



09 Early years practice procedures

09.01g Prime times – Financial hardship procedure

Little Doves Christian Pre-School is a registered charity aiming to provide a service to local children and families. The pre-school is a non-profit organisation, but it does need to ensure that it does not make a loss at the end of the year. This aim can only be fulfilled if the pre-school has enough income to cover its outgoings.

The pre-school is aware of differing family situations and understand the importance of continuity of care for young children and so encourage any parent/carer with financial hardship to talk with the pre-school manager/deputy. The manager will look to negotiate a payment plan and/or reduce the hours a child attends the setting to stop the bill accumulating. The manager/trustees will endeavour to support the family as much as is possible.

Alternative provision for healthy snack

Healthy snack is an optional charge for the daily healthy snack which is provided for the children. There is the option for parents to bring in their child's own healthy snack if they wish. This would be in addition to their child's packed lunch if the child stays to lunch. As part of the [healthy eating ethos](#) of the pre-school, any substitute snack is encouraged to be healthy; parents/carers can discuss food suggestions, if required, with the manager/deputy.

The Little Doves website has advice on [how to reduce food costs](#) on its home page.

Brentwood Foodbank <https://brentwood.foodbank.org.uk>