



23rd June 2025

Dear Parents,

We are very excited for your children to join Coworth Flexlands School.

As you may be aware, our Early Years fees have been under review due to the Department for Education (DfE) updating its statutory guidance for Early Years Funding, effective from April 2025. It has therefore been necessary to change our operating hours, charging structure and invoicing to maintain access to universal Early Years Funding for children of 3 and 4 years of age at Coworth Flexlands. To do so the following altered arrangements are proposed for eligible children to meet the statutory guidance and limit the financial risk to the school.

1. Amend the Nursery day, creating 3 distinct sessions to which a compliant charging structure can be applied, with distinct funded hours, up to a maximum of 15 hours per week. The suggested sessions are detailed in Table 3 below, with the funded hours being 8:20am – 11.20am daily.

Table 3: Sessions for 3 and 4 year old children:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Early Years Funded Hours	8.20am – 11.20am				
Chargeable Session*	11.20am – 11:45am				
Chargeable Session*	11.20am – 1:00pm				
Chargeable Session	1pm – 3:30pm				

*Pupils would attend either chargeable session 11:20am – 11:45am OR chargeable session 11:20am to 1:00pm (includes lunch).

2. Amend the charging structure to evidence that the funded hours, up to a maximum of 15 hours per week, are completely free of charge with no other mandatory charges applied to access these hours. It should be noted that whilst termly fees remain the same, the level of Early Years Funding changes each term due to the varying number of weeks payable. For example, more Early Years Funding is payable in the Autumn term due to the longer number of weeks children are in school, making this term appear cheaper by comparison to the shorter Spring and Summer terms.

Session Combinations for 3 and 4 year olds (see Appendix 1):

This makes the first 3 hours (8:20am – 11:20am) of each weekday for 3 & 4 year old children free of charge to parents but maintains the overall fee structure by allocating greater charges to the remaining daily sessions. For parents whose children attend five days a week, whether full days, half days or a combination of both, there will be no change to the level of Early Years Funding claimed and therefore no change to the fees payable by them each term (other than where

a term is longer or shorter and adjustments are made accordingly). This also supports our business strategy of encouraging parents to enrol their children for a minimum of 3 mornings or 2 full days in Nursery.

For parents whose children attend for a lesser number of days there will be a reduction in the Early Years Funding available. Previously we have been able to offset the total number of available hours funding against the total number of hours a child attends. For example, a child attending 3 full days would be calculated as attending for 15 hours and thereby able to claim the full 15 hours funding available. However, under the new compliant charging structure, attendance for 3 full days would only be eligible for 9 hours of funding, 3 x morning sessions from 8.20am – 11.20am, thus reducing the fee remission for parents and increasing their termly charges.

Of course, this could be ameliorated by attending additional morning sessions.

3. Amend invoicing for Nursery and Reception to itemise the funded hours attended and charges pertaining to other sessions attended. This needs to be in place for Autumn term 2025 billing to be compliant to DfE guidance.
4. The proposed session charges would be per session, per day, per term (based on a 10-week term – please note the number of weeks in a term varies)

Session 1:	8:20 to 11:20 am	£0.00 – Funded hours
Session 2:* option 1	11:20 to 11:45am	£232
Session 2:* option 2	11:20 to 1pm (including lunch)	£350
Session 3:	1pm to 3:30pm	£210

The charging structure for current two-year-olds before they become eligible for EYFS will remain the same (with 2025-26 rates applied). Children become eligible for EYFS funding the term after they turn three years old.

Conclusion

As a School we have considered all options to ensure that the new model works for you as parents and for us as a school whilst remaining compliant. We will trial the new session for one academic year and make any necessary amends for September 2026.

If you would like to discuss the new structure and how it will affect your planned attendance pattern, please do not hesitate to contact Kerry Webb, School Business Manager at bursar@coworthflexlands.co.uk.

If you are due to be joining us in September and would like to change your sessions for the Autumn Term, we ask that you email registrar@coworthflexlands.co.uk before 27th June.

Kind regards,



Nicola Cowell

Typical fee costs based on a 13-week term

Full days	Half days (including Lunch)	Mornings only	Total Hours Per week	Eligible Claimed Hours Per week (i.e. 8:20 - 11:20am)	EYFS Grant funding for these hours	Gross Fees for these Hours (excluding eligible funding)	Fees Net of EYFS Grant Funding (i.e. Fees due payable by parent(s)/guardian(s))
0	0	1	3	3	£243.75	£243.75	£0.00
0	0	2	6	6	£487.50	£487.50	£0.00
0	0	3	9	9	£731.25	£731.25	£0.00
0	0	4	12	12	£975.00	£975.00	£0.00
0	0	5	15	15	£1,218.75	£1,218.75	£0.00
0	1	0	4.67	3	£243.75	£698.75	£455.00
0	2	0	9.34	6	£487.50	£1,397.50	£910.00
0	3	0	14.01	9	£731.25	£2,096.25	£1,365.00
0	4	0	18.68	12	£975.00	£2,795.00	£1,820.00
0	5	0	23.35	15	£1,218.75	£3,493.75	£2,275.00
1	0	0	7.16	3	£243.75	£971.75	£728.00
1	1	0	11.83	6	£487.50	£1,670.50	£1,183.00
1	2	0	23.66	9	£731.25	£2,369.25	£1,638.00
1	3	0	35.49	12	£975.00	£3,068.00	£2,093.00
1	4	0	47.32	15	£1,218.75	£3,766.75	£2,548.00
2	0	0	14.32	6	£487.50	£1,943.50	£1,456.00
2	1	0	18.99	9	£731.25	£2,642.25	£1,911.00
2	2	0	23.66	12	£975.00	£3,341.00	£2,366.00
2	3	0	28.33	15	£1,218.75	£4,039.75	£2,821.00
3	0	0	21.48	9	£731.25	£2,915.25	£2,184.00
3	1	0	26.15	12	£975.00	£3,614.00	£2,639.00
3	2	0	30.82	15	£1,218.75	£4,312.75	£3,094.00
4	0	0	28.64	12	£975.00	£3,887.00	£2,912.00
4	1	0	33.31	15	£1,218.75	£4,585.75	£3,367.00
5	0	0	35.8	15	£1,218.75	£4,858.75	£3,640.00