



# MANOR FARM NURSERY

## PRESCHOOL & HOLIDAY CLUB

UPDATED JANUARY 2026

## PRICING EXPLAINED

Manor Farm Nursery Ltd, trading as Manor Farm Nursery, Preschool and Holiday Club, provides Early Years Education for children under 5 years old, of nursery and preschool age and a Holiday Club for children in Reception to aged 11, and welcomes home schooled children of the same age in non term time.

Adherence to the 2025 Early Years statutory guidance is a requirement for settings who offer the enhanced (aka “30 hours funding” or “30 hours free childcare”) funding for working parents and we are committed to continue offering this funding.

This guidance seeks to share information on our offering and the implications of the statutory guidance, with the intention of being transparent; we welcome feedback.

*NB: for ease from here on, I will refer to parents and guardians as “parents” collectively meaning “the responsible adult(s) for a child at our setting”.*

### Sessions

At Manor Farm our opening hours have always been 07:30 – 18:00 (i.e. 10.5 hours), by popular demand of parents to enable commuting to work, starting work or other school drop offs of older siblings. The government funding can only be claimed in a maximum block of 10 hours, so we can charge parents for the 0.5 hour of that session, i.e. for 07:30 – 08:00, which is a fee of £3.00. This fee avoids traffic being condensed into a shorter drop off time period (which would cause logistical issues for staff and parents), appeals to those who need longer hours and also contributes to the overall running costs of the nursery (full day insurance, power, opening Management, Chef and our in-room staff working preparing for the day, during these hours). It is also subject to the overall 10% discount as part of the “Holiday Allowance Discount”. The fee for this half hour is of £3 and is subject to 10% holiday discount, so technically £2.70. A morning session of 07:30 – 13:00 or 08:00 – 13:00 is also within our options available.

With the new guidance we must inform parents that this fee is not mandatory, however we hope that parents do not opt-out of the 07:30 - 08:00 as it forms part of the overall fee structure of the setting and there are a number of implications for the nursery, which are detailed in the FAQs. If you choose to opt out and your child’s planned session is a 08:00 – 18:00, any early drop offs will be charged a penalty of £10.

Manor Farm is open year round 07:30 – 18:00, with the exception of closure on bank holidays and the week between Christmas and New Year. All nursery and preschool children are strongly encouraged to attend a minimum of two sessions per week, to support settling and allowing the key person to sufficiently support and track your child's learning and development, with the exception of pre-confirmed days off for Holidays, which may be booked off any time of the year. We do offer Term Time only spaces, but these are only spaces subject to the demand for all year round spaces.

### Consumables

Government funded hours do not cover for consumables, such as meals, snack, nappies and wipes. Parents may provide these but we do encourage the use of our own supplies and charge affordable fees. The statutory guidance requires us to be more transparent about what the total consumable fee is for, with a breakdown. Detailed on your invoice will be for example “4 x Meals & Snacks”, referencing the session, for example a “Morning”, and at the bottom of your invoice details what is provided and the full cost, before % discounts, and how this is annualised by the number of funded Term Time or non funded non Term Time weeks, then divided by 12 months, to give a monthly fee.

In summary, parents may opt out of consumables, either meals, or nappies & wipes, but it would be our preference to utilise our current arrangement which we believe gives a quality standard to your children.

Additional hours and consumables may be referred to in the press or parent chat as “top up fees”. We can assure you Manor Farm are not using a method of top up fees. But in light of the government hourly rates for your childrens’ funded hours being restrictive and the same across a county (i.e. Gloucester town centre hourly rate is the same as Lechlade, as it is paid by “Gloucestershire” local authority, yet Cotswold Business Rates and Gloucester Town Business Rates will vary), our small business does need to charge parents elsewhere to cover other fixed costs.

### Holidays

Monthly invoices will automatically deduct a set Holiday Allowance Deduction on fees due, in the form of **10% discount**, which has been annualised by the system and then applied monthly. Each month parents will receive a Holiday Request prompt to confirm if your child is off on Holiday or in all month during the upcoming month. This is so we can arrange staff rotas. You can also add Holidays in advance to the Family app at any time, which helps us future plan more accurately for staff annual leave. There is no limit on the amount of Holiday that may be taken but if a child takes less than the equivalent of 10% absence due to Holiday, during the academic year September to August, Manor Farm will invoice the bill payer for under-usage, i.e. greater attendance than anticipated. You can view your child’s Holiday days by going to Child Profile – More – Notes.

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### **Full Time, Sibling and Staff Discount**

When a child is booked in to 5 days a week, this triggers a full week discount. The full 5 day week Discount is £20. When not funding this is a saving of £800 per annum (52 – 7 (bank holiday weeks) – 5 holiday weeks = 40 weeks x 5 day weeks = 40 x £20 = £800). This will be deducted monthly as a £66.66 discount. When a child is funded this is a saving of £180 per annum (52 – 38 funded weeks – 5 holiday weeks = 9 weeks x 5 day weeks = 9 x £20 = £180). This will be deducted monthly as a £15 discount.

Manor Farm offers a 5% sibling discount if you enroll three or more children with us that are Nursery age, i.e. 4 years and younger (this discount does not apply to Holiday Club children), on all fees due. Staff receive a 50% discount on all fees due.

### **Preschool Reduced sessions**

Only in preschool, after your child has turned 3 years old do we allow the flexibility to “reduce” sessions, during non Term Time weeks. This is because Manor Farm offsets these reduced sessions by enabling Holiday Club children bookings and staff are then available to work in this non Term Time offering, or to take more annual leave for their own families. Parents may reduce their child’s sessions to as few as 2 x 0.5 days, on separate days. This enables continuity for the children for their learning. If the child doesn’t attend, that’s fine, it is just still chargeable and marked as an absence, as opposed to holiday. When non funded weeks are coming up in the forthcoming month we will send out a notification via Famly or email to confirm if you would like reduced sessions. Please note in a particular week you cannot use Holiday and reduced sessions.

We advise Parents of preschool children to be familiar with Term Time and non term time weeks, as per [Term dates | Gloucestershire County Council](#). If you know how many and which days you would reduce sessions to during non term Time weeks, we are also grateful of advance notice for our planning and can set up a set “plan” for your child for those weeks. The price difference between the usual number of sessions and the reduced number of sessions, is deducted from that monthly invoice.

At Manor Farm, a year round space enables a family to have their 10% holiday not charged for (5.2 weeks’ per annum), and the flexibility of reducing sessions during non term time in preschool, thus enabling a continuity of attendance which optimises supporting children’s settling and familiarity with staff, whilst enabling working or non working parents to have their time, knowing their child’s Early Years Education is being well established by an experienced team.

## **FAQS**

### **What is the new statutory guidance?**

The new statutory guidance can be found here: [EYFS statutory framework for group and school-based providers](#)

The statutory guidance is not very considerate to independent private day nurseries’ circumstances who are open all year round, unlike a state funded pre-school for example. Consequently, the guidance is being challenged by one of our advisory groups, the National Day Nurseries Association. We seek to ensure we follow the guidance appropriately despite there being a lack of clarity on some specifics, but my take on it is that the key objectives are about (1) transparency of charges (by latest January 2026), including full breakdown of fees being explained on our website, (2) encouraging working parents to access their funded hours and utilise tax free payment accounts and (3) ensuring all parents (whether seeking enhanced funding as working parent(s), or universal funding as a non-working parent(s) or as a high earner) have equal opportunity over spaces available at our setting.

### **What are the implications of parents opting out of the current 07:30-08:00 fee?**

Our “logistical” dilemmas at Manor Farm, if changing our flow of parents are:

- the passing traffic on the driveway will bottle neck more frequently between 07:30 and 08:00. The more parents dropping off closer to 07:30, the more likely a greater spread of traffic as opposed to a shorter window of time.
- the admin and discomfort behind charging fees for early arrival for that 08:00 (which is inevitable apparently, following our research). This charge for dropping off early will be £10, to discourage parents doing so, particularly as we would rota sufficient staff only from 08:00.

The pros of being on a farm do outweigh the traffic on the driveway at morning drop off but it has always remained a point made on parent surveys. Our preference would be that parents don’t opt out of these fees, and logistically thus create the most natural flow of dropping off, whether you’re that parent desperate to leave at 07:35 now facing more opposing traffic, or you’re that parent early for the 08:00 waiting in the car park to avoid an early fee. Our costs, as mentioned, really won’t change, but the feedback I fear is that parents will be more disgruntled by the stress of drop off times by creating a demand for a specific 08:00 drop off time, because the two-way traffic will be made significantly worse. In addition, Manor Farm Nursery Ltd (and we the Directors, Kirsty and Josh) do not own the driveway, but instead pay a maintenance fee to the owners of Manor Farm Estate, who repair it as their discretion. The driveway is unlikely to be widened nor trees cut back, and some pot holes can develop in very wet winter months. Manor Farm Nursery Ltd cannot consequently accept any liability for damages to cars or tyres as a direct consequence of trees or potholes or collisions on the driveway, but we do aim to optimise compliance and the drop off experience by being transparent about the fees vs the inconvenience to parent(s).

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### **How does my child benefit from the consumables charge and what are the implications?**

We employ a chef to prepare fresh, nutritious meals and snacks each day they are with us. The charge therefore includes the chef's wages, his time resourcing and collecting shopping, and the cost in storage (i.e. fridge/freezers) and the cost for wastage. As a private business we also have to pay for food disposal. So, it's not just about buying and preparing the food.

Some children are in nursery for long days, from breakfast to teatime so time for parents to prepare nutritious meals before children attend could be limited. If a lot of parents wanted to provide packed lunches we would struggle with storage space to keep food at the temperature required. We would also have less control over the food brought into the setting and the allergens they contain. We have a number of children with food allergies at the setting and we currently carefully monitor and cater for their dietary requirements. We also believe children develop a desire to explore new foods when with their peers, improving their palate. Sitting down for meal times, encouraging the use eventually of a knife and fork, together with learning manners and social interaction at the meal table, are essential life skills and part of our British Values (again an area encouraged by Ofsted, our regulatory body, in line with the EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage) Statutory Framework). New guidance was launched in April 2025, which we carefully follow and support: [Early Years Foundation Stage nutrition guidance](#). In addition, we know that it could end up being more expensive for you as parents to buy and provide your own nappies and wipes etc because we buy in bulk from commercial suppliers. Minimising the variety of nappies and wipes stored in each room, and records varying, will minimise the likelihood of human error when it comes to staff changing children.

### **What government funding is available?**

From September 2025 the final roll out of working parents' funding, to include up to 1140 hours (\*30 hours per week term time) per year, being claimable for working parents of children, from the Term after they turn 9 months. Also, eligible parents can utilise Tax Free Childcare payments thus enabling 20% of their fees payable to be covered by the government.

All parents of children aged 36 months (the Term after they turn 3 years old) still receive 15 hours (\*15 hour per week term time, so 570 hours) per year. This may include high earning parents. Some parents of 2 year olds may also be eligible for 2-year-old funding, if claiming some form of additional support (such as income support, job seekers' allowance or universal credit), again claimable the Term after your child turns 24 months/2 years old.

I strongly urge all parents to go to the government website [Best Start in Life - Best Start in Life](#) to check eligibility to find which options are available to you. On this Childcare Choices' website you can find out options for working parents and non-working parents, including Universal Credit childcare and Tax Credits for Childcare options. All parents will need to have applied and have their eligibility verified before Manor Farm can deduct this from invoices due for payment.

In addition, for high earning companies or employees we understand Employers may also use other voucher companies and/or direct payees to help you or your company with tax efficiency, such as Enjoy Benefits ([www.enjoybenefits.co.uk](http://www.enjoybenefits.co.uk)) or Gogeta ([Gogeta b2b](#)).

### **Working Parents' Funding**

A few pointers:

- apply as soon as you can within the appropriate window for your child. Deadline dates are:
  - o 31<sup>st</sup> August – to access the extended hours in the Autumn Term
  - o 31<sup>st</sup> December – to access the extended hours in the Summer Term
  - o 31<sup>st</sup> March – to access the extended hours in the Spring Term
- if you are eligible for working parents' funding, you are also eligible for TAX FREE CHILDCARE payment, and this is the government topping up your money by 20%, for every £0.80 you pay in, they top it up to £1. If your child's funding is not until the following Term (i.e. January, April or September), meaning your invoice is higher, don't forget that you can still use this Tax Free Childcare account and money in advance of the funding being claimable
- we claim your funding. All you have to do is to provide us in advance, or when we ask for it, with a code which confirms your eligibility.
- Reconfirm your eligibility with the government website every 3 months. We will receive reminders, but so will you
- If your job circumstances mean you fall out of eligibility, or your maternity pay means that at the point of application your earnings are too low, then you may find yourself liable to our full fees. It is the parents' responsibility to check and challenge eligibility with the government.

### **How do Manor Farm prefer to be paid?**

We appreciate payment in advance of the month can sometimes be a push. The app can accept direct debit payments, but we do politely ask if you could pay by BACS if not paying by Tax Free Childcare, vouchers or other above mentioned companies affiliated with your employer. We no longer accept credit or debit card payments due to the high transaction fees. Late payments, after 16<sup>th</sup> month the month before, or late bookings will incur a 5% late or admin fee. Further 5% fees may be applied for prolonged late fees. In the event that a parent is not able to pay yet, or perhaps the fees in advance of funding kicking in are not affordable, we will happily agree a payment plan. Please do not hesitate to ask Kirsty, and certainly do not forfeit taking up a space or leaving without this being considered.

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## **How are the monthly fees calculated?**

### Funding

Manor Farm will claim funded hours for all eligible children, subject to the relevant evidence required.

- ▶ Currently and ongoing all **3 & 4 year olds are entitled to 15 universal funded hours** for 38 weeks (or 570 hours) per year. This is claimable the Term after the child's 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday, irrelevant of parent's working status.
- ▶ Currently, Manor Farm accept and claim the **extended 15 hours** for 38 weeks per year, for eligible working parents who meet the government criteria. Thus meaning a working parent of a 3 or 4 year old will be entitled to up to **30 hours per week, 38 weeks a year (= 1140 hours per year)**. Some of these hours will roll over in to a child entering Reception, the September after they turn 4 years old.
- ▶ Currently Manor Farm accept and claim up to 30 hours also for working parents, of children **over the age of 9 months**. This is **ONLY claimable** from the **Term** after the child turns 9 months.
- ▶ A space is agreed on the basis of how many days your child needs and the month you need a start date, irrelevant of when funding is claimable. i.e. if your child turns 9 months in April, and becomes eligible from September, however you require a 3 day a week space in April, you will be charged say £927.23 per month April to August and then £354.38 per month from September (0-24 month old, 3 days a week). We are unable to guarantee a 3 day space if you ask for 2 days a week and then ask to increase when funding is applicable. In fact it is unlikely to be available, due to demand. Spaces or a day cannot be "held" far in advance. To secure your full requirement, we recommend taking this in to consideration. A payment plan can be agreed to spread costs, if preferable.

Funding is applied to morning sessions, in blocks of 5 hours, and where relevant 10 hours (for example 30 hours in blocks of 10 x 3 across 3 days). Additional hours, such 07:30-08:00, the afternoons where applicable and those complete non-funded weeks are charged at the nursery or preschool rates. Fees are inclusive of consumables (meals, nappies and wipes) in the non-funded sessions, whereas consumables are charged separately during funded sessions. Parents are allowed to **OPT OUT** of 07:30 – 08:00, thus claiming the 10 hours a day and no additional daily childcare fees during Term Time for non-funded hours, and/or parents are allowed to **OPT OUT** of consumables (meals, or nappies & wipes).

Manor Farm is open year round 07:30 – 18:00, with the exception of closure on bank holidays and the week between Christmas and New Year. We do offer Term Time only spaces, but these are only spaces subject to the demand for all year round spaces.

If as a parent you wish to opt out of the 07:30–08:00 or the consumables, please contact one of the Management team to have a face to face meeting and complete relevant forms to agree policies around drop off times and our food policies, to protect other children with allergies or preferences.

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### MONTHLY PRICING

- These below monthly fees include ALL consumables, additional hours, and non-funded sessions during non term time, and your child's 10% Holiday Allowance discount.
- "days" here are based on a full day 07:30-18:00. Please enquire about monthly fees for set 08:00 start sessions.
- "AM" = 07:30-13:00 and "PM" = 13:00-18:00
- Nappies and wipes have been charged £1.25 per day, based on average use of 4-6 nappies per day, or £0.85 for a half day.
- Highlighted in yellow is the optimum value for utilising the full 30 hours funding (3 x 10 hour blocks, 38 weeks per annum), meaning the remaining 52 weeks – 5.2 weeks' Holiday cost to you for 140.4 days per year = £30.02 - £30.50 per day, after TFC support = £24.40, that is for working parents within the eligibility threshold.
- The increase for 36m+ is due to higher food fee.

Monthly Fees	0 to 24 months		24 to 36 months		36 months +		36 months +	
	incl ALL consumables (food*, nappies & wipes)		incl ALL consumables (food*, nappies and wipes)		incl ALL consumables (food*, nappies and wipes)		incl food* (when fully potty trained, no nappies and wipes)	
	Before/not eligible for Funding	After Funding (30 hours for working parents**)	Before/not eligible for Funding	After Funding (30 hours for working parents**)	After Funding (15 hours universal)	After Funding (30 hours for working parents**)	After Funding (15 hours universal)	After Funding (30 hours for working parents**)
5 days a week	£1,478.73	£957.54	£1,459.19	£946.55	£1,359.40	£974.64	£1,335.01	£950.25
4 days a week	£1,236.32	£663.47	£1,220.68	£656.38	£1,065.32	£680.57	£1,045.81	£661.05
3 days a week	£927.23	£354.38	£915.51	£351.21	£756.24	£371.48	£741.61	£356.85
2 days a week	£618.16	£236.26	£610.34	£234.14	£375.91	£247.65	£366.16	£237.90
1.5 days a week***	£526.88		£519.08		£209.49		£201.30	
3x AM a week	£653.39		£641.73		£256.98		£247.05	
3x PM a week	£594.91		£583.25		£198.50		£188.57	

\*Food – a FULL DAY (07:30-18:00) or LONG DAY (08:00-18:00) includes breakfast, morning snack, chef cooked lunch, afternoon snack and a chef prepared light tea. And a morning includes breakfast, morning snack, and a chef cooked lunch, whereas an afternoon includes afternoon snack and a chef prepared light tea. For example: FULL DAY = £8, AM = £5, PM = £3. All then 10% discounted equivalent due to the annualised Holiday Allowance discount.

\*\*working parents eligibility can be checked on [Best Start in Life - Best Start in Life](#)

\*\*\*1.5 days a week is based on a full day and a morning, please enquire for a full day and an afternoon price, if preferred.

### What is the full breakdown of session fees, prior to 10% Holiday Allowance Discount?

Session Fees	Referred to as:	0 to 24 months	24 to 36 months	36 months +	Holiday Club (incl ALL activities*)	
07:30 - 18:00	Full Day	£70.00	£69.00	£68.00	£45.00	*HC is 08:30 - 17:00
08:00 - 18:00	Late Day	£67.00	£66.00	£65.00	£42.00	
07:30 - 08:00	0.5 hour	£3.00	£3.00	£3.00		
07:30 - 13:00	Morning	£50.00	£49.00	£45.00		*HC is 08:30 - 15:00
08:00 - 13:00	Late Morning	£47.00	£46.00	£45.00		
13:00 - 18:00	Afternoon	£47.00	£46.00	£45.00		
09:00 - 14:00	Term Time Short Day		£46.00	£45.00	£39.00	

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Please note Term Time only short day (09:00 – 14:00) spaces are limited and subject to availability. Our ethos at Manor Farm is about nurturing a home from home for children aged 0-4 years. We believe that long breaks in holidays can lead to unsettling due to their age and separation understanding and therefore starting each Term can be made more challenging for your child, unlike when they are of school age. However, we recognise that some families truly in need of a funded only space by accessing the government funding, may prefer Term Time only to enable their child(ren) to benefit developmentally.

Holiday Club session prices above include ALL external activities and transport provided (such as offsite swimming, offsite Forest School, Zoolab, Diatom Dave, pony grooming and riding, inflatable activity day, falconry, circus act etc., but may be subject to change or weather dependent, without a refund). Please refer to the flyers and communications nearer the time.

**What is the full breakdown of consumable and additional hours fees, prior to 10% Holiday Allowance Discount?**

Consumables	Including:	0 to 24 months	24 to 36 months	36 months +	Holiday Club
07:30 - 18:00 or 08:00 - 18:00 Food	Breakfast, morning snack, chef cooked lunch, afternoon snack, chef prepared light tea	£8.00	£8.00	£10.00	£10.00
07:30 - 13:00 or 08:00 - 13:00 Food	Breakfast, morning snack, chef cooked lunch	£5.00	£5.00	£6.00	£8.00
13:00 - 18:00 Food	Afternoon snack, chef prepared light tea	£3.00	£3.00	£4.00	
09:00 - 14:00 Food	Morning snack, chef cooked lunch, afternoon snack	£4.00	£4.00	£5.50	£7.00
07:30 - 18:00 or 08:00 - 18:00 Nappies & Wipes	Average 4 - 6 nappies per day	£1.25	£1.25	£1.25 or £0	
07:30 - 13:00, 08:00 - 13:00, 13:00 - 18:00, 09:00 - 14:00 Nappies and Wipes	Average 2 - 3 nappies per session	£0.85	£0.85	£0.85 or £0	

\*HC is 08:30 - 17:00

\*HC is 08:30 - 15:00

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