

Stocks Lane Primary School

Charging and Remission Policy



Revised: March 2025

Review Date: March 2027

Stocks Lane Primary School

CHARGING AND REMISSION POLICY

Introduction

All the education we provide during normal school hours is at no charge to pupils. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum, with the exception of some individual or small-group music tuition.

Voluntary contributions

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

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, we do allow the child to participate fully in the trip or activity. Sometimes the school pays additional costs in order to support the visit. Parents and carers have a right to know how each trip is funded, and the school provides this information on request.

The following is a list of additional activities, organised by the school, which require voluntary contributions from parents and carers. These activities are known as 'optional extras'. This list is not exhaustive:

- visits to museums;
- sporting activities which require transport expenses;
- outdoor adventure activities;
- visits to or by a theatre company;
- school trips abroad;
- musical events.

Residential visits

If the school organises a residential visit in school time, or mainly in school time, which is to provide education directly related to the National Curriculum, we do not make any charge for the education. However, we do suggest a charge to cover the costs of board and lodging and travel expenses, although parents and carers who receive certain state benefits (see remission section below) may not be charged for the cost of board and lodgings. If we cannot raise sufficient funding through these voluntary contributions, the visit may have to be cancelled, and that aspect of the curriculum would have to be covered in other ways.

Music tuition

All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this.

There is a charge for individual or small-group music tuition, since this is an additional curriculum activity, and not part of the National Curriculum. These individual or small-group lessons are taught by peripatetic music teachers. The Local Authority make a charge for these lessons, but parents and carers in receipt of certain state benefits (see remission section below) may not be charged for them. We give parents and carers information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year.

Swimming

The school organises swimming lessons for children in Key Stage 2. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We make no charge for this activity. We inform parents and carers when these lessons are to take place, and we seek the written permission of parents or carers for their children to take part.

After School Clubs

The school offers additional coaching after school. A qualified coach, who is not a member of the school staff, runs and organises these sessions. We make a small charge for these sessions.

Children attending cooking clubs will be charged a small amount to cover the cost of the ingredients.

The Parental Engagement Team (PET) run activities with parents, for which there is a small charge to cover the cost of the resources used.

For all other activity clubs, there is a small charge to cover any costs incurred for resources or staffing.

Breakages

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 books
- replacement reading or homework diaries
- any item damaged as a result of unsatisfactory pupil behaviour

Families qualifying for remission or help with charges

In order to remove financial barriers from disadvantaged pupils, the governing body has agreed that some activities and visits where charges can legally be made will be offered at no charge or a reduced charge to parents/carers in particular circumstances. This remissions policy sets out the circumstances in which charges will be waived, see below:

- Families in receipt of eligibility based Free School Meals will be entitled to a voucher to help towards the costs of school uniform (2 free jumpers or cardigans per child per year);
- Children identified as Pupil Premium will be able to access a subsidy towards the costs of school visits, this will be a reduction of 50% of the total cost;
- School will contribute £30 towards the cost of a residential visit;
- Pupil Premium Pupils can access after school clubs (run by the school) free of charge. (Please note this does not include clubs that are run by adults outside of school, except for those run by our bought in PE coaches);
- Access to the Breakfast Club and After School Care Club is provided at a reduced rate;

Criteria for qualification for remission are given below.

Parents/carers in receipt of:

- Universal Credit (replacing child tax credits in April 2025);
- Income Support (IS);
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance (IBJSA);
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999;
- The guarantee element of State Pension Credit;
- An income related employment and support allowance.

Monitoring and review

The Finance Committee of the governing body will monitor the impact of this policy by receiving on a yearly basis a financial report on those activities that resulted in charges being levied, the subsidies awarded (without giving names) and the source of those subsidies. It will seek to evaluate the impact of the school’s extended services on those children most in need of additional support.

Headteacher.....

Chair of Governors

Date.....

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