



PRE-SCHOOL AT WESTFIELD

Westfield Pre-school Fees and Sessions for 2024-25

Westfield participates in the government scheme whereby children who are 3 and 4 years old receive free pre-school education. This is administered by means of a reduction in fees to parents of eligible children each term. We are pleased to be able to offer 30 free hours to those families who qualify and we have developed our pricing structure to give parents the flexibility of choosing mornings or full days as we recognise the needs of busy parents.

Westfield is a through school; we have been educating girls aged between 3 and 18 since 1960 and, therefore, have a great deal of experience in running a happy and nurturing early years setting. The session schedule is designed to help your daughter settle into pre-school effectively and make her transition into Reception a seamless experience.

- Our core day is from 8:30 – 3:30 pm
- Drop off time: You may drop off your daughter at school any time between 8:00 and 8:25 am
- Pick up time: You will need to collect your daughter at 3.30 pm (unless using our wraparound care which is charged separately)
- Full day session: 8:00 am till 3:30 pm (7 and ½ hours)

Children may join pre-school once they have reached the age of three years. However, a child must already be 3 years old by 1 September to receive the government entitlement in the Autumn Term, by 1 January to receive the entitlement in the Spring Term and by 1 April to receive the entitlement in the Summer Term. Once a child has reached the age of 5 years, they are no longer eligible for this entitlement.

Each term the school notifies the Local Authority of all eligible children on the school roll. Parents do not need to claim the entitlement. However, parents of children who attend pre-school on a part-time basis must declare if their child also attends another setting when not at Westfield.

Parents can also increase the number of sessions attended throughout the school year, usually at the beginning of each new term.

Pre-school Frequently Asked Questions

When can I apply for my daughter to start Westfield pre-school and how much would it cost?

We accept registrations from birth and admissions for girls aged 3 years. Please contact our Bursar for indicative fee levels.

When can I take advantage of the government's free funding?

Your daughter will be entitled to at least 15 hours per week of free childcare from the term after she has turned 3 years of age and will continue to be funded until the end of the term in which she turns 5 years i.e. in Reception. Some parents qualify for 30 hours of paid childcare per week. Please check current government advice on help with paying for childcare at <https://www.gov.uk/get-childcare>

What about the government's Tax-Free Childcare (TFC) Scheme?

The government's Tax-Free Childcare Scheme may be used to pay for wraparound care at any stage but only for tuition fees whilst your child is in pre-school. TFC may not be used to fund tuition fees once your child reaches compulsory school age, i.e. when she joins Reception. An additional £2,000 per year per child may be claimed via the TFC Scheme.

Why are some sessions not available?

We are a deliberately small early years setting and there are limited places on offer. To enable us to provide high quality pre-school provision, priority will be given to girls who attend on a full-time basis and those who already have siblings enrolled at Westfield.

Is school lunch compulsory?

Yes, we believe that having lunch with their peers plays a positive part in a child's pre-school experience and prepares them well for life in school. We do not offer afternoon-only sessions.

What is the minimum number of days my child can attend?

This depends on the age of the individual child. We expect our very youngest pre-school pupils to enrol for at least three days each week and to increase their hours on a phased termly basis. We reserve the right to stipulate certain days of the week based on demand, as our pre-school places are limited but we will endeavour to meet parental preferences where we are able to do so.

Please note that full-time attendance is recommended by the start of the Summer term before the child moves up to Reception.

Indicative Pre-school Fees

Entitled to 15 free pre-school hours:

	1 day	2 days	3 days	4 days	5 days
Full Days	X	X	*	*	£204

X = session not available, * available only as part of an agreed phased enrolment

Lunch costs must be paid on top of tuition fees, at £4.47 per day

Entitled to 30 free pre-school hours:

(Expected to commit to whole week attendance, unless exceptional circumstances apply)

	1 day	2 days	3 days	4 days	5 days
Full Days	X	X	*	*	£68

X = session not available, * available only as part of an agreed phased enrolment

Lunch costs must be paid on top of tuition fees, at £4.47 per day

Non-Academic Fees

Paid in advance at the start of term

Lunches: £255 per term (charged pro rata if lunch is taken fewer than five times per week)

Personal Accident Insurance: £4.00 per term (flat rate)

Paid in arrears at the end of term

Extras *(as applicable)*:

Breakfast Club from 7:30 am until 8:00 am, charged at £5 per session

After school **Twilight Care** until 6:00 pm, charged at £6 per hour or part thereof

Educational visits and any **extra-curricular activities** in which the parents have agreed their child may participate. Parents are advised beforehand of any charges that will be incurred.