

Fishergate Primary School

Charging and Remissions Policy

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Statement of intent

Fishergate Primary School is committed to ensuring equal opportunities for all pupils, regardless of financial circumstances, and has established the following policy and procedures to ensure that no child is discriminated against by our offering of school trips, activities and educational extras.

In addition, we are committed to adhering to legal requirements regarding charging for school activities, and meeting all statutory guidance provided by the DfE.

We promise:

- Not to charge for education provided during school hours.
- To inform parents on low incomes and in receipt of relevant benefits of the support available to them when asking for contributions.

1. Legal framework

1.1. This policy will have consideration for, and be compliant with, the following legislation and statutory guidance:

- Education Act 1996
- The Charges for Music Tuition (England) Regulations 2007
- The Education (Prescribed Public Examinations) (England) Regulations 2010
- DfE (2018) 'Charging for School Activities'
- DfE (2017) 'Governance Handbook'

2. Charging for education

2.1. We will not charge parents for:

- Admission applications.
- Education provided during school hours.
- Education provided outside school hours if it is part of the national curriculum, part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for by the school, or part of religious education.
- Instrumental or vocal tuition, unless provided at the request of the pupil's parents.

2.2. We may charge parents for the following:

- Materials, books, instruments or equipment, where they desire their child to own them.
- Optional extras.
- Music and vocational tuition (in certain circumstances).
- We ask parents/carers for a voluntary donation to cover swimming costs.
- Use of community facilities.

3. Optional extras

3.1. We may charge parents for the following optional extras:

- Education provided outside of school time that is not:
 - Part of the national curriculum.
 - Religious education.
- Transport, other than that arranged by the LA for the pupil, to be provided with education.
- Board and lodging for a pupil on a residential visit.
- Extended day services offered to pupils.

3.2. When calculating the cost of optional extras, the school will only take into account the following:

- Materials, books, instruments or equipment provided in relation to the optional extra.
 - The cost of buildings and accommodation.
 - The employment of non-teaching staff.
 - The cost of teaching staff (including teaching assistants) under contracts for services purely to provide an optional extra.
 - The cost, or an appropriate proportion of the costs, for teaching staff employed to provide vocal tuition or tuition in playing a musical instrument.
- 3.3. The school will not charge in excess of the actual cost of providing the optional extra divided by the number of participating pupils. We will not charge a subsidy for any pupils wishing to participate but whose parents are unwilling or unable to pay the full charge. If a proportion of the activity takes place during school hours, we will not charge for the cost of alternative provision for those not participating.
- 3.4. Participation in any optional activity will be on the basis of parental choice and a willingness to meet the charges. Therefore, parental agreement is a pre-requisite for the provision of an optional extra. In the case of extra Nursery sessions, the parents will sign a parental agreement to the charges specified and be in agreement that the charges should be paid prior to the care taking place. Please see terms and conditions at the end of the Charging and Remissions policy.

4. Voluntary contributions

- 4.1. We may, from time-to-time, ask for voluntary contributions towards the benefit of the school or school activities. If an activity cannot be funded without voluntary contributions, we will make this clear to parents at the outset. We will also make it clear that there is no obligation for parents to make a contribution, and notify parents whether assistance is available.
- 4.2. No child will be excluded from an activity simply because their parents are unwilling or unable to pay. If a parent is unwilling or unable to pay, their child will still be given an equal opportunity to take part in the activity. If insufficient voluntary contributions are raised to fund an activity, and the school cannot fund it via another source, the activity will be cancelled.
- 4.3. We will strive to ensure that parents do not feel pressurised into making voluntary contributions.

5. Music tuition

- 5.1. Music tuition is the only exception to the rule that all education provided during school hours must be free. The Charges for Music Tuition (England) Regulations 2007 allow for charges to be made for vocal or instrumental tuition provided either individually or to groups of any size – provided that the tuition is at the request of the pupil's parents.
- 5.2. The charges will not exceed the cost of the provision, including the cost of the staff providing the tuition.

6. Transport

6.1. We will not charge for:

- Transporting registered pupils to or from the school premises, where the LA has a statutory obligation to provide the transport.
- Transporting registered pupils to other premises where the governing board or LA has arranged for pupils to be educated.
- Transporting pupils to meet an examination requirement when they have been prepared for the examination at the school.

7. Residential visits

7.1. We will not charge for:

- Education provided on any visit that takes place during school hours.
- Education provided on any visit that takes place outside school hours if it is part of the national curriculum, part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for at the school, or part of religious education.
- Supply teachers to cover for teachers accompanying pupils on visits.

7.2. We may charge for board and lodging – but the charge will not exceed the actual cost.

7.3. Parents will be exempt from board and lodging costs if they can prove that they are in receipt of one or more of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided that they are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £18,725
- Working Tax Credit run-on – paid for four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit – if they apply on or after 1 April 2018, their household income must be less than £7,455 a year (after tax and not including any benefits they receive)

8. Education partly during school hours

8.1. If 50 percent or more of the time spent on an activity occurs during school hours (including time spent travelling, if the travel occurs during school hours), it is deemed to take place during school hours and no charge will be made.

8.2. If less than 50 percent of the time spent on an activity occurs during school hours, it is deemed to have taken place outside school hours and we may charge for the activity; however, we will not charge if the activity is part of the national curriculum, part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for at the school, or part of religious education.

8.3. **Residential visits:** If the number of school sessions covered by the visit is equal to or greater than 50 percent of the number of half days (any period of 12 hours ending with noon or midnight on any day) spent on the visit, we will not charge for the activity.

8.4. The remission of charges for board and lodging payments is the responsibility of the school. These costs will be borne by our contingency funds.

9. Damaged or lost items

9.1. The school may charge parents for the cost of replacing items broken, damaged or lost due to their child's behaviour. Parents will not be taken to court for failure to pay such costs.

10. Remissions

10.1. We have set aside a small fund to enable families in financial difficulty to send their children on visits/activities. The funding is limited and there is no guarantee that all requests can be met. Assistance will be allocated on a needs basis, and if the full cost of the trip/activity cannot be met through assistance funding and voluntary contributions, the trip/activity will be cancelled.

10.2. Parents in receipt of any of the following benefits may request assistance with the costs of activities:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided that they are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and they have an annual gross income of no more than £18,725
- Working Tax Credit run on – paid for four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit.
- Universal Credit – if they apply on or after 1 April 2023, their household income must be less than £25,323 a year per couple or £14,753 for a single parent (after tax and not including any benefits they receive)

10.3. To request assistance, parents should contact Helen Deighton via the school office.

Fishergate Early Years Unit Nursery: Terms and Conditions

Part of Charging and Remissions policy (see T&C's policy/admissions online or at the setting)

Cost of Nursery care: Morning session £21 - Lunch time care £3 - Afternoon session £21.

- Payment is required in advance. This can be via Parent Pay or childcare vouchers.
- Please be aware that childcare vouchers can take up to 5 working days to clear.
- Permanently booked sessions will be invoiced monthly in advance.
- Any outstanding fees must be cleared within 5 working days. Please note: persistent late payment of fees may result in your child's place being withdrawn.

Cancellations: All bookings, once made, must be paid for.

Late collection charges: Nursery morning sessions run until 11:30am and Nursery afternoon sessions until 15:00 prompt. Any children who are regularly not collected by this time will incur an additional flat charge of £15 for the first 1-15 minutes, per child. Every minute past 11:45 and 15:15 we will charge an extra £1 per minute plus the initial £15.00.

Collecting children: If a known person is unable to collect your child, you must inform the EYU unit. Your child will not be released to an unknown person without prior notice. The unknown person must use the password entered on your child's registration form.

Signing in and out: OFSTED regulations state that all children must be signed in and out of the setting. The daily register is on Parent Pay and staff will sign your child in and out as appropriate.

Medication policy: We are not able to accept any child with an infectious condition.

- If your child has been prescribed medication, which they need to take during their time with us, we will administer this, but consent must be completed and acknowledged via our Medicine form before any medication will be administered.
- Please note that if your child begins taking a new medication such as an antibiotic, they must remain at home for the first 24 hours to ensure they do not suffer an allergic reaction to the medication.
- We will only administer medication which is not prescribed (Calpol, Paracetamol, Ibuprofen, etc) for the treatment of mild to moderate pain and as an antipyretic (a substance which lowers a fever). It can be used for many conditions including headache, toothache, earache, teething, sore throat, colds and influenza, aches and pains and post-immunisation fever. This will not be given, for more than 3 days, without consultation from your doctor and if any of the above persist, it would be wise to seek advice from your doctor and keep your child at home if they become unwell.
- If we feel your child is too unwell to be in Nursery, we will then send them home immediately.
- If your child has sickness or diarrhoea, they should stay at home for 48 hours from the last time they had these symptoms.
- If your child has an illness or allergy which requires them to need regular medication you will be asked to complete a long-term medication permission form. Without this we are not able to administer their medication. Please note, this includes asthma inhalers.

Complaints procedure: In the event of any complaints or concerns that involve the setting, please do not hesitate to speak with the headteacher.

Parent / Carer signatures

To be signed by ALL people who have care or parental responsibility of the child/children.

I declare all the information in this pack to be correct to the best of my knowledge, agree to the terms and conditions and will contact the Nursery if any of the details change.

Print Name:	Signature:	Date:
Print Name:	Signature:	Date:

Staff Signature: _____ Date: _____

