

THE GOWER SCHOOL

MONTESSORI NURSERY – NORTH ROAD (0 - 5)

FEES FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2023/2024

Fees are payable monthly in advance by direct debit. Fees are calculated on the basis of the 48 weeks of the year that we are open, and divided into 12 equal monthly payments. Fees reduce at the start of the calendar month following a child's second birthday and the start of the term following their third birthday**. For children of eligible age, the Nursery Education Grant (NEG) is applied to fees, and so the fee payable by parents is lower by that amount. No refunds are given in event of sickness or family holidays as places are held open. The nursery is closed for 5 training days each year; dates are notified in advance and are displayed on the school website. These are working days for staff and fees include this investment in our staff. The standard day is 8am to 6pm. Extended care from 6-6:30pm is offered either on a regular or ad hoc basis. All extra hours must be booked by 12 noon on the day. Full fees are due from your child's first settling in day.

When your child is offered a place at The Gower School a deposit of £1,000 becomes payable. This is fully refunded when your child leaves the nursery, and it is our policy to use the deposit in lieu of the last month's fees, provided there are no other outstanding payments due.

Fees are inclusive of all care provision, books, stationery, art and craft materials, freshly prepared food and drink (including organic milk and fresh fruits) and local outings (with the exclusion of exceptional trips). Specialist tuition for baby signing, Yoga, IT, French, mini tennis, football, singing, guitar and movement, drama, and music lessons are included. Parents are asked to provide babies with formula milk. We provide Real Washable Nappies, organic milk and filtered water. We have limited places available for young babies between 3 months and 6 months old. Priority is given to full time places and this is reflected in the fee structure. Monthly fees are as follows:

FULL DAY CARE (8am-6pm)

<u>3 months to 2 years</u>	<u>2 years to 3 years</u>	<u>3 years (after NEG* of £270.75)</u>
5 days £ 2,470.35	5 days £ 2,096.25	5 days £ 1,825.50
4 days £ 2,227.40	4 days £ 1,942.55	4 days £ 1,671.80
3 days £ 1,718.95	3 days £ 1,509.30	3 days £ 1,238.55
2 days £ 1,235.20	2 days £ 1,118.00	2 days £ 847.25
Extra day £ 141.90	Extra day £ 136.55	Extra day £ 123.00

PART TIME PLACES

Morning Sessions (9am to 12:30pm)

<u>18 months to 3 years</u>	<u>3 years (after NEG* of £270.75)</u>
5 mornings £ 1,315.80	5 mornings £ 1,045.05
4 mornings £ 1,084.70	<i>(children can start on 3 or 4 half days but build up to 5 half days in a term)</i>
3 mornings £ 870.75	

Morning Sessions (9am to 2:15pm)

<u>18 months to 3 years</u>	<u>3 years (after NEG* of £270.75)</u>
5 mornings £ 1,514.70	5 mornings £ 1,243.95
4 mornings £ 1,300.75	<i>(children can start on 3 or 4 half days but build up to 5 half days in a term)</i>
3 mornings £ 1,084.70	

Afternoon Sessions (2:15pm to 5pm)

<u>18 months to 3 years</u>	<u>3 years (after NEG* of £270.75)</u>
5 afternoons £ 1,151.35	5 afternoons £ 880.60
4 afternoons £ 953.55	<i>(children can start on 3 or 4 half days but build up to 5 half days in a term)</i>
3 afternoons £ 733.15	

LES PAPILLONS & LES DAUPHINS

From the term after a child's 3rd birthday, children may join Les Papillons or Les Dauphins, where the minimum attendance is 6 sessions per week, and may be up to 5 full days. Many parents choose to build up to a 5 full-day place over the 5 terms.

3 years to 5 years (after NEG*)

5 full days (8am to 6pm)	£ 1,825.50
4 full days (8am to 6pm)	£ 1,671.80
3 full days (8am to 6pm)	£ 1,238.55
5 core days (9am to 4pm)	£ 1,211.25

*Where indicated, fees are inclusive of government funded Nursery Education Grant (NEG), effective the term after a child's 3rd birthday for 2 years.

Whilst we do not swap days, additional hours, and emergency days cover are organised whenever possible. Extra hours for sessional/core day places are charged at £15 per hour if a regular booking payable by direct debit or £19.25 for ad hoc hours. Extended care, 6-6:30pm is charged at £12 per session if a regular booking payable by direct debit or £17.50 for an ad hoc session. Late collection and early arrival is charged at £1 per minute outside the child's allocated times. A 10% sibling discount for the nursery will apply to the lower fees.

Please note 3 months' written notice is required by the nursery when you plan for your child to leave and 3 months' fees are due, including during closure periods. Please also note any alterations in attendance require 3 months' written notice.

Overpayments to be returned will incur a £15 administration fee. Late payment of fees after the 1st working day of the month will incur a £25 charge. The Gower Schools Limited reserves the right to charge interest at 2% above base rate on outstanding balances. Returned cheques or payments will incur a £5 administration fee.

Childcare vouchers are accepted. Fees are subject to revision on an annual basis, and written notice will be given of any changes. Monthly fees are payable by direct debit, or additional charges may apply. Please make cheques payable to The Gower School or pay by BACS to our Account Number: 40876178 Sort Code: 207499 using your surname as reference.

15 hours Nursery Education Grant (NEG) factsheet

What Nursery Education Grant is.

NEG is non means tested "free" nursery hours for 3 and 4 year olds, effective the term after their third birthday. Originally nursery vouchers, the scheme has been called Early Education Grant and other similar names. This is NOT childcare vouchers. It was set up as funding to support early years' education, and has been for 15 hours for many years. The government funds the hours for the children, and each local authority passports the money to the provider. Islington Council pays The Gower School for each child enrolled on the scheme. Proof of address and a birth certificate for the child is required by the government.

Ages of child eligibility for funded 3 and 4 years olds (set by government)

**	Date of Birth for Nursery Education Grant Eligibility – 3 year olds	Date of Birth for Nursery Education Grant Eligibility – 4 year olds
Summer Term 2023	01/04/2019 to 31/03/2020	01/04/2018 to 31/03/2019
Autumn Term 2023	01/09/2019 to 31/08/2020	01/09/2018 to 31/08/2019
Spring Term 2024	01/01/2020 to 31/12/2020	01/01/2019 to 31/12/2019

Why TGS isn't participating in the "free 30 hours" scheme

The main reason we are not offering the 30 free hours is that the rate we receive from the local authority is lower than the rate it costs us (and other nurseries) to provide care. This means that we would be losing money by providing free 30 hour places. Funding for the scheme is also fixed, although costs like food and staff salaries are increasing.

How the system works

The local authority pays us £1,083 a term, £3,249 for the year, for 15 hours "free" a week over 38 weeks. This equates to £5.70 an hour. Stretched over 48 weeks this is £4.51 an hour.

Our costs

A rate of £4.51 per hour would not allow us to provide care, facilities and equipment for children. Our costs include our rent, business rates, utilities bills, a highly qualified staff team (and their cover, holidays, sick, pension, training costs), consumables like art materials, specialist lessons, delicious home cooked food, trips and outings, forest school, insurance etc. Running a nursery of this size and quality requires a range of experienced, qualified senior staff as well as ancillary staff such as administrative, cleaners, kitchen staff etc, all of whom are essential to the smooth running of the setting.

We therefore prioritise places for children paying our private rate, and reimburse the 15 hours funding to their account. This means that each month £270.75 is reduced from the nursery fees invoice of eligible children. This funding is referred to as Nursery Education Grant on our fee sheet, and not "free", as it clearly is not possible to provide genuinely free high quality nursery education in central London at this rate.

We do have a limited number of places which are absolutely free at the point of contact, for the 15 hours a week only.

The Gower School is continuing to participate in the "15 hours" funded places scheme for the foreseeable future.