



Great Coates Primary School

Charging and Remission Policy

Charging

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

Voluntary contributions

When organising 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 a 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.

The 1988 Education Act draws a distinction between the term 'charges' which are considered to be an obligatory cost and 'voluntary contributions' which are self-explanatory.

Subsidies from various sources e.g. school funds, Great Coates Primary FRIENDS, Pupil Premium, voluntary organisations will be considered to cover deficits. Surplus finance will be used via school fund for the benefit of the children.

Whenever possible, the school will give sufficient notice to allow parent/carers to pay by installments.

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 do 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. The school provides this information on request.

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
- outdoor adventure activities;
- visits to or by a theatre company
- visiting performers/experts
- school trips
- musical events
- transport to and from such events

Residential Visits

If the school organises 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 would make a charge to cover the costs of board and lodging. Parents of children who are in receipt of pupil premium are offered the option to make a reduced payment or, in some cases, no payment. This is at the discretion of the Headteacher and the individual family circumstances. Our residential visits do not usually directly relate to an area of the National Curriculum; therefore we do make a charge to cover the costs of board, lodging and travel expenses.

Swimming

The school organises swimming lessons for all children in Key Stage 2. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We therefore make no charge for this activity. We inform parents when these lessons are to take place, and we ask parents for their written permission for their child to take part.

Lunchtime / After School Sport and Creative Activities

The school offers additional activities after school and during lunch breaks. We reserve the right to make a small charge for the sessions after school to cover the cost of staffing.

The Governing Body of Great Coates Primary School, at their meeting in February 2016, adopted this policy

Signed:

_____ (Head Teacher)

_____ (Chair of Governors)