



Charging and Remissions Policy

Written: Spring 2023

Review: Spring 2024

Brigg Primary School

Charging and Remissions Policy

The Education Reform Act (1988) introduced new provisions on charging for school activities. The purposes of these provisions are:

- to maintain the right to a free school education.
- to ensure that activities offered as part of the National Curriculum and wholly within normal school time should be available to all pupils, regardless of their parents' ability or willingness to help meet the cost.
- to give educational authorities and schools the discretion to charge for optional activities provided wholly or mainly out of school hours.
- to confirm that schools may invite voluntary contributions for the benefit of the school or in support of any activity organised by the school, either in or outside school hours.

The Governors believe that educational visits (or visitors) are an extension to, and an enrichment of, the curriculum. They recognise and approve the need for voluntary contributions from parents. The policy is reviewed annually.

Introduction

All education during school hours is free. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum.

Voluntary contributions – Educational Visits

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. All contributions are voluntary. If we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions, we will have to cancel a trip. If a trip or visit is cancelled any monies contributed would be returned. If a trip goes ahead, it may include children whose parents have not paid the full contribution. We do not treat these children differently from any others.

Sometimes the school pays additional costs in order to support the visit. Parents have a right to know how each trip is funded. The school provides this information on request. In the case of Residential trips when school has to make

a commitment in advance, any deposit received from the parents will be non-refundable.

The following is a list of additional activities organised by the school, which require voluntary contributions from parents. 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 the theatre;
- school trips;
- musical events.
- visitors into school

Residential visits

If the school organises a residential visit in school time or mainly school time, which is to provide education directly related to the National Curriculum, we make a charge to cover the costs of any workshops, board, lodging and travel expenses. This will not exceed the actual cost of the visit. If parents are experiencing financial difficulty they are invited to speak in confidence to the Headteacher, office staff or Lead Learning Mentor.

Music tuition

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

Swimming

The school organises swimming lessons for children in Year 3. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We make no charge for the swimming lessons or the transport. We inform parents when these lessons are to take place, and we ask parents for their written permission for their child to take part in swimming lessons. Additional sessions have been provided for those children who have not met the National Standard. Sports Premium has been used to fund this.

Remissions

Under this policy, the Headteacher has the discretion to waive charges, either in full or part, for an individual. This may be when, in the opinion of the Headteacher, there is clear evidence of financial hardship or when it is in the best interests of the pupil to attend e.g. the pupil would benefit either socially or educationally.

Where a pupil is educated off-site but it is deemed to be part of the normal school day and in the best interests of the child, for example, within a different educational facility, no charge will be made to parents / carers.