



St. Oswald's Church of England Primary School

Learning for all, caring for each other, preparing for the future

Let us encourage one another – Hebrews 10.25

21 May 2026

Dear Parents, Carers,

As we begin to look ahead to the new academic year, I would like to share some updates and changes to our wraparound childcare provision at St Oswald's, which will take effect from September 2026.

Over the past two years, we have worked (with support from grant funding) to increase both capacity and the length of our wraparound care offer in school. This year we have trialled staggered finish times and pricing structures. Upon review of this, we intend to simplify the wraparound care offer to one single start and finish time, and one single price, each day - creating a more sustainable model moving forward.

These changes will also support the DfE's guidance for families of primary-aged children to have access to a 10-hour childcare offer, which becomes mandatory from September.

From September, our Early Birds sessions will open slightly earlier, running from 7:30am to 8:40am. Breakfast will continue to be served in the school hall until 8:15am and will include a selection of cereals, toast, fresh fruit and squash. We want children to begin the day feeling settled and happy, so alongside breakfast there will be a range of calm activities available, including Lego, board games, arts and crafts and, in suitable weather, access to our outdoor garden space.

Following the trial of our extended Night Owls session, we found that while very few families required care until 6:00pm, many parents valued having a little more flexibility around the 5:15pm collection time. With this in mind, from September Night Owls will move to a single session running from 3:00pm until 5:30pm. We hope this will create a more relaxed end to the day for families while also simplifying the booking process.

We are also continuing to invest in the quality of the provision itself. Demand for places remains high, so we have increased our capacity from 35 to 50 spaces and welcomed additional staff to ensure safe staffing ratios are maintained.

Over the summer, work will begin on enhancing a dedicated outdoor area for Night Owls. This will include new outdoor equipment to support physical activity, social areas to help build community and friendships, and an all-weather shelter for year-round use. Indoors, children will benefit from improved activity zones, including time in our new dedicated arts space and a quieter area where they can relax and enjoy use of an interactive Smartboard.



Heslington Lane, Fulford, York, YO10 4LX

Tel: 01904 555421

stoswalds.primary@york.gov.uk

www.stoswalds.york.sch.uk

Headteacher: Jemma Dunne



Despite increasing cost pressures over recent years, we have worked hard as a school to avoid passing these costs on to families and have remained financially viable with the support of government grant funding. As this funding now comes to an end, we do need to move to a fully self-sustaining pricing model.

From September, session fees will therefore be:

- Early Birds – £4.75 per session
- Night Owls – £10.50 per session

Our new pricing structure continues to represent excellent value and remains competitive with other local providers. Prices will be reviewed on an annual basis and fixed for an academic year. We appreciate that any increase in costs can be challenging for families, and we are committed to supporting parents wherever possible. We fully support Tax-Free Childcare and the childcare element of Universal Credit, both of which can significantly reduce costs for eligible families. We strongly encourage parents to make use of these schemes where applicable.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We are proud of the caring and inclusive environment we have built within our wraparound provision and look forward to continuing to develop it further. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Yours sincerely



Jemma Dunne