

CHARGING AND REMISSION POLICY



2017

Rodmarton Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share the same commitment. All staff and volunteers are subject to an enhanced DBS check. Please refer to the school's Safeguarding Children Policy for more information.

'We have carefully considered and analysed the impact of this policy on equality and the possible implications for pupils with protected characteristics, as part of our commitment to meet the Public Sector Equality Duty requirement to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations.'

Agreed by governors: Spring 2017
Next review: Spring Term 2020

1. Introduction

1.1 All the education we provide during normal school hours is at no charge to pupils. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the national Curriculum, with the exception of some individual or small-group music tuition. In some cases, pupil Premium may be used to support those pupils who are at risk of a disadvantaged experience as a result of their family's financial circumstances.

2. Voluntary contributions

2.1 When organizing school trips or visits to enrich the curriculum and the educational experience of the children, the school invites parents to contribute to the cost. All contributions are voluntary. If we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions, we may cancel the trip. If a trip goes ahead, it may include children whose parents have not paid any contribution. We do not treat these children differently from any others.

2.2 If a parent wishes their child to take part in a school trip or event, but is unwilling or unable to make a voluntary contribution, we allow the child to participate fully in the trip or activity. Sometimes the school pays additional costs in order to support the visit. Parents have a right to know how each trip is funded and the school provides information on request.

2.3 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
- ❖ Visits to or by a theatre company
- ❖ Residential and school trips abroad
- ❖ Musical events

3. Residential

3.1 If the school organizes 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 suggest a charge to cover the costs of board and lodging, although parents who receive some state benefits are exempt from this charge. If we cannot raise sufficient funding through these voluntary contributions, the visit may have to be cancelled, and that aspect of the curriculum would have to be covered in different ways.

4. Music tuition

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

4.2 There is a charge for individual or small-group music tuition, since this is an additional curriculum activity, and not part of the National Curriculum. These individual or small-group lessons are taught by peripatetic music teachers. We make a charge for these lessons, but parents in receipt of some state benefits are exempt from payment. We give parents information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year.

5. Swimming

5.1 The school organizes swimming lessons for all children in school. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We make no charge for this activity, but we do ask for voluntary contributions from the parents. We inform parents when these lessons are to take place, and we seek the parents' written permission for their children to take part.

6. After School Clubs and Activities

6.1 If the club or activity is offered by an external provider, that company may charge for their time, service and equipment usage. This operate independently of the school. The school will ensure that the staff running such clubs or activities with our pupils have the correct and current Disclosure and Barring Service checks and any relevant qualifications in place. The school will allow such organisations to use our facilities (free at this time but the school reserves the right to charge for the use of our facilities at any time in the future). Such organisations have their own policies. However, in the best interests of our pupils and parents, we will assist with the collection of fees as necessary.

7. Minibus Hire

7.1 From time to time we use minibuses or taxis for local journeys, any costs are levied against school finances but for longer journeys we normally ask for a contribution to cover the cost of the transportation. These charges will only ever cover the costs of the trip and will not show a profit.

8. Monitoring and review

8.1 This policy is monitored by the governing body and will be reviewed every two years or earlier if necessary.