



Simonside Primary School

Charging and Remissions Policy

Introduction

All education during school hours is free. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the Foundation Stage or National Curriculum or for books and other resources used for teaching and learning.

The Governing Body of Simonside Primary School recognises the valuable contribution that the wide range of additional activities can make towards children's education.

Aim

The aim of this policy is to set out what charges will be levied for activities, what remissions will be implemented and the circumstances under which voluntary contributions may be requested from parents. We aim to promote and provide such activities both as part of a broad and balanced curriculum for the children of the school and as additional optional extras.

When organising school trips or visits which enrich the curriculum and educational experience of the children, the school invites parents to contribute to the cost of the trip. Value for money will always be sought. All contributions are voluntary. If we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions, we may cancel a trip. If a trip goes ahead, it may include children whose parents have not paid any contribution. We do not treat these children differently from any others.

Charges

We may charge for activities that are outside of the school curriculum and are not related in whole or in part to the National curriculum (for example, full or partial costs of residential visits outside school hours). Any charge will not exceed the actual cost of providing the activity divided equally by the number of children participating in the activity.

Voluntary contributions

Parents/carers may be invited to make a voluntary contribution for certain activities taking place inside or outside school hours, providing it is made clear that failure to contribute will not affect the child's right to take part in any activity. The types of activities for which parents may be asked to provide a voluntary contribution are:

- School visits
- Transport costs
- Ingredients for cookery club

- Visits to the theatre

This list only provides examples, it is not complete.

The school reserves the right to cancel an event or visit if sufficient voluntary contributions are not received. In any case where an activity cannot be afforded without voluntary funding, this will be made clear to the parents/carers by the school. If the activity is cancelled, all monies paid will be returned to parents/ carers.

Trips are often subsidised by the school and an allocation of pupil premium funding may be used for this. Contributions are also made to year group trips through any income donated from the PTA or local ward council.

Swimming

As part of our PE curriculum we use West Denton pool to provide swimming lessons to children in Year 5. The cost of swimming and transport is met by the school.

Music Tuition

All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this. If a child receives individual music tuition (e.g. guitar) from an external tutor the charge of the lesson will need to be met by parents/carers.

Activities outside of school hours

1. EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES PROVIDED BY STAFF

These are delivered voluntarily by school staff and there is no charge.

2. EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES PROVIDED BY A THIRD PARTY

There may be a charge for these activities which is paid to the provider, eg summer camps. However some after school sports clubs are funded free to parents through the Sports premium money that school receives.

Breakages and damage/loss of school property

In cases of wilful or malicious damage to equipment (e.g. musical instruments) or loss of school books (library books, reading books) the headteacher may decide that it is right to make a charge to cover the cost of repair or replacement. Damage to school property is rare and each incident will be dealt with on its own merit.

Conclusion

We support every child to achieve their full potential; socially, morally and educationally. Providing additional activities is an important aspect of this. The contributions made by parents allow us to offer more opportunities. We will continue to make charges and ask for voluntary contributions where appropriate and always ensure that it is undertaken

sensitively. Any parent requiring support to meet the cost of certain activities can talk in confidence to the Headteacher or Family Intervention Worker.

Reviewed: September 2019