



Rising Stars  
& Day Nursery

REDBOURN



MANAGER - SHARLEE WHITTLE



# RISING STARS- OUR JOURNEY



Rising Stars was created by Danielle Riley, Meg Burrows, and Financial Partners in November 2021.

As two sisters, with a combined experience 20 years +, Danielle and Meg wanted to turn their dream in to a reality in the childcare industry.

Having grown up in Hertfordshire Danielle and Meg thought what better opportunity to give back to their local community. All of our settings are located around the m1/m25 making our settings easily accessible for commuting families.

## Our vision

Rising stars day nursery will consistently provide excellent levels of care and education for each child. We excel in creating a home from home environment so the children can feel safe, secure, and nurtured. Our enthusiastic, motivated, and highly qualified staff team will aim to provide a stimulating learning environment to reach all children's full potential through the love of learning.

- Provide the best start for all children within our care in which they feel safe and secure
- Offer a home from home environment for the children to grow and develop within a warm and nurturing environment.
- Create an atmosphere where all staff are aware of every children's individual needs to support them to reach their full potential
- Provide a stimulating and fun environment which promotes development in all areas of learning
- Provide educational and physical extra curricular activities
- Encourage the freedom of expression with in a well prepared and stimulating environment
- Develop a strong and supportive partnership with parents to ensure we all work together to meet the children's needs. Welcoming all contributions to our environment and practice.
- Support children in developing confidence in their own abilities
- We will ensure that our environment promotes equal opportunities regardless of race, gender, religion, sex, age and disability
- Deliver nutritional, balanced healthy meals, freshly prepared on site. Catering for all children's needs.
- Implement the early years foundation stage framework throughout the whole nursery
- Ensure safer recruitment and suitability of each practitioner working with the children.
- Develop all practitioners ensuring that the training opportunities and progression are met
- Liaise with parents through our parents app also offering regular updates via email, Facebook page, websites and notice boards.
- Adhere to all policies and procedures in place.
- Ensure all children are safeguarded and maintain high levels of health and safety

# Fees and Funding

## **9 Month+ funding (for working families)**

From April 2024, 2 year funding will be available for Working families who earn below £100,000.

Funded children will be entitled to 15 hours funding per week, increasing to 30 hour funding in September 2025. There is no inclusive care cost for children under 2 years old, but Rising Stars requires the full 15 funding hours to be used at our setting.

## **2 year funding (for government supported families)**

Those in receipt of government support may be able to get additional help towards the cost of their childcare fee's or be entitled to 2-year funding. You can find out more about this on the government website.

## **15/30 hour funding 3 Year olds**

All children receive 15 hours funding the term after their third birthday. Some families can access an additional 15 hours funding (30 hours) depending on eligibility and home circumstances.

## **Tax free childcare**

Tax-Free Childcare is a new government scheme to help working parents with the cost of childcare.

Parents of the youngest children can now open an online account, which they can use to pay for childcare from a registered provider.

For every £8 a parent pays in, the government will pay in an extra £2. Parents can receive up to £2,000 per child, per year, towards their childcare costs, or £4,000 for disabled children.

## **Universal Credit childcare element**

For working families claiming Universal Credit with children under 17. Claim back up to 85% of eligible childcare costs.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON FUNDING VISIT [CHILDCARECHOICES.GOV.UK](https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk)

please speak to the manager who will be able to assist with any questions  
you may have

# FUNDING MODELS

## **15 HOURS GOVERNMENT SUPPORTED FAMILIES (2 YEARS OLD)**

You can access your funding across 1 full day (8am – 6pm) and 1 half day (8am – 1pm/1pm – 6pm)

You can access this across 38 weeks of the year, we do not stretch funding across 52 weeks.

No charge is applied to your account for families receiving this type of funding.

## **15 HOURS WORKING FAMILIES (FROM 9 MONTHS OLD)**

You can access your funding across 1 full day (8am – 6pm) and 1 half day (8am – 1pm/1pm – 6pm)

You can access this across 38 weeks of the year, we do not stretch funding across 52 weeks.

This offer cannot be offered as Term Time Only. Funding is available 38 weeks of the year, during the remaining 14 weeks of the year, you will pay the standard daily rate for your sessions.

There is no inclusive care charge for children under 2. We supply Nappies, Wipes, Creams, Snacks and extra-curricular activities etc For children accessing 15 hours only, these must all be used at Rising Stars Day Nursery.

## **15 HOURS WORKING FAMILIES (FROM 2 YEARS OLD)**

You can access your funding across 1 full day (8am – 6pm) and 1 half day (8am – 1pm/1pm – 6pm)

You can access this across 38 weeks of the year, we do not stretch funding across 52 weeks.

This offer cannot be offered as Term Time Only. Funding is available 38 weeks of the year, during the remaining 14 weeks of the year, you will pay the standard daily rate for your sessions.

There is an inclusive care charge of £2 per funded hour. This includes the supply of Nappies, Wipes, Creams, Snacks and extra-curricular activities etc

## **15 HOURS (3/4 YEARS OLD)**

You can access your funding across 1 full day (8am – 6pm) and 1 half day (8am – 1pm/1pm – 6pm) or 3 x half days

This offer cannot be offered as Term Time Only. Funding is available 38 weeks of the year, during the remaining 14 weeks of the year, you will pay the standard daily rate for your sessions. There is an inclusive care charge of £2 per funded hour. This includes the supply of Nappies, Wipes, Creams, Snacks and extra-curricular activities etc

## **30 HOURS (3/4 YEARS OLD)**

You can access your funding across upto 3 full day (8am – 6pm)

This offer cannot be offered as Term Time Only. Funding is available 38 weeks of the year, during the remaining 14 weeks of the year, you will pay the standard daily rate for your sessions. There is an inclusive care charge of £2 per funded hour. This includes the supply of Nappies, Wipes, Creams, Snacks and extra-curricular activities etc

Access 20 of your 30 hour entitlement on Monday and Friday only and pay an inclusive care charge of £2 per hour. Term Time Only, Fully Inclusive

Extra sessions are available on request, charged at the same rate.

Subject to availability.

All food, Milk, Nappies and wipes are fully inclusive in the daily rate of the session.



## Little Stars

Little Stars is for babies to confidently walking. We have areas for floor play, messy play, feeding and sleeping.

Our Room Leader and Early Years Practitioners will spend time, building relationships with both baby and parent so that both feel happy and confident in our care. We know how important a babies routine is so the staff will take care to ensure that wherever possible, baby's home routine is followed closely to ensure continuity of care.



## Mini Moons

Mini Moons is for children when they are confidently walking to 2 years.

Staff will support the children in developing their reasoning, learning and problem-solving abilities through games and activities.

In the home corner the children can create and act out their own stories using their own experiences from their home life. This area can also help them develop their social, communication and language skills.



## Comets

When a child is ready we gradually introduce them to the 2-3s room, where they will play and socialise with other 2 year olds as well as some of the 3 year olds.

Here the atmosphere is a little more structured but the emphasis is still very much on having fun.

The children have the opportunity to explore role-play, messy play, puzzles, games, books, stories and music. We encourage them to think, consider, solve problems, be independent and become confident in their own abilities.



## Rockets

This is the final room your child will progress to before moving onto reception class at school.

Although, the emphasis is still very much on learning through play we are supporting the children to learn the skills they will need when they begin school; as well as basic literacy and numeracy skills we also help them to develop good listening, sharing, co-operating and independence, skills so that their transition into school is as smooth as we can possibly make it.



## FRESH MEALS

At Rising Stars all of our meals are cook daily on the premises. We have a 4 weekly menu offering well balanced meals and snacks. All specific dietary requirements are catered for and we are increasingly catering for children with specific food intolerance's and special dietary needs.

Our meal times are-

7:30-8:30 Breakfast

10:00 - Midmorning snack

11:45 - Lunch

14:30 - Afternoon snack

16:00 - Tea



# Sessions, Fee's, and Funding Explained

## **ADMINISTRATION FEE/DEPOSIT**

- When you request a space at Rising Stars you will be required to pay a deposit of £100. Once we have received this payment it will guarantee your child's space at Rising Stars. Settle sessions and completion of paperwork will not be arranged until the deposit has been paid.
- 75% of your registration fee will be refunded when your child ends their Rising Stars Journey, subject to 1 months notice being given and any outstanding fee's are paid in full.
- If you need to defer your child's start date for any reason, you would be required to request this in writing. We can not guarantee that we would be able to accommodate changes as our occupancy is completed well in advance.

## **FEE'S**

- You will be sent an invoice between the 20th and the 25th of each month, this invoice is to be paid on or before the 1st of the following month.
- You will receive your first invoice at least 7 days before your child's start date. This must be paid in advance of your child starting.
- If your child join's part way through a month, your first invoice will be for the remainder of the month.
- We close for the period between Christmas and new years and all bank holidays
- You will still be charged for sickness and family holidays
- Our fee's are worked out equally over a period of 12 months. The sum we use is
- Session cost per week multiplied by the number of weeks in the year Divided by 12 monthly payments.
- If you need to make changes to your Childs sessions we need at least 4 weeks' notice. Changes can be applied immediately but you will still be charged the notice period.
- If your account falls into arrears, your child's space will be at risk. Late fee's may be applied to your account.

## **WE ACCEPT PAYMENT FROM THE FOLLOWING METHODS**

- Tax free childcare - You can get up to £500 every 3 months (up to £2,000 a year) for each of your children to help with the costs of childcare. For every £8 you pay into your online account, the government will pay in £2. More information and eligibility information can be found at [www.childcarechoices.gov.uk](http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk). If paying via tax free childcare please tell us your reference number so we can allocate payments to your account.
- Childcare voucher scheme - Although this scheme is closed to new applicants, if you joined a scheme before 2018 you can continue to pay via this method.
- Funding for children from 9 months - 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. The amount of free childcare you can get depends on:
  - your child's age and circumstance
  - whether you're working (employed, self-employed, or a director)
  - your income (and your partner's income, if you have one)
  - your immigration status
- BACS - our banking details are included on the monthly invoice, please use your Childs name as a reference

# Sessions, Fee's, and Funding Explained

## GOVERNMENT FUNDING

- From September 2024 some children from 9 months may be eligible for funding from the government. The Government funding is intended to deliver 15 or 30 hours a week of free, high quality, flexible childcare. It is not intended to cover the costs of meals, other consumables, additional hours or additional activities. (see below).
- All children from the term after their third birthday are eligible for up to 30 hour funding. Visit [childcarechoices.gov.uk](http://childcarechoices.gov.uk) for more information.

## ADDITIONAL COSTS

- Our inclusive care cost is for all the essentials like food and toiletries, along with those enriching extras the government funding isn't meant to cover. Like most nurseries, we'll ask you to contribute towards them if your child is over 2 years old, this is currently £2 per hour that your child attends. These include :
- Our freshly prepared healthy snacks in the afternoon, along with a meal for those little ones with us at breakfast, lunch and tea time.
- Cleaning and care materials, including nappies, wipes, toilet rolls, soap and paper towels.
- Our blossom parents app, where you receive a daily diary, photo updates during the day, observations and notices giving you a real time insight in to your little ones day.
- Our high quality care, and high staff to child ratios. This ensures we can have a more individual nursery experience with your little one and whole family which is so important to us.
- Extra curricular activities, such as local trips, crafts, cookery, experiences, celebrations and much more

There are some exceptions of having to pay the inclusive care cost,

- Supported family funding, We recognise the importance of supporting families who are eligible for this funding, Therefore there are not additional costs for attending if your family is in receipt of certain government support benefits.
- Our sessional fee's are already inclusive of the cost, so there if no additional cost.
- If your child is in receipt of government funding from 9 Months, but they are under 2 years old. This is because government offer a higher rate of funding for children under 2 years, therefore we will not add inclusive care costs to children under 2.

## SESSIONS

Rising Stars offer the following sessions-

- Half Day – Start at 8am and end at 1pm or Start at 1pm and end at 6pm.
- Long Day – Start at 8am and end at 6pm
- School Day-Starts at 8:30 and ends at 3:30 (available at Markyate setting only)

We offer an early bird start which starts at 7:30am and costs an additional £5 per day

If you have any further questions, please speak to the management team at the setting.

# Free Government Funding

Free childcare places and inclusive care costs at Rising Stars

You may have seen recently on the news that childcare settings must be more transparent on the way we offer our Childcare funding.

We charge no top up fees on your funded hours, so whether you claim 15 or 30 hours childcare they are totally free.

However, we do charge an inclusive care cost to children over 2 years old. We have always tried to be as transparent as possible to explain what the inclusive care cost covers within the setting; we will go into a bit more detail below.

What we charge for?

We have a full time cook within the setting plus a kitchen assistant each day. They work together with our head chef (who covers all settings) to bring balanced, nutritious meals each day. We cater for all allergies, intolerances and preferences ensuring inclusion for all children. We have ingredients delivered twice a week so your children have the freshest meals possible.

- Cleaning and care materials, including nappies, wipes, sun cream, nappy cream, Calpol, soap and paper towels.

- Flexible childcare options and high adult : children ratio.

- Our blossom parents' app, where you receive a daily diary, photo updates during the day, observations and notices giving you a real time insight into your child's day.

- Our high-quality care, and high staff to child ratios. This ensures we can have a more individual nursery experience with your little one and whole family which is so important to us.

- Extracurricular activities, such as local trips, crafts, cookery, experiences, celebrations and much more.

- Graduation Celebrations – when your child leaves us to start their journey at 'big school' we always like to send them on their way with a party. Last year as well as buying gifts, certificates, and a framed photo for each of the children we hired a Party Bus to come to the setting for the children to play on and have lots of fun.

- Halloween events – We had a Halloween party and stay and play event, we supply all the decorations, extra activities, crafts, and gifts for the children.

- Mother's Day – We invited carers into the setting for a Mother's Day breakfast or stay and play. We supply a choice of pastries, cakes, and drinks to the parents as well as decorations and additional resources so your children can make lovely gifts for you all.

- Valentines Day – We had a Valentine breakfast or play sessions. We supply all the food, decorations and additional crafts and activities for your children to celebrate this event.

- Christmas Party – We put on an amazing party for all the children at Christmas. We buy each child a present, cover the costs of a visit from Santa, Christmas decorations, party games, party food and lots of fun.

- Tiny Acorns – We hold sessions every 2 weeks with tiny acorns who come into the setting. All the children can join in our fun-filled imaginative classes. Your children will be learning without even realising it ... they whilst having lots of fun!

We want to ensure that the childcare we offer is accessible to all families, so we do not charge consumables cost to families who are in receipt of supported family funding.

## Admissions Policy

The numbers and ages of children admitted to the nursery comply with the legal space requirements set out in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). When considering admissions we are mindful of staff: child ratios and the facilities available at the nursery. The nursery use the following admission criteria, which is applied in the following order of priority: 1. Looked after children 2. A child known by the local authority to have special educational needs and/or a disability (SEND) and whose needs can be best met at the preferred nursery 3. A vulnerable child with either a Child Protection or a Child in Need Plan, or in receipt of other local authority support 4. Children who have siblings who are already with us 5. Children whose parents live within the area. A child requiring a full-time place may have preference over one requiring a part-time place. This is dependent upon work commitments, occupancy and room availability. We operate a waiting list and places are offered on an availability basis. We operate an inclusion and equality policy and ensure that all children have access to nursery places and services irrespective of their gender, race, disability, religion or belief or sexual orientation of parents. Prior to a child attending nursery, parents must complete and sign a contract and registration form. These forms provide the nursery with personal details relating to the child. For example, name, date of birth, address, emergency contact details, parental responsibilities, dietary requirements, collection arrangements, fees and sessions, contact details for parents, doctor's contact details, health visitor contact details, allergies, parental consent and vaccinations etc. Providers eligible to provide government funded places for early education All settings registered to accept government funding (detailed in the code of practice) must offer free places for two, three to five year olds for early learning sessions specified by the local authority. At Rising Stars we currently provide free funded places for children is subject to availability. These places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis and can be booked a term in advance. Please note for admissions for the free nursery education we have a termly intake, beginning the term following your child's second/third birthday. All funded sessions are now in line with the flexible arrangement as specified by the Government. When you register your child for their funded place we will discuss your needs and, as far as possible with availability and staffing arrangements, we will accommodate your wishes. We reserve the right to limit and/or have specific funded sessions, according to our business requirements.

## CONTACT US TODAY TO ARRANGE A SHOW AROUND



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