



Dowson Primary Academy

CHARGING AND REMISSIONS POLICY

December 2021

Review Cycle: 5 Years

Date Agreed by Local Governing Body:

Signed Principal:

Signed Chair of Governing Body:



Kathryn Thornburn



Dowson Primary Academy

Introduction

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

School trips/visits and activities during school time – voluntary contributions.

When organising school activities, trips or visits which enrich the curriculum and educational experience of the children, the school invites parents/carers to contribute to the cost. All contributions are voluntary. If sufficient voluntary contributions are not made, a proposed event may be cancelled unless school is able to cover the shortfall.

Where a child is in receipt of Pupil Premium funding, then it will be at the discretion of the Principal to utilise this to maintain participation of a child. If the event does proceed, each child would be allowed to participate fully without discrimination, irrespective of contribution circumstances.

Parents/Carers have a right to know how each individual trip is funded. The School provides this information on request. The following is a list of additional activities sometimes organised by the School which may require voluntary contributions from parents. These activities are known as 'optional extras'.

This list is not exhaustive:

- Visits to museums
- Sporting activities – sometimes involving transport expenses
- Outdoor adventure activities
- Visits to the theatre
- School trips abroad
- Musical events

Parents/Carers will be given reasonable advanced notice of proposed visits/activities and School will provide details of how each individual voluntary contribution amount has been determined. Staged payments may be arranged where contributions are significant.

Residential visits - Charges

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 or travel expenses. However, we do make a charge to cover the costs of board and lodging and may invite voluntary contributions to meet other costs associated with the visit.

Parents/Carers who receive specific state benefits are exempt from charges for board and lodgings and specific details of exemptions will be provided at the time that residential visit details are notified. Parents/Carers will be given advanced notice of proposed residential visit opportunities together with an early indication of charges and voluntary contribution requests and staged payments may be arranged where contributions are significant.



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Music tuition.

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

Visiting music teachers offer individual or small group music tuition at the School which is additional to the National Curriculum. We give parents information about availability of this facility at the start of each academic year and a charge is made for these lessons. Parents/Carers who receive specific state benefits are exempt from charges for music tuition – details will be provided at the time that tuition is offered.

Swimming

The School organises swimming lessons for all 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 or for associated transport costs. We inform parents/carers when these lessons are to take place and we ask parents/carers for their written permission for their child to take part in swimming lessons.

Out of school clubs and activities

The School offers a range of out of school clubs which are offered at an appropriate charge to contribute to the cost of provision where those activities are not directly aimed at providing educational benefit to pupils.

Childcare

Parents/carers will be responsible for meeting full costs for childcare provided by School. Parents/carers may be eligible for financial support towards childcare costs e.g. through Working Tax Credits. The School will aim to promote financially self-sustainable childcare with full regard to existing provision within the locality.

Transport to extra-curricular activities

Parents/carers may be charged to cover the transport expenses associated with the trip of an extra-curricular activity. Charges for transport will be strictly based on covering actual costs (as defined in legislation) with no profit element.

Loss of/damage to school property

Parents/carers may be asked to meet the costs of repair/replacement of school property lost or damaged as a result of a pupil's misbehavior, or in the circumstances of repeated loss of items which need replacing such as reading books.

Related Documents & Policies

- Pupil Premium Policy
- Health & Safety Policy
- Educational Visits Policy



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Remissions

In some circumstances the school may not charge for items or activities set out in this policy. This will be at the discretion of the Principal and will depend on the activity in question.

We would make an exception on the charging of damaged property where this was as a direct result of an individual child's needs.

Parents whose children are in receipt of Pupil Premium will not pay for the cost of educational trips and visits in accordance with the pupil premium strategy.

In relation to the extended schools provision we would arrange a payment plan to support families where reasonable circumstances arise resulting in the inability to pay invoices due for payment. There may be remissions for extended school provision for vulnerable families who are in crisis for a fixed period, this will be considered on an individual basis by the Pastoral team in conjunction with the Principal.