



Charging and Remissions Policy

2023

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Reviewed by:

Date:

LAB Approved

Name: A Heathcote Chair of LAB

Signed:

Date: 14.11.23

Introduction

All education during school hours is free. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum with the exception of individual or group music tuition.

Voluntary contributions for activities as part of the Curriculum

When organising school trips, visits or workshop activities which enrich the curriculum and educational experience of the children, the school invites parents to contribute to the cost of the activity. All contributions are voluntary. If we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions, we may cancel the activity.

If a parent wishes their child to take part in a school trip or event, but is unwilling or unable to make a voluntary contribution, the child is still allowed to participate fully in the trip or activity as long as parental consent has been given.

If appropriate funds allow, the school may pay a proportion of the costs in order to support a visit. Parents have a right to know how every trip is funded – the school will provide this on request.

Music Tuition

All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this. Extracurricular clubs such as choir is also without charge.

There is a charge for individual or group music tuition if this is not part of the National Curriculum and at the request of the parent. This charge is paid directly to the provider. Parents whose children are eligible for free school meals or Looked After Children may be exempt from payment. We give information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year.

Swimming

The school organises swimming lessons for children in years 1,2,3,4,5 and 6. Lessons take place in school time and are part of the national curriculum. We ask for a voluntary contribution to cover the cost of transport to and from the swimming pool, provision of a lifeguard/specialist teacher and hire of the pool itself. We inform parents when these lessons are to take place and we ask for their written permission for their child to take part in these. Best value is always sought and the school may subsidise the total cost.

Optional Extra Activities

(Activities which take place wholly or mainly outside school hours and are not required in order to fulfil statutory duties relating to the National Curriculum or to Religious Education).

It is the Governors policy to charge for such activities organised by the school. The basis for calculating the charge will be proportionate for each participating pupil for travel, board and lodging, materials, books, equipment, entrance fees and insurance.

The following is a list of additional activities organised by the school, which require voluntary contributions from parents. This list is not exhaustive:

- Sporting activities which require transport expenses
- Outdoor adventure activities
- Visits to the theatre
- School trips abroad
- Musical events

Activities not run by the School

When an organisation acting independently of the School arranges an activity to take place during school hours and parents want their children to join the activity, such organisation may charge parents.

Residential Visits

The school organises residential visits for children in Years 3-6. The cost of this trip includes board and lodging, transport, materials, entrance to sites, materials and charges for activities experienced.

Where available, subsidises will be provided for children of families in receipt of free school meal, pupil premium or in special circumstances to enable them to take part in the option of their choice. This is stated clearly on letters and is dealt with discretely and in confidence by the head teacher. Parents will be given the option of a payment plan to spread the costs of the residential visit.

Dinner Money

Hot meals are available for all children at a cost per day. However, any pupil that is eligible for free school meals via school food support will receive their meal free of charge. Since September 2015 there has been a legal obligation on schools to supply free school meals for all pupils in EYFS and KS1.

Charging in Kind

The cost of ingredients, materials, equipment etc. needed for practical subjects such as food technology or DT is budgeted for and borne by the school. However, the school may charge for or require the supply of ingredients and materials if the product is to be owned and taken home by the child afterwards eg. food products, models containing electrical equipment or batteries. The school will inform parents prior to activities, giving them the choice to pay for materials or purchase their own materials for the activity.

Breakages and Fines

The Governors reserve the right to ask parents to pay for the cost of replacing any item such as:

- Broken windows
- Defaced, damaged or lost text books
- Replacement reading or homework diaries
- Any item damaged as a result of unsatisfactory pupil behaviour.

Special Educational Needs and/or Disability

The Governing Body confirms that no pupil with special needs or disabilities will be treated any differently than any other pupil. The school will take all reasonable steps to avoid putting children with special needs or disabilities at a substantial disadvantage.

Pupil Premium

The pupil premium is additional funding for publicly funded schools in England to raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils and close the gap between them and their peers. Pupil premium is given to any pupil who has been eligible for free school meals in the previous 6 years (Ever 6). We will endeavour to support any child in receipt of pupil premium by using the funding to cover/contribute to the costs of some or all of the charges mentioned in this document.