

Great Sankey Primary School



Together We Learn and Grow

Charging and Remissions Policy 2024

Version	Date	Action
1	September 2014	New policy written to replace previous. Approved by the Resources Committee. Next review Autumn 2015.
	September 2015.	Review of policy and ratification by governors.
2	September 2016.	Review of policy and ratification by governors.
3	September 2017	Review of policy and ratification by governors.
4	September 2018	Review of policy and ratification by governors.
5	September 2019	Review of policy and ratification by governors.
6	September 2020	Review of policy and ratification by governors.
7	September 2021	Review of policy and ratification by governors.
8	September 2022	Reviewed, no updates required
9	November 2024	Reviewed, minor updates included. Ratified by governors 02.12.2024

Charging and Remissions Policy

Aim

Great Sankey Primary School aims to make a broad programme of activities accessible to as many pupils as possible. This Charging Policy informs all stakeholders about charging for school activities. It conforms to the requirements of the guidance detailed in 'A Guide to the Law for School Governors' and in DfE Guidance on 'Charging for School Activities' (November 2013).

Policy Objectives and Practice

Charging:

No pupil should have his/her curriculum limited by charges. However, the school reserves the right to levy a charge in any circumstances permissible under statute as detailed below. When charges are to be made, the school reserves the absolute right to determine whether the activity has to be cancelled if an insufficient number of families are prepared to pay for the activity to take place.

Voluntary Contributions:

Where a charge cannot be made (as is often the case for activities which are an essential part of the curriculum, or religious education) parents may nevertheless be asked to make a voluntary contribution. The matter of voluntary contributions will not be a factor in deciding whether a pupil is allowed to participate in an activity to be financed by voluntary contributions. Children who are in receipt of pupil premium grant will receive a 50% contribution towards the cost of such educational visits.

The following is a list of examples of activities organised by the school which require voluntary contributions from parents. This list is not exhaustive.

- visits to museums / galleries;
- sporting activities which require transport expenses;
- outdoor adventure activities;
- visits to the theatre;
- theatrical groups invited into school;
- musical events.

Residential visits

Once a year we take children in Y2, Y4 and Y6 on age appropriate residential trips. We make a compulsory charge for the cost of board and lodging during this residential. This cost does not exceed the actual cost of the provision. If insufficient funds are available the visit would not go ahead. Children who are in receipt of pupil premium grant will receive a 50% contribution towards the cost of the trip.

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 group music tuition if this is not part of the National Curriculum. Where peripatetic music teachers teach individual or small group lessons we will make a charge for these lessons. Children who are in receipt of pupil premium grant will receive a 50% contribution towards the cost of lessons.

Enrichment Club Activities

All extracurricular activities offered by the school staff are free of charge, although a contribution may be asked for to cover the cost of materials or resources needed.

Liability for Personal Property

The school does not accept liability for any items of personal property lost or damaged in school, although in exceptional circumstances a contribution to the replacement of a lost or damaged item may be made at the absolute discretion of the Headteacher. Parents may also be asked to make a contribution towards replacing damaged or lost school property caused willfully or negligently by their child(ren).

Remissions:

The school will apply the statutory minimum remissions to any charges that they make. Children in receipt of pupil premium funding will generally be awarded a 50% reduction in the cost of chargeable activities linked to the National Curriculum. However, no pupil shall be placed at an educational disadvantage because of a parent's unwillingness or inability to contribute. In the case of particular need, remissions outside these parameters will be at the absolute discretion of the Headteacher.

Summary

To summarise, in accordance with all the above guidelines, Great Sankey Primary School:

- Will not charge for books, materials, equipment on instruction in connection with the National Curriculum or Statutory Religious Education taught at school, except where parents have indicated in advance they wish to purchase the product.
- Will not charge for any activities that take place in school time, apart from instrumental tuition for individual pupils or pupils in small groups additional to the core teaching of music through the National Curriculum
- May charge for school-time activities by asking parents and carers to make voluntary contributions to enable school funds to go further. Children of parents who do not contribute will not be treated differently from those that do.
- Will have the right to cancel an activity if there are insufficient voluntary contributions to make the activity possible.
- Will charge for board, lodgings and transport on residential courses.
- May permit organisations to charge parents when such an organisation is acting independently of the school or local authority, to arrange an activity to take place during school hours and parents want their children to join in the activity
- May charge for activities which happen outside school hours when these activities are not necessarily part of the National Curriculum.
- Will apply the relevant remission to children in receipt of pupil premium grant funding, or other exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the headteacher.