



Eastlands Primary School

Charging and Remissions Policy

<i>DATE</i>	<i>REVIEW DATE</i>	<i>NOMINATED PERSON</i>	<i>NOMINATED GOVERNOR</i>
October 2018	October 2019	Helen Devine	Paul Albon
	(<u>annual</u>/<u>biannual</u>/<u>triennial</u>)	Website publication Yes /No	Committee <u>FGB</u>/<u>FPP</u>/<u>Curriculum</u>

We believe this policy relates to the following legislation:

- Education Reform Act 1988
- Education (Prescribed Public Examinations) Regulations 1989
- Education (Pupils' Attendance Records) Regulations 1991
- Education Act 1996
- Education (School Sessions, Charges and Permissions Policies) (Information) (England) Regulations 1999
- Education Act 2002
- Education (Residential Trips) (Prescribed Tax Credits) (England) Regulations 2003
- School Information (England) Regulations 2008
- Education and Inspections Act 2006

We are aware that under the Education Reform Act 1988 and the Education Act 2002 that no charge can be made for education in school hours and that every child has the right to receive free school education.

We recognise that all activities offered during normal teaching time must be made available to all children regardless of their parents' ability or willingness to help meet the cost.

We recognise the valuable contribution that the wide range of additional activities, including clubs, educational visits and residential experiences, can make towards pupils personal and social education.

It is our intention to promote and provide such activities both as part of a broad and balanced curriculum and as additional activities.

Therefore, any activity which takes place mainly during school hours or is an essential part of the curriculum will be provided free of charge.

We are aware that we are able to ask for voluntary contributions from parents when organising educational visits which will enrich the curriculum and the educational experiences of children.

We as a school community have a commitment to promote equality. Therefore, an equality impact assessment has been undertaken and we believe this policy is in line with the Equality Act 2010.



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We believe it is essential that this policy clearly identifies and outlines the roles and responsibilities of all those involved in the procedures and arrangements that is connected with this policy.

Aims

- To outline what the school can and cannot charge for.
- To outline the school policy for voluntary contributions and remissions.
- To work with other schools and the local authority in order to share good practice in order to improve this policy.

Responsibility for the Policy and Procedure

The Governing Body has:

- delegated powers and responsibilities to the Headteacher to ensure all school personnel and visitors to the school are aware of and comply with this policy;
- responsibility for ensuring that the school complies with all equalities legislation;
- nominated a designated Equalities governor to ensure that appropriate action will be taken to deal with all prejudice related incidents or incidents which are a breach of this policy;
- responsibility for ensuring funding is in place to support this policy;
- responsibility for ensuring this policy and all policies are maintained and updated regularly;
- responsibility for ensuring all policies are made available to parents;
- nominated a link governor to visit the school regularly, to liaise with the Headteacher and to report back to the Governing Body;
- responsibility for the effective implementation, monitoring and evaluation of this policy

Role of the Headteacher

The Headteacher will:

- ensure all school personnel, pupils and parents are aware of and comply with this policy;
- work closely with the link governor and coordinator;
- provide leadership and vision in respect of equality;
- provide guidance, support and training to all staff;
- monitor the effectiveness of this policy;
- annually report to the Governing Body on the success and development of this policy

Conditions when charges cannot be met

The Governing body recognizes the need to adhere to legislation. However in order to offer the broadest opportunities for enriching learning experiences there are occasions when contributions may be requested. School Governing Bodies and Local Authorities cannot charge for:

- An admission to any maintained school
- Education provided during school hours (including the supply of any materials, books, instruments or other equipment)
- part of a syllabus for an agreed examination for a pupil;
- for statutory religious education;
- for musical tuition as part of the National Curriculum;
- for education provided on any educational visit during the school day;
- for education provided on any educational visit outside school hours;
- for the entry to public examination which is on the prescribed list;
- examination re-sits



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Charges for transport cannot be made when:

- transporting pupils to or from the school premises;
- transporting pupils to other premises where arrangements have been made for them to be educated;
- a pupil needs to sit an examination;

Conditions When Charges Can Be Made

Charges can be made when:

- a parent/carer wishes their child to own any specific materials, books, instruments or equipment;
- a pupil fails to meet any examination requirement of a syllabus;
- the school has not prepared a pupil for an examination;
- property or equipment has been damaged as a result of a pupil's behaviour

Charging For Optional Extra's

Charges may be levied for:

- optional extra activities if parents are willing to accept a charge for the costs;
- an activity that takes place outside school hours;
- any activity provided they do not exceed the actual cost of the activity;
- any materials, books, instruments, equipment or tuition fees for providing education that is not part of the National Curriculum or of a syllabus of a prescribed examination or part of religious education;
- the cost of board and lodging on a residential visit;
- transport provided for any activity;
- musical tuition that is not part of the National Curriculum

Support For Parent/Carer's

The Governing Body will:

- take into consideration any parent/carer in paying for any activity for an individual pupil if they are experiencing financial difficulties;
- inform parents/carers that if they can prove they are on state benefits (i.e Universal Tax Credits) the school may support parents in the cost of board and lodging fees for any residential visit.

Voluntary Contributions

We are aware that we can ask for voluntary contributions from parents/carers that will benefit the school or any school activity.

We will inform parent/carers:

- if planned activities depend on voluntary contributions for part or all of the cost;
- that there is no obligation on them to make voluntary contributions;
- that an educational visit or activity will be cancelled if sufficient costs are not raised via voluntary contributions;



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- that no pupil will be excluded from an educational visit or activity if a parent/carer is unwilling or unable to pay;

We will remit any charge wholly for school based activities that takes place:

- mostly within school hours or;
- partly within and partly outside school hours

Refunds

Refunds will be given if:

- an educational visit/school event has been cancelled;
- contributions to an activity exceed the total cost, that is if the excess amount is over £1 per child

Raising Awareness of this Policy

We will raise awareness of this policy via:

- the school website
- the Staff Handbook
- meetings with parents such as introductory, transition, parent-teacher consultations and periodic curriculum workshops
- school events
- meetings with school personnel
- communications with home such as newsletters
- reports such as annual report to parents and Headteacher reports to the Governing Body

Training

All relevant school personnel:

- have equal chances of training, career development and promotion
- receive training on this policy on induction which specifically covers:
 - Organising an educational visit / school event
 - Budgeting and Financial Planning
 - School Fund
 - Equal opportunities
 - Inclusion
- receive periodic training so that they are kept up to date with new information
- receive equal opportunities training on induction in order to improve their understanding of the Equality Act 2010 and its implications

Quality Impact Assessment

Under the Equality Act 2010 we have a duty not to discriminate against people on the basis of their age, disability, gender, gender identity, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief and sexual orientation.

This policy has been equality impact assessed and we believe that it is in line with the Equality Act 2010 as it is fair, it does not prioritise or disadvantage any pupil and it helps to promote equality at this school.



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Monitoring the Effectiveness of this Policy

The practical application of this policy will be reviewed annually or when the need arises by the coordinator, the Headteacher and the nominated governor.

Headteacher:		Date:	October 2018
Chair of Governing Body:		Date:	October 2018