

Parent Statement for Partner Services

1. Welcome to our Partner Service

Little Star Preschool, Tullow Church Hall, Brighton Road, Foxrock, Dublin 18, is a Partner Service, working together with the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, and parents to deliver high quality, affordable, inclusive Early Learning and Care (ELC) and/or School Age Childcare (SAC) services for children. As part of that partnership, this statement outlines some of the important things you can expect from us, a Partner Service.

1.1 About Us

Here are some of the basic things to know about us:

A typical week for us is 9.00am to 12.30pm Monday to Friday for 38 weeks per year.

At Little Star Preschool we offer the following services to children and their families:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sessional pre-school under the ECCE (Free Pre-school)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Full day Care/part time care for Early Learning & Care (ELC)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Term Time School Age Childcare
<input type="checkbox"/>	Out of term School Age Childcare

[Choose all that apply]

2. Early Childhood Care and Education Programme (ECCE), Access and Inclusion Model (AIM) and National Childcare Scheme (NCS).

This Partner Service is in contract to deliver the:

<input type="checkbox"/>	National Childcare Scheme (NCS)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) programme
<input type="checkbox"/>	Community Childcare Subvention Scheme Plus (CCSP)

Early Childhood Care and Education Programme (ECCE):

ECCE provides for 15 hours per week of preschool provision over 38 weeks per year before children start primary school at no charge to parents.

Lynda Priestley will support you in registering your child for the ECCE programme in our service if your child meets the eligibility criteria. Further information about ECCE is available here -

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/2459ee-early-childhood-care-and-education-programme-ecce/>

Access and Inclusion Model (AIM):

The goal of AIM is to create a more inclusive environment in pre-schools, so all children, regardless of ability, can benefit from quality early learning and care. The model achieves this by providing universal supports to pre-school settings, and targeted supports, which focus on the needs of the individual child, without requiring a diagnosis of disability.

Further information about AIM is available here - <https://aim.gov.ie/>

Optional:

This service also has an Inclusion Coordinator, [Insert name] who has a special qualification focused on supporting the inclusion of all children in the service.

National Childcare Scheme (NCS)

NCS provides subsidies to parents to offset the costs of ELC and SAC. There are three types of NCS subsidies which are all available for children up to the age of 15.

This service welcomes children who are entitled to any category of NCS subsidy. Further information about the NCS is available here - <https://www.ncs.gov.ie/en/> or contact the NCS Parent Support Centre on 01 906 8530 (Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm).

[Insert name] will support you in applying for support under the NCS for your family.

3. Fees Policies

As a Partner Service, we operate a Fees Policy that is transparent and understandable to all of our parents, the objective of which is to prevent any and all misunderstandings where possible. Please do not hesitate to contact **Lynda Priestley** who will provide additional clarification as required.

3.1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	a) Facilities that were in existence in September 2021 As a Partner Service, we are committed to operating the 'fee freeze' for Programme Year 2022/2023. This means that we will not charge our parents more for the same service than what we were charging in September 2021.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	b) Facilities that have been established since September 2021 As a Partner Service, we are committed to operating the 'fee freeze' for Programme Year 2022/2023. This means that we will not increase our fees during this year.

3.2 Donations - We will not request or accept any donations, voluntary or otherwise from parents/guardians, in respect of the ELC/SAC services being provided.

3.3 Deposits - We will not charge any non-refundable deposits to parents/guardians in the respect of their ELC/SAC service where the parent/guardian takes up the service for which the deposit was paid.

3.4 In order that you can understand what this fee freeze means for you, we have outlined our fees and associated fees policy below.

This Fees Policy will be published widely.

a) The fee policy we are going to implement for year 2022/2023 is the same as the fee policy that we had in place on September 30th 2021.

3.5.1 Our Fees Policy applicable on September 30th 2021 was as follows:

ECCE Contract Only Fee Policy

Here at **Little Star Preschool** we offer the ECCE programme to all eligible children. ECCE is free to all eligible children.

Additional information about the ECCE Programme Rules are available here - <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/2459ee-early-childhood-care-and-education-programme-ecce/>

SECTION A: ECCE ONLY SERVICES OFFERED

Session Type Name	Session Type	Number of Hours per day	Number of days per week	Number of hours per week	Session Start time	Session Finish Time	ECCE – 3 Free Hours (€)	Full Fee – Non-ECCE Eligible Children (€)
ECCE Preschool Sessional	AM	3.50	5.00	17.50	9.00	12.30	Free	€110.25
				0.00				
				0.00				
				0.00				
				0.00				
				0.00				

FEE POLICY TABLE FOR ALL SERVICES EXCLUDING ECCE ONLY

Session Type Name	Age Range	ECCE Available for ECCE eligible children?	Meals Included?	Additional Info	Number of Hrs per day	Number of days per week	Number of Hrs per week	Session Start time	Session Finish Time	Fee (less ECCE 3 Free Hrs) (€)	Fee less NCS Universal Subsidy (€)	Full Fee (€)
	0-1 Yr <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 2-3 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 3-6 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 4-15 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/>	Choose...	Choose...				0.00					
	0-1 Yr <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 2-3 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 3-6 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 4-15 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/>	Choose...	Choose...				0.00					
	0-1 Yr <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 2-3 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 3-6 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 4-15 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/>	Choose...	Choose...				0.00					
	0-1 Yr <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 2-3 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 3-6 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 4-15 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/>	Choose...	Choose...				0.00					
	0-1 Yr <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 2-3 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 3-6 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 4-15 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/>	Choose...	Choose...				0.00					
	0-1 Yr <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 2-3 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 3-6 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 4-15 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/>	Choose...	Choose...				0.00					
	0-1 Yr <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 2-3 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 3-6 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 4-15 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/>	Choose...	Choose...				0.00					
	0-1 Yr <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 2-3 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 3-6 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 4-15 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/>	Choose...	Choose...				0.00					

SECTION B - FEES EXTRAS: DEPOSIT / DISCOUNT / OPTIONAL EXTRAS* / ADDITIONAL SERVICES*

Type	Description	Additional Details/Conditions
Deposits	Deposit of €255 required to secure a place.	Deposit to be refunded within one month of start date, once the child has been accepted on the ECCE Scheme.
Discount	We do not offer discounts.	
Optional Extras	Extra half hour 12 - 12.30pm 5 days €120 per calendar month.	
Choose an item.		
Choose an item.		
Choose an item.		

Section C - Other Additional Information

Fees must be pre-paid on a monthly basis.

In the event that payments are late, parents/guardians will be given up to one month to make up the payment, unless suitable payment arrangements have been made and approved by the owner. Little Star reserves the right to apply an additional charge of up to 10% of the amount of the past-due fees.

Deposits are non-refundable if a booking is cancelled.

Fees are payable until the end of the preschool year (end June 2023), even if a child is absent for any reason or on holidays.

Refunds of fees are only given in cases of extenuating circumstances (i.e. child becomes seriously ill and cannot attend preschool). Refund requests must be submitted in writing for consideration.

If a child needs to be withdrawn from preschool, one month's notice is required. If one month's prior notice is not given one month's fees must be paid in lieu.

Please ensure that your child is collected on time as children can become quite distressed if they are collected late. If your child is collected more than 5 mins late Little Star reserves the right to apply a half hourly fee of €12.63.

* These are entirely optional to parents

3.5.2 (a) The changes to our Fees Policy as applicable on September 30th 2021 are as follows:

The following **new Service Types ARE** available:

Session Type Name	Age Range	ECCE Available for ECCE eligible children?	Meals Included?	Additional Info	Number of Hrs per day	Number of days per week	Number of Hrs per week	Session Start time	Session Finish Time	Fee (less ECCE 3 Free Hrs) (€)	Fee less NCS Universal Subsidy (€)	Full Fee (€)
	Choose an item.	Choose...	Choose...				0.00					
	Choose an item.	Choose...	Choose...				0.00					
	Choose an item.	Choose...	Choose...				0.00					
	Choose an item.	Choose...	Choose...				0.00					
	Choose an item.	Choose...	Choose...				0.00					
	Choose an item.	Choose...	Choose...				0.00					

3.5.2 (b) The following Service Types are NO LONGER available:

Session Type Name	Age Range	ECCE Available for ECCE eligible children?	Meals Included?	Additional Info	Number of Hrs per day	Number of days per week	Number of Hrs per week	Session Start time	Session Finish Time	Fee (less ECCE 3 Free Hrs) (€)	Fee less NCS Universal Subsidy (€)	Full Fee (€)
	Choose an item.	Choose...	Choose...				0.00					
	Choose an item.	Choose...	Choose...				0.00					
	Choose an item.	Choose...	Choose...				0.00					
	Choose an item.	Choose...	Choose...				0.00					

4. Quality measures

As a Partner Service, we are committed to delivering quality for children and families. There are number of ways we can show this.

4.1 Our staff have the following qualifications:

Room/Session	Qualification
Preschool Room	1 x QQI Level 8, 1 x QQI Level 6, 2 x QQI Level 5

4.2

✓	We are actively working to implement our Quality Action Plan and we will report on progress at the end of the year
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