

Rucstall Primary School

Charging and Remissions Policy



Rucstall Primary School offers a broad and balanced curriculum aimed at meeting the needs of all children to ensure that they enjoy their education and achieve to their full potential. Additional activities may be offered to further enhance the educational experience.

It is the Governing Body's intent that all pupils should have an equal opportunity to benefit from school activities although some activities offered to the pupils will incur a charge

Charging

The Governing Body recognises its responsibility to ensure that the offer of activities and educational visits does not place an unnecessary burden on family finances. To this end we will try to adhere to the following guidelines:

- Where possible we shall publish a list of visits (and their approximate cost) at the beginning of the school year or each term so that parents/carers can plan ahead
- We have an established system for parents/carers to pay in instalments

Activities during school hours

No charges are made for education during school hours. School hours are those when the school is in session and does not include the break in the middle of the school day.

Charges may be made for the ingredients/materials for activities where a product is produced which the child will take home, or the experience is additional.

Visiting Artists/Performers/Workshops

The school may ask all parents to make a voluntary contribution to fund a range of in-school visits or activities which will be designed to enhance the curriculum. This may be conducted on an individual basis or annually.

Activities outside school hours

Charges will be made for activities outside school hours offered by external providers.

Any charges for activities outside school hours, which are run by member of the school staff, will be to cover the cost of staffing, materials and/or transport/and or administrative requirements.

Educational Day Trips and Residential Visits

The Governors are committed to the principle that educational opportunities for children should not be dependent upon their parents' ability to meet the costs of such opportunities. However, Governors are mindful of their responsibilities to deploy the school's limited financial resources to the maximum benefit of all children in the school.

In practice, this means that contributions will be requested to cover the full cost of all such trips and visits.

Parents are encouraged to allow their children to benefit from the programme of trips and visits, which are offered because they enhance the curriculum and benefit our children's education as a whole.

Where, in the judgement of the Headteacher, an educational opportunity might otherwise be denied to a child because their parents are unable to meet the cost of such a trip or visit, some financial assistance may be provided through grant applications. Where such financial assistance is agreed, parents will normally be expected to make some (appropriate) contribution towards the cost of the visit or trip in question. Any parent wishing to take

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advantage of any such financial assistance should speak to the Headteacher, who will deal with this matter in confidence.

In the event that there is insufficient or limited support from parents for any trip or visit, the school may cancel any such trip or visit.

On residential visits, charges can be made for board and lodging but, because the visits take place during school hours, the cost of travel and activities has to be met by a voluntary contribution. However the full cost is requested, as the school does not receive funds to subsidise this. No child will be discriminated against should parents not wish to contribute to travel costs. However, if sufficient contributions are not made the visit will not proceed.

Remissions

Parents/carers in receipt of Income Support, Jobseeker's Allowance, Universal Credit or Child Tax Credit should speak to the Headteacher to discuss any remission or help.

Children covered by the Pupil Premium

It is at the discretion of the Headteacher what subsidies may be offered and the use of Pupil Premium funding. There is no entitlement to funded additional opportunities for any child or family. The following are examples of where this discretion may be used:

- a) Funding for educational day visits/experiences.
- b) Music tuition for one instrument/music based club, or attendance at an after school club free of charge or subsidised-where this is expected to impact upon progress (e.g. via enhancing achievement through challenge, gross/fine motor skill and social development or the child is already making expected progress).
- c) Residential trip costs at a discount to a maximum of 50%, where this is expected to impact upon progress e.g. via increased enthusiasm for learning.

The impact of any subsidised provision shall be reviewed by the Headteacher each term and may be withdrawn if the desired impact upon progress is not being achieved or the parent/carers financial position has noticeably improved, or there is information that a request was not required in full and is no longer appropriate use of school funds.

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