Financial Sustainability



Top Tips For School-based Nurseries



Use break- even analysis

Calculate the minimum occupancy needed to cover staffing and overheads.

This ensures your nursery remains financially viable even during periods of fluctuating demand.





Consider appointing an administrator

Employ someone with expertise in early years funding and occupancy management.

Their role can be crucial in navigating funding streams and ensuring smooth operations.



Leverage shared school resources

Consider integrating utilities, admin teams and leadership structures with your school to reduce costs and streamline operations.



Maximise outreach and visibility

Hosting weekly open mornings, maintaining a photo-rich website, and distributing flyers in spaces such as GP surgeries, Family Hubs and Children's Centres can all help reach parents in your area.



Highlight your unique strengths

You may want to promote distinctive features like Forest School accreditation or flexible wraparound care options to stand out in a competitive local market.





Plan for holiday provision strategically

Decide early whether your nursery will operate termtime only or year-round.

This affects staffing contracts, budgeting, and the ability to offer continuity for children and families.