

Cavendish Lodge Nursery School Terms and Conditions

September 2023

To register your child for a place:

A signed and fully completed **application form**, specifying your choice of sessions, must be returned to Cavendish Lodge Nursery School (CLNS), together with a non-refundable registration fee of £200.00. If registering a sibling, the non-refundable fee is £50.00.

A minimum of 2 days attendance per week is required if you are applying under our “Fees Contract”. As part of your child’s booking pattern one of the days attending must include a Monday and/or Friday subject to availability.

A minimum of 3 days attendance per week is required if you are claiming the 30 hours free entitlement under our “Funded Hours Contract” (for more information on our Fees Contract and our Funded Hours Contract, please refer to our **30 Hours Fact Sheet**). As part of your child’s booking pattern one of the days attending must include a Monday and/or Friday subject to availability.

When possible, the nursery will accommodate children with special needs, provided there are staff members trained and available to support them.

Nursery Admission

When we have received the completed application form and £200.00 fee, your child’s details will be added to our waiting list.

The Waiting List

Your child will be placed on the waiting list, indicating the month that you wish your child to start. You will be offered the first available and suitable space closest to the date you require. CLNS gives priority to siblings (provided an application has been made) and to those wanting a permanent, full-time space for their child. Please note that:

1. A place on the waiting list is not a guarantee of a space
2. We make offers 8 weeks prior to your required start date
3. Any offer made is subject to availability and may not be the days that you initially requested.

Places in the toddler and pre-school rooms are reserved for children currently in the preceding rooms and moving up. In view of this, at times, we may add further age criteria to determine placement offer for these rooms.

The Offer

Once a space has been offered, parents must confirm acceptance or otherwise within 3 working days of the offer date. We are unable to confirm or reserve nursery spaces more than 8 weeks prior to the start date unless the offer is for an immediate start.

We will offer a place to your child at whichever of our nursery sites has a suitable place available. This is where they will normally attend.

Once we offer a start date that you agree to, you will be sent a **Parental Enrolment Agreement Form** along with dates for settling-in your child at nursery. Bring your completed form, along with the relevant documents (your child's birth certificate, the red health book and photographs of all adults listed on the collection consent form) to your child's settling-in sessions.

An invoice for the deposit (one month's fees in advance) will also be sent. This amount will be returned in full when your child leaves the nursery, providing 8 weeks' notice has been given in writing and no fees are outstanding. If your child does not attend once you have accepted the place, the deposit is not refundable.

CLNS allocates places on a full day (8am – 6pm Streatham) (7.30am – 6pm Reigate) basis only. We do not offer any permanent half day sessions unless otherwise specified by nursery management. Subject to availability, we may be able to offer half days on either Mondays or Fridays to our existing customers on an ad-hoc basis only. This is to help continuity and consistency throughout the week for both children and staff.

Settling in Sessions

We offer parents 3 x 1.5 hour sessions, free of charge, beforehand to help settle children into nursery. These tasters work best if used at different times of the day, such as morning snack one day, playtime another. We require parents to remain on-site at all times during the settling-in sessions, perhaps to sit with a coffee in our staff room in case your child becomes distressed. Folders containing full versions of all CLNS policies are available in the nursery offices. We recommend that these are read during settling-in sessions.

Opening Times

The opening hours of Cavendish Lodge Nursery School are (8am – 6pm Streatham) (7.30am – 6pm Reigate), Monday to Friday, 51 weeks of the year, closing only at Christmas and for Bank Holidays. At Christmas time we do not open on Christmas Eve, on the statutory bank holidays and for five additional days. These days are charged in the normal way. You will be notified of the Christmas closure dates in advance.

Updating Information on your Child

Parents are requested to inform the nursery of any medically diagnosed or religious food exclusions, medicines or any other circumstances that are of importance during your child's day with us. Parents must provide details in writing and must continue to inform the nursery of any changes or progress in any condition. Parents must inform the nursery of any changes to information kept in nursery relevant to their child.

Fees and Invoices

Fee invoices are issued at least 7 working days prior to the last working day of each month. Any additional sessions booked at nursery must be requested by email and will be charged at the full or half daily rate as appropriate. Extra sessions or additional charges are usually invoiced in arrears.

Payment is due as cleared funds by the last working day of the month.

Payment can be made by bank transfer, childcare vouchers or through Tax-Free Childcare (please refer to the Childcare Choices website for more information and to find out what you might be eligible for: www.childcarechoices.gov.uk). Direct bank payments can be made to the following accounts;

Streatham: sort code; 20-24-64 Account number 23178560.

Reigate: sort code; 20-70-15 Account number 23838943

It is the parental responsibility to ensure that voucher payments are made to the nursery. If these are not received by the 5th working day of the month, a late payment charge of £45.00 may be applied. The nursery may charge a £45.00 late payment fee if fees are not received as cleared funds by the last working day of the month; this will be added to the following month's invoice.

If full fees are not received by the 5th working day of the invoiced month, CLNS management reserves the right to refuse admission until all fees are paid. Failure to meet payments will result in the termination of the nursery place. In such circumstances, the parents will not be entitled to a refund of any fees. Parents are responsible for any unpaid fees and for fees due during the notice period. We reserve the right to offer your child's place to an applicant from our waiting list once two weeks have passed since non-payment of your invoice.

If payments are cancelled or returned by the bank, a fee of £35 will be charged to cover costs incurred by us. This fee will be reviewed as and when banks adjust their fees structure.

An administrative charge of £35 per month will be made to parents who fail to stop childcare vouchers being paid to CLNS after their child has ceased attending the nursery. It is the parental responsibility to cancel vouchers.

A 10% sibling discount is applied to the older child's fees, after any funding allowance has been made, where two children are registered at the nursery. 15% discount is given off the eldest child's fees where 3 siblings or more are attending. Any sibling discount will cease when any of the siblings leaves the nursery.

CLNS regrets that no refunds will be given for sessions missed due to holidays or sickness. There will be a continuing charge when the nursery is closed over Christmas and for public bank holidays. We cannot make a reduction for any extra bank holidays that may be added at short notice, caused for example by a state funeral. Similarly, if the nursery is forced to close for the day or send children home early due to a problem at the nursery, such as loss of heating, water, power, adverse weather, act of terrorism or natural disaster. Other than if we are in breach of these **Terms and Conditions**, all sessions booked must be paid for, regardless of whether the child attends.

Deposits and any credits will be returned to you within 28 days of your child's last day by bank transfer. We reserve the right to charge interest at 3% above the bank's base lending rate on outstanding fees. The parent remains responsible for all outstanding fees. A minimum of one month's notice will be given before any fee increase is implemented. Fees are reviewed annually.

Free Early Years Provision for 3 and 4 Year Olds

From September 2017, some 3 and 4 year olds may be eligible to receive an extra 15 hours free childcare, doubling the existing 15 hours entitlement currently available for parents. This could take your free childcare entitlement from 570 hours per year up to 1,140 hours per year.

The existing offer of 15 hours a week free childcare for 38 weeks of the year (during school term-times) for all 3- and 4-year-old children will continue under the universal offer but if you meet the criteria set out in our **30 Hours Fact Sheet**, you may be eligible for the further 15 hours.

Cavendish Lodge Nurseries and Pre-Schools will be offering the additional 15 hours. We will be taking part in the scheme subject to our **admissions policy** and availability of places. We expect demand to be quite high so please enquire as early as you can and check to see if you will be eligible. Priority will be given to existing parents and those on the current waiting list.

A minimum 3-day booking will apply to all funded spaces from September 2017 and will be offered subject to availability.

We will be spreading the 1,140 free hours over 51 weeks (instead of 38), to help spread the savings throughout the year. This means that, as your child attends nursery during half terms and holidays, you'll benefit from free childcare every week – not just during term-time. Additional sessions/hours outside of the funding period will be chargeable at the current CLNS published rates. Please ask for a copy of our **Money Matters** sheet.

The Government funding only goes towards paying for “free education” and does not cover the cost of add-on items such as meals, snacks, drinks and fruit. Parents agree to make a **voluntary** daily payment to cover breakfast, mid-morning snack, lunch, mid afternoon snack and afternoon tea.

Parents also agree to make **voluntary** payments for additional charges that may arise for items such as higher than required staff ratios and extra-curricular activities which are included in the normal fee rate (outings, visits, trips, visiting experts etc.).

Cavendish Lodge has a uniform policy when graduating from our baby rooms and uniform will be chargeable at our published rates. Parents will be advised in advance of any potential charges. Additional charges (**voluntary** payments) will be invoiced in arrears.

A deposit equivalent to a month's fees for the duration of days attended each week will be required at the time of booking. This deposit will be held and returned when the nursery placement ends. Any outstanding fees or charges may be deducted from the balance of the deposit held. Our standard notice period of 8 weeks is required to terminate a nursery space regardless of being a fee paid placement or under the 30 hours free entitlement.

Should the child at any time become ineligible for the free entitlement or if the 30 hours funding is being transferred from another setting and for any reason is not paid by the local authority, the parent agrees to pay for the reserved sessions at the current CLNS published rates. Please refer to our **Terms and Conditions** for full details regarding fees and payments.

Nursery spaces are offered in two ways:

Fees Contract: Our standard fee-paying contract for children aged 6 months to 3 years who will be automatically eligible the term following their 3rd birthday to claim the statutory 15 hours entitlement to reduce the total number of hours they are charged for per week. All additional services and benefits (food, wipes, school trips etc.) are included within this. **By signing this option, parents accept our Terms and Conditions.**

Funded Hours Contract: For those who qualify for the additional 15 hours entitlement, the term following their 3rd birthday, bringing their total hours' entitlement to 30 hours per week. **By signing this option, parents accept our Terms and Conditions and agree to make a voluntary payment towards additional services and benefits and any other charges that may arise.**

Termination, Cancellation or Change of Sessions

We require 8 weeks' notice in writing when you want to terminate your child's place. Parents remain liable for fees throughout the notice period. If a parent withdraws their child during this notice period, the fees shall still remain payable.

We reserve the right to terminate a nursery place with immediate effect if any fees are not paid by the due date, or if a parent, carer or child displays abusive, threatening or otherwise inappropriate behaviour. In all other circumstances, we will give you 1 months' notice in writing, should we wish to terminate a nursery place for any reason. If, for any reason, you postpone your child's agreed start date at the nursery, we reserve the right to charge from the original scheduled start date that you accepted.

If a parent wishes to reduce the number of sessions or change the days their child attends nursery, 8 weeks' notice in writing must be given. If a parent wishes to increase the number of days that their child attends the nursery, we will do our best to accommodate this depending upon availability. The change of sessions must be on a permanent basis. In this instance, we consider a permanent basis to be a period of no less than 6 months. 8 weeks' notice must be given should you wish to revert to your original session, assuming that it is still available.

Liability

We accept no responsibility for any loss suffered by parents, arising directly or indirectly, as a result of the nursery being temporarily closed or the non-admittance of your child to the nursery for any reason; this applies to absence due to sickness, holidays and Bank Holidays.

We accept no responsibility for children in their parent's care on our premises i.e., before arrival/after pick-up. We will not be liable to parents and/or children for any economic loss of any kind, for damage to the child's or parent's property, for any loss resulting from a claim made by any third party or for any special, indirect or consequential loss or damage of any kind. Buggies, scooters, bikes and other personal items stored in the buggy park are left at parent's discretion and are not covered on the nursery insurance. We will make reasonable endeavours to keep parent's and/or children's property in good order. Liability for damage to such property is excluded, except where caused by our negligence.

Medical Information

It is the policy at CLNS that any child needing Calpol, or any similar medication not prescribed by a doctor, or not thought well enough to cope with the nursery day, is not a well child and should therefore not be attending the nursery until they have made a full recovery.

The normal temperature for a child is between 36-37°C. Any child who does not appear to be 100% fit will have their temperature monitored every 15 minutes; this is then logged onto a child health form by a staff member. Management and staff will not administer any medicines that are not prescribed by a doctor, other than Calpol, Nurofen, or non-branded versions of the same.

In accordance with our medicine and sickness policy, if your child's temperature reaches 38°C or over, and permission is on file, Calpol or an equivalent may be administered. In these circumstances you or your emergency contact person must collect your child within an hour of us making contact. If your child's temperature reaches 40°C+, then we may call the emergency services based on other accompanying symptoms. In the event of this happening, a senior member of staff or your child's key worker will stay with your child at all times until you arrive. We will always try to contact you first. CLNS takes these necessary precautions as a high temperature usually indicates an infection or start of an illness.

If your child has a health condition and Health Management plan this will supersede the Cavendish Medicine and Sickness Policy.

Should a child require prescribed medication of any kind, it will only be administered with prior written consent from the parents/carers. Children who are taking prescribed medication may not be allowed to attend unless they have been taking the medicine for a few days. For example, for a course of antibiotics they must stay at home for 48 hours from when the dose is administered. Please see our Medicine and Sickness Policy for full details of exclusion periods.

We reserve the right to administer basic first aid and treatment when necessary, for example for mild stings and cuts. Parents must specifically notify us in writing of any objection to this.

Do not leave prescribed medicine, including prescribed asthma pumps, in your child's bag. All medication must be given directly to a member of management and all details to be logged on the Family app. All prescribed medication must be in the original packaging with the prescription label attached.

Children should not attend the nursery if they are suffering from or have had, in the past 48 hours, vomiting or diarrhoea. For more extensive guidance on illness, please refer to our Medicine and Sickness Policy.

We may require parents to withdraw or remove their child from nursery if the parent is not completely honest about the child's condition or withholds or is found to have withheld important information.

Uniform

Children aged 2 and over entering toddlers are expected to wear Cavendish Lodge polo shirts, sweat top and jogging bottoms or blue gingham dresses or shorts during the summer when attending nursery. CLNS backpacks must also be used DAILY to carry children's spare clothes, artwork etc. between home and nursery. Uniform can be purchased online via the CLNS website. All items of clothing need to be clearly labelled and should be easily manageable by children. CLNS is not liable for the loss of clothing.

Insurance

CLNS is fully insured at all times. Details of our insurance cover are available on request from the Nursery Manager on duty.

Security

CCTV is in operation 24 hours a day at the nursery and covers all of our boundaries.

A list of responsible adults authorised to collect your child must be given on your child's **Parental Enrolment Agreement Form**, prior to their start date, together with a photograph of each named responsible adult. It is your responsibility to keep us updated with any changes. CLNS operates a 'password' system. If the person collecting the child is not recognised by a member of management and does not know the child's password, the child will remain at nursery until the parents can be contacted. If a parent has made alternative arrangements by telephone, the nursery will require the name, address and telephone number of the person permitted to collect the child and proof of identity will be required upon arrival at nursery. The person collecting will need to know the password.

Parking

Parents are asked to drive and park courteously. You must not double park or block residents' driveways under any circumstances. If you do so, you will be given a written warning. After one written warning, we reserve the right to withdraw your child's nursery place. We have planning conditions which have been put in place by our local authority which could result in temporary closure of the nursery should parking be raised as an issue by local residents. We encourage our parents not to drive to nursery unless it is absolutely necessary and to use other methods of transport where possible. We provide secure bike parking for parents that wish to cycle and a buggy/children's scooter park for those wishing to walk.

Late Collection

In the event of a child not being collected by 6pm, the child will be kept at the nursery and phone calls made to the child's parents, carers, relatives or friends listed on the **Parental Enrolment Agreement Form**. If we are unable to contact any of the above persons by 7pm, Local Social Services will be contacted, and their advice will be followed. After 6pm we reserve the right to make late collection charges, as follows:

First 15 minutes (or part thereof): £25.00; up to 30 minutes (or part thereof) £35.00; Up to 45 minutes (or part thereof): £45.00; up to 1 hour (or part thereof): £60.00.

These charges are at the discretion of the Nursery Manager on duty and will be added to the next fee invoice. Charges are applied to allow us to meet safeguarding requirements that at least 2 staff members stay on site until all children have been collected and these staff members would need to be paid for this time.

Parent and Staff Relations

Parents agree that they shall not at any time, whether throughout the continuance of this agreement or for a period of twelve months after its termination, directly or indirectly (via agencies) employ or entice away an employee with whom they have had contact or dealings with at the nursery. In the event that a parent does directly or indirectly employ a member of staff, 25% of the employee's salary will be sought. Our staff are not permitted to babysit for families with children at the nursery.

Complaints Procedure

Parents are encouraged to communicate with the appropriate room leader on a day-to-day basis so that any concerns or issues can be resolved immediately. Most problems can be solved informally. When issues cannot be resolved in this way, the complaints policy will be followed. In the first instance, your complaint should be referred to the Nursery Manager on duty in writing. This will be acknowledged immediately and the matter looked into. If you are not satisfied with the outcome of your complaint, the matter will be referred to the Managing Directors. In the unlikely event that it still remains unresolved, parents have the right to contact the Office for Standards in Education (Ofsted) on 0300 123 1231.

The Agreement of these Terms and Conditions

These **Terms and Conditions** represent the entire agreement and understanding between the parents and the Nursery. Any other understandings, agreements, warranties, conditions, terms or representations, whether verbal or written, expressed or implied are excluded to the fullest extent, permitted by law.

We reserve the right to update and/or amend these **Terms and Conditions** at any time. One months' notice will be given of any changes made. The nursery is operated by the Company detailed on the **Application Form** issued at the time of booking the nursery place.

I have been made aware of the policies and procedures in place at Cavendish Lodge Nursery School and I have been made aware that copies are available from either reception if required.

I have read and accepted these **Terms and Conditions** (please tick the relevant box on your Application Form).