

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY BELFAST

Childcare Services

Payment Policy

Methods of Payment

Fees are payable for the number of weeks as specified in your agreed payment plan – so for either 44 weeks (10 months), or for 52 weeks (12 months). The total fees for the number of weeks chosen will be spread equally over either 10 or 12 monthly instalments.

Fees must be paid upon receipt of invoice. Failure to do so may jeopardise your childcare place. For students on a 10-month payment plan, any weeks throughout July and August are calculated on a weekly rate and must be paid monthly in advance. Payment will be accepted online via card through our Flywire eStore by clicking [here](#), as well as childcare vouchers, tax-free childcare, and salary sacrifice (staff only).

How monthly fees are calculated

(Daily rate x number of days attended per week x number of weeks in my payment plan) ÷
by number of months in my payment plan

e.g. My daily rate is £74.00, my child attends two days per week
and I have a 52 week/12-month payment plan.

$£74.00 \times 2 \times 52 = £7696.00 \div \text{by } 12 \text{ months} = £641.33^*$, invoiced at £641.00

*For billing purposes, amounts are rounded up or down to the nearest whole pound, before any applicable sibling or Northern Ireland Childcare Subsidy Scheme discounts are applied.

Fees are still payable when a child is absent due to holidays, sickness etc.

All Childcare Services closure days are charged for.

If you want to retain your child's place while they are absent for an extended period i.e. whilst on Maternity leave or during periods of travel/study abroad, this is only possible if fees are paid in full for the period of absence.

Deposit / Administration Fee

A payment of £300.00* is required per child upon acceptance of a place.

*Please note that £100.00 will be retained as an administration fee.

Staff/External parents: As places are offered for 12 months, the remaining £200.00 will only be returned after 12 months attendance.

Student parents: As places are offered for either 10 or 12 months, the remaining £200.00 will only be returned after your child has attended for this period.

Out of School parents: As places are offered for 10 months, the remaining £200.00 will only be returned after your child has attended for this period.

The deposit will not be refunded if you do not take up your place or if your child leaves before the 10- or 12-month period.

Retainers

Applicable only to student parents on a 10-month payment plan and parents of children attending the out of school club who are not staff of Queen's

If your child is returning to Childcare Services for the next academic year, even if they are attending occasionally over July and August, a retainer fee of £200.00 per child is required. This fee should be paid in June and will secure your child's place for the next academic year. This fee will be offset against your September invoice but will not be refunded if you do not take up your place.

Late Collection Fees

If you are late collecting your child, you will be charged a fee of £15 for every 15 minutes or part thereof used after close time. This fee will be added to your monthly bill and will be clearly identified on your invoice.

Notification for Leaving

If it is your intention to relinquish your childcare place, you are required to give one month's notice in writing by emailing Childcareservices@gub.ac.uk advising the date of your child's last day. Failure to do so will result in you being liable for one full month's fees.

Reduction to booked sessions

Any reduction to originally booked sessions will be at the discretion of the Service and will be effective from the start of the following Semester. Your sessions and invoices will be amended from either 1st September, 1st January or 1st April as applicable. You are required to give a minimum of one month's notice, via email to childcare-invoices@gub.ac.uk for this to be put in place for the start dates above.

Extra Sessions

Please speak with us if you require additional sessions. Extra sessions may be offered depending on availability. Once any requests to book extra sessions have been confirmed, these must be paid for regardless of whether a child attends.

Non-notification of absence – Out of School only

If your child is going to be absent from school, or you have alternative collection arrangements in place and do not require a collection, you must inform us by phoning the main office on 02890 971288 before 11.30am. If you do not provide notification and a member of staff arrives to collect your child, you will be charged a fee of £10, as this causes disruption to our team, the teachers and the children during collection times.

Starting/leaving during the Academic Year

If your child starts during the Academic Year, your first month's invoice will be for the number of sessions attended that month. From the following month, your invoicing will follow our standard Fixed Price Invoicing Schedule, so you will be billed for a set number of weeks each month in line with the fee tariff applicable.

If your child leaves during the Academic Year, your final monthly invoice will be for the number of sessions your child would have been expected to attend that month, based on their normal attendance pattern, up to the date of one calendar month from your written notice is received or their leaving date (whichever is later).