



Wivelsfield Primary School and Nursery
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Headteacher: Mrs H Smith BA Hons NPQH



27th March 2025

Dear Wrens Parents/Carers,

On Friday 21st February 2025 the Department for Education (DfE) released updated changes to the Early Education Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities, which we were briefed on by ESCC on Thursday 6th March and advised what these changes would mean for us as a setting.

In brief, this means Early Years settings will have to offer their funded hours as a full block without an artificial break (i.e. lunch), therefore we will need to make changes to the structure of our day.

The DfE have advised settings this change needs to start to take effect from 1st April 2025 with full implementation by January 2026.

Given the short notice, we have taken the decision to implement the new structure for any child currently attending Wrens Nursery from September 2025. This means that the sessions your child now attends will stay the same during the Summer term.

Our New Proposed Structure for September 2025 is:

Our core opening hours will remain the same (8:30am - 3:30pm, term-time only) but session start/finish times will be as follows:

Hours Breakdown:

8.30am - 11.30am (Funded Morning session)

11.30am - 2.30pm (Funded Afternoon session)

2.30pm - 3.30pm - is a privately paid session (non-funded).

Lunch will be served (or packed lunches eaten) at 11.30am-12pm

Pick up times are therefore **11.30am, 2.30pm or 3.30pm** with effect from September.

We will still be able to offer up to a maximum of 6hrs funded per day or 30hrs per week (subject to eligibility) if you are likely to be applying for funding.

We will be in touch again after the Easter break to confirm your child's sessions from September and consult with you if you wish to make any changes to these.

If you have any questions regarding the implementation of these changes please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Helen Smith Headteacher