Dear Parent/Carers,

As you may or may not be aware the DFE have after a very long period agreed to remove the word FREE from the funding adverts and correspondence. The Government have stated that the funding figures are to cover the costs of highly quality and flexible childcare and it is not intended to cover the costs such as food and additional daily resources used within our setting.

We have now been informed that we can make a charge to ALL FUNDED CHILDREN for consumables to help keep the setting sustainable to enable us to continue to give your child the best quality care and education.

Alongside your FREE funding you can expect to pay for the following in your sustainability supplement: Wipes Tissues Disposable gloves Handwash Cereals Crackers Bread Flour Oil Food Colouring Plasters Sports coach **Compulsory Staff Training** Paper Ink

Special events Mobile phone Crafts

Your invoice will be given to you on the last week of each term so that they can be paid before the start of the new term. This supplement must be paid in full regardless of days off unless agreed by management. Please pay by Bank Transfer. You will find the details on the slip.

We can no longer cover these costs so unfortunately; we must charge.

The charges are as follows: 50p per hour for the number of hours your child attends per week multiplied by the number of weeks in that term.

We have done our upmost to cover the charges but with the minimum wage coming into force from April 2024 and our new funding rates not covering the increase of wages and daily overheads to keep us running we need to narrow the gap between outgoings and incomings.

We hope you understand and support these charges.

Sue and team