working, and you get Incapacity Benefit, Severe Disablement Allowance, Carer's Allowance, Limited Capability for Work Benefit or contribution-based Employment and Support Allowance.

Your income

Over the next 3 months you and your partner (if you have one) must each expect to earn at least:

- £2,380 if you're aged 21 or over (equivalent to £183 per week)
- £1,788 if you're aged 18 to 20 (equivalent to £137 per week)
- £1,331 before tax if you're under 18 or an apprentice (equivalent to £102 per week)

This is the National Minimum Wage or Living Wage for 16 hours a week on average.

You can use an average of how much you expect to earn over the current tax year if:

- you work throughout the year but do not get paid regularly
- you're self-employed and do not expect to earn enough in the next 3 months

Example

You're eligible if you're 21 or over and do not have a regular income but earn £9,518 a year. This is the same as earning £2,379 every 3 months on average.

If you're self-employed and started your business less than 12 months ago

You can earn less and still be eligible for free childcare for working parents.

If you have more than one job

You can use your total earnings to work out if you meet the threshold. This includes:

- earnings from any employment
- earnings from any self-employment

If you're both employed and self-employed, you can use just your self-employment income if this would make you eligible.

Example

If you expect your average self-employed earnings over the tax year to be more than you'll get over the next 3 months as an employee.

Income that does not count toward your minimum earnings

Certain types of income will not count towards the minimum amount you must earn to be eligible.

These include:

- dividends
- interest

- income from investing in property
- pension payments

If you or your partner have an expected 'adjusted net income' over £100,000 in the current tax year, you will not be eligible.

Your immigration status

To be eligible for free childcare for working parents, you (and your partner if you have one) must have a National Insurance number.

The person who applies must also have at least one of the following:

- British or Irish citizenship
- settled or pre-settled status, or you have applied and you're waiting for a decision
- permission to access public funds - your UK residence card will tell you if you cannot do this

If you have a partner, they must have a National Insurance number too

Go to <https://childcare-support.tax.service.gov.uk/par/app/applynow>