Fees and Funding Information

Effective from 30th March 2026

Tops Mini Mariners

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Tops Mini Mariners

Welcome

Welcome to Tops Day Nurseries Mini Mariners. We offer more than childcare. We provide a nurturing, innovative and sustainably led early years experience designed to help every child thrive.

Our approach balances exceptional care with purposeful learning, supported by experienced practitioners who prioritise wellbeing, creativity and curiosity. We care deeply about your child's development and happiness, just as we care about the world they will grow up in.

We are committed to sustainability, community and high-quality early education. Our nurseries are built on values of bravery, empowerment, trust and environmental responsibility.

At Tops Mini Mariners, we offer a subsidised rate on all fees at 20% for parents/carers employed by UKHO, please let us know when you enquire. The discount cannot be backdated at any stage.

Government Funded Early Education

Government funded early education is available from the term after a child turns 9 months, 2 years or 3 years, subject to eligibility and Local Authority approval.

Funded hours are free at the point of delivery. No parent is required to purchase additional hours or services to access their funded entitlement.

Funding may be accessed through:

- A funded-only place
- A weekly package
- A fully private place

Full details are available in our Admissions & Funding Policy.

Our Daily Structure

Our days are carefully organised to support children's learning, engagement and wellbeing. Some nurseries operate structured learning blocks to promote focus and continuity throughout the day. Others operate a continuous provision. Attendance follows each nursery's daily structure and agreed weekly booking pattern.

Weekly Fees

Hourly Rate	
0-2 yrs	£9.32
2-3 yrs	£9.24
3+ yrs	£8.60

Weekly Packages (available with both the Private & Full Time discount packages)

Our weekly packages provide a consistent and fully resourced nursery experience. Each package includes:

- Freshly prepared meals and snacks
- Consumables & Sundries
- Activity Packages
- Access to eyLog (online learning journal and parent app)

Private Packages

	30 hours	35 hours	40 hours	45 hours	50 hours
0-2 yrs	£253.20	£274.40	£312.00	£340.20	£354.00
2-3 yrs	£250.80	£273.00	£308.80	£336.60	£352.00
3+ yrs	£234.00	£256.20	£289.60	£315.00	£330.00

Package pricing reflects staffing ratios and care requirements across each age group. Additional hours outside of a weekly package are charged at the package hourly rate.

Weekly Costs Where Funding Is Applied - Stretched Offer 22hrs

	9-23 months	2-3 years	3-4 years
30 hours	£91.20	£90.56	£85.76
35 hours	£118.56	£117.52	£110.76
40 hours	£160.56	£159.84	£150.48
45 hours	£194.12	£192.28	£180.32
50 hours	£212.80	£210.56	£197.12

Funding illustrations are based on stretched allocations of approximately 22 hours (30 hour entitlement) per week. Costs will vary where funding is shared or adjusted. A personalised written breakdown will be provided. Packages are available for those accessing 11 hours, please speak to your nursery administrator.

Funded Only Place

A funded-only place allows families to access their funded entitlement without purchasing additional services.

- Follow the nursery's daily structure
- Operate within an agreed weekly booking pattern
- Minimum booking of 11 hours per week

Further details are available in our Admissions & Funding Policy.

Consumables & Sundries Contribution – £5.70 per day
To maintain a fully resourced environment, we operate a daily Consumables & Sundries Contribution, which covers:

- Washable nappies and/or potty training pants, wipes, nappy creams, sun cream.
- Toothbrushing- bamboo toothbrushes, toothpaste.
- Digital tools – Parents' access to eyLog for parent communication or children's learning journals.

This contribution is voluntary in accordance with government guidance.

Families choosing to supply their own consumables must provide items equivalent to those used within the nursery and aligned with our sustainability approach. Written notification must be provided prior to the child's start date and at the beginning of each funded term.

Where equivalent consumables are not provided, the nursery will use its standard provision, and the daily contribution will apply.

Meal Charges (If not included in a package)

Breakfast	£1.10
Lunch	£2.50
Tea	£1.90
All meals bundle	£4.20

Parents may provide their own meals in accordance with our Food from Home Policy. All food must meet allergies, nutritional and food safety requirements.

Where meals are not provided or do not meet policy requirements, the nursery will provide appropriate meals, and standard charges will apply.

Additional Charges

Joining Fees:

- One-off non-refundable administration fee: £32.61
- Deposit (private or package bookings): £200 or one month's fees, whichever is lower. Refundable with four weeks' written notice and where all fees have been paid.
- No deposit is required for funded-only places unless meal charges apply.

Other charges:

- Day swap administration fee: £19.57
- Emergency childcare booking fee: £13.44
- 1:1 specialist support (where not Local Authority funded): £20.22 per hour
- Bank holiday attendance supplement: £2.03 per hour
- Late payment fee: £17.79 per week overdue
- Bounced payment fee: £53.34
- Late shift submission fee: £22.83
- Late collection is charged at the hourly rate
- Collection after closing time: £39.12 surcharge

Full details are available in our Booking Policy.

We reserve the right to vary fees without notice, as rates may be subject to change by Local Authority or Government Regulations change/Statute. E&OE