

Coleham Primary School



Charging and Remissions Policy

Date of policy: Summer 2019
Review of policy: Summer 2022

Compliant with Education Act 1996

Statement of Charging and Remissions Policy

INTRODUCTION

Coleham Primary School recognises the valuable contribution that the wide range of activities including trips and clubs can make towards enriching a pupil's school experience and ultimately their education.

The school aims to promote and provide activities as part of a balanced and broad curriculum and as additional optional extras.

STATEMENT OF INTENT

We are committed to ensuring equal opportunities for all pupils, regardless of their financial circumstances, and has established the following policy to ensure that no child is discriminated against by our offering of school trips, activities and educational extras.

In addition, this policy complies with legal requirements regarding charging for school activities.

We will not charge for:

- admissions
- education provided during school hours (including the supply of any materials, books, instruments or other equipment)
- education provided outside school hours if it is part of the national curriculum, or part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for at the school, or part of religious education.
- entry for a prescribed public examination, if the pupil has been prepared for it at the school.

We will inform parents of the financial support available to them when asking for voluntary contributions and charges.

The school will not charge in excess of the actual cost of providing the activity divided by the number of participating pupils.

The Education Act 1996 allows charges to be made in the following areas which are appropriate to this school.

Visits and activities within school time

When organising school trips or visiting groups, which enrich the curriculum and educational experience of the children, the school may invite parents to contribute to the cost. We always take great care to ensure that trips are reasonably costed and affordable for families and are conscious of the amount of parental contribution requests as we want to be a fully inclusive school. All contributions are voluntary.

Visits and activities are costed on everyone taking part, so if there are not sufficient contributions, and the school cannot fund it via another source, the activity will have to be cancelled.

Letters to parents will explain the nature of the activity and the cost per pupil, to the school. There will be a request for a voluntary contribution of that amount, emphasising that all children will go on



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the visit, whether their parents have contributed or not. It will be made clear that the activity may not go ahead if insufficient voluntary contributions are made.

Residential Visits

For the residential visit in Year 4 and Year 6, charges will be made to cover the board and lodging costs only.

For parents of children who are currently entitled to free school meals (not universal free school meals) they will be exempt from paying the cost of board and lodging for residential trips. The school will cover this cost for those pupils.

For parents of children who are eligible for Pupil Premium Funding (PP/LAC/PostLAC/not service premium) the school will contribute 50% of the cost towards the board and lodging for residential trips.

Music Tuition

All children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We do not charge for this. In addition, the school endeavours, where funding allows, to provide opportunities for whole classes to learn an instrument together (currently Year 1 and Year 5).

Charges will be made for the teaching of a musical instrument either individually or to groups provided that the tuition is at the request of the pupil's parents. These charges will be paid to the teacher involved. For parents of children who are eligible for Pupil Premium Funding, the school will endeavour to fund pupil tuition (one instrument per child) where this is in line with pupil premium aims.

Swimming

Swimming lessons take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We make no charge for this activity as it is funded by the school budget. However the school will invite parents to voluntary contribute towards the cost of the transport.

Extra-Curricular After School Clubs run by the school

The school offers a range of extra-curricular activities which take place after school, which are clearly outlined on the termly letter to parents/carers. Most of these are run by school staff. We charge a fee for these clubs to contribute to staffing and the costs of any materials provided and raise a small amount of income for the school. The money raised is used for educational purposes, to support the school budget. Sports team practices are not charged for and neither are rehearsals for school productions.

For parents of children who are currently in receipt of free school meals (not universal free school meals) or eligible for Pupil Premium funding (PP/LAC/PostLAC/not service premium), they will be exempt from paying to attend extra-curricular clubs. These are generally capped at one externally ran club and 1 school ran club)

Sports Competitions

Children regularly attend sporting fixtures and competitions after school. The school will invite parents to voluntary contribute towards the cost of the transport for these.

All children will go to the competition/fixture, whether their parents have contributed or not. However, it will be made clear that the activity may not go ahead if insufficient voluntary contributions are made.



After School Clubs run by external providers

Some after school clubs are organised and run by external providers. They will have their own charging arrangements and payments will be made directly to the organisation involved. However the school will ensure that they feel charges are reasonable for the clubs before arranging for the club to take place. Often charges are discounted to pupils in return for free use of the premises.

For parents of children who are currently in receipt of free school meals (not universal free school meals) or eligible for Pupil Premium funding, they will be exempt from paying for one externally ran club per term. Where there are associated costs for external clubs such as exams or subscriptions then it should not be presumed that the school will pay for these. (e.g. Karate)

Extended School Services

The school offers before and after school, child care at the Coleham Breakfast and After School Club. The charges for these are set out in the Breakfast & After School Club Policy which is available on the school internet. The school reserves the right to charge for a session where staff have not been notified of occasional non-attendance for 'special events' within a two week notice period or to charge a late fee where the parent picks the child up after 5:45pm.

For parents of children who are currently in receipt of free school meals (not universal free school meals) they will be exempt from paying for a place at the Breakfast Club. (FSM entitlement does not guarantee a child a place at Breakfast Club, the waiting list may still apply) Please see our Breakfast and After School Club Policy for further details.

Catering

School dinner charges are levied and paid directly to the external catering provider.

Milk

Reception Children

The Government will provide milk for children who are under 5 years of age. This will be via individual bottles of milk to be drunk at snack time in the Reception classrooms.

All children

Milk will be available to all children in the dining hall at lunch time regardless of if they are purchasing a school dinner or bringing a packed lunch from home.

Damage/Loss to Property

A charge may be levied in respect of wilful damage, neglect or loss of school property (furniture, equipment, books or materials) at the discretion of the Headteacher.

Other Charges

The Headteacher may levy charges for miscellaneous services up to the cost of providing such services. For example photocopying charges and charges associated with providing copies of reports or information. There may be a charge for providing information in association with Freedom of Information requests. Please see the Data Protection Policy for details.

REMISSIONS POLICY

Financial Support

Costs for 'optional extras' may be covered for children entitled to Pupil Premium funding. Please see the Pupil Premium Policy for further details.

Please see the Pupil Premium section of the school website: www.colehamprimary.co.uk

Remissions

The Headteacher may remit in full or part charges in respect of a pupil, if it feels reasonable in the circumstances.

The Headteacher may decide not to levy charges in respect of a particular activity, if it feels reasonable in the circumstances.

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Appendix A

Remissions Table

Full remission (Coleham will pay 100%)	Part Remission (Coleham will pay for 50%)
Milk for all children at lunchtime	Residential Trips (PP children only)
Residential Trips (FSM children only)	
Breakfast Club (FSM children only)	
Extra-Curricular clubs ran by school (FSM & PP children)	
Extra-curricular clubs ran by external providers (FSM & PP children Limited to 1 club per child per term)	

Note: Pupil Premium funding is a stream of funding that includes

- each pupil registered as eligible for free school meals (FSM) at any point in their education. This funding will follow them for the next 6 years.
- Looked after Children or Post Looked after Children identified in the last school census.
- children whose parents are currently serving in the armed forces.

