

Bratton Primary School

Learn - Have Fun - Thrive

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I wanted to explain the reasons for the price increase at our school run Wraparound Care provision. For many years, Bratton Primary School has been highly focused on supporting families through these financially difficult years and we continue to be acutely aware of the cost of living crisis. The previous pricing remaining unchanged for many years was unsustainable and had lagged behind the increasing costs. As a school, we cannot subsidise childcare costs but can make our best efforts to keep costs low.

By using FUNdays Club to administrate bookings and communications, we have managed to make savings but these do not cover the increase to: minimum wage, heating bills, food costs and general inflation to run the service.

Data taken from the Wiltshire Childcare Sufficiency Report (Spring 2023) has shown that 13.4% of Wiltshire childcare providers closed last year due to the difficulties facing the sector. The remaining majority closing earlier or only opening part days. The surviving providers have also had to increase prices considerably to maintain viability. This demonstrates some of the challenges we are facing running a childcare service for our families.

To demonstrate our commitment to keeping prices low, we have provided an overview of comparable pricing as we are proud of our offering.

Mean Hourly Rates			
National	National	FUNdays Club	Bratton School
Dec 2022	Dec 2023 (Anticipated)	Sept 2023	Sept 2023
£5.60	£6.19 tbc	£5.19	£2.98
Snacks included	Snacks included	Snacks included	Snacks included
No national data for additional food or meal cost	No national data for additional food or meal cost	Optional £1.10 for breakfast No evening meal	Optional 50p breakfast Optional £2.41 evening meal

The evening meal cost has been brought in line with the school lunch cost. We believe it is good value for money whilst keeping in line with school food standards to ensure a balanced healthy diet. School could not afford to continue this food subsidy.



The cost of breakfast and the evening meal has now been separated. This means families have a choice over the cost rather than being forced to pay the cost when sometimes not using the food option. Families can provide a packed evening meal instead or provide food when at home. This enables school to continue to provide a low-cost option for the core childcare element of the service.

We are proud of our offering and continue to be committed to making our Wraparound Childcare service as sustainable and affordable as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Emma Williams Headteacher