

Greenslade Primary School

Charging and Remissions Policy September 2023

This policy will be reviewed by the Governing Body Business Committee in the Autumn Term 2025.

We recognise that all our children are entitled to a broad and balanced curriculum. This includes a range of additional activities including clubs and trips.

Responsibilities

The Governing Body determine and review this Charging and Remissions Policy and the Headteacher is responsible for its implementation.

Voluntary Contribution

When we organise school trips, visits or activities to enrich our curriculum the school invites parents and careers to contribute to the cost. All contributions are voluntary. We strive to ensure that children will not be excluded from taking part in any such activity due to financial disadvantage. FOGS, our parents support group, frequently support us to ensure all our children can participate and benefit from all our activities and, for example, pay for the cost of transport to and from our residential school journeys and pay for events such as a Christmas Pantomime.

Books and Equipment

Most resources used in school for example books, stationary, pens and pencils, ICT resources, sports equipment, clay and model making materials are provided free and we want our children to benefit from the best possible resources to support their learning.

Residential Visits

We currently offer one residential school journey to Sussex at the Hindleap Warren Centre near to East Grinstead. Our aim is for all of our children to take part due to the social and academic benefits of such trips. We charge for the cost of board and lodgings and aim to keep the cost as low as possible to ensure as many of our children can participate. Our FOGS group pay for the cost of transport.

Parents and Carers who are in receipt of the following state benefits, for either the whole or part of the time spent on the visit, maybe entitled to receive a part remission of any charges that would otherwise be payable in respect of board and lodgings:

Universal Credit

Income Support

Income Based Jobseekers Allowance

Child Tax Credit (providing the parents are not entitled to Working Tax Credit)

Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

Guarantee element of State Pension Credit

Trips and visitors

We request that parents and carers on occasion make contributions to the cost of school educational or social trips or to pay for visitors or events in school. We understand that

these contributions are voluntary and that such trips are a vital part of our children's educational or social development. However, we rely on these contributions for the trips to go ahead and if sufficient numbers of families do not pay these voluntary contributions then we withhold the right to cancel the trip if it becomes apparent the school will incur a significant financial burden were the trip to go ahead. We would do so with great reluctance.

Music Tuition

We ask families for a minimal contribution for some of our music tuition. The money raised in this way pays for the resources and the cover we organise. No profit is made. The same principle applies to music tuition as to trips and visitors. We rely on the contributions made by families to pay for the cover cost of our guitar teacher and reserve the right to suspend the tuition if a significant amount of payment is required.

Swimming

Our Year 4 Class benefit from swimming lessons each week. These sessions take place in school time and as they are part of our curriculum offer they are free of charge.

Loss and Damage to school property

Parents and Carers of a child who deliberately damages school property or loses equipment due to careless use may be liable for the cost of replacement or repair of such items. Decisions will be made at the Headteacher's discretion.

After School Club Activities

We are proud to offer a range of additional activities after school and reserve the right to charge a nominal fee for these sessions.

Breakfast and After School Club

Our Breakfast and After School Club is currently run by the Junior Adventures Group. They organise payment for this service.

Remissions Policy

The Headteacher, in line with the policy agreed by the Governors, may remit in full or part of the charges if he feels it is appropriate and reasonable in the circumstances of a given situation. If a family are finding it difficult to make a financial contribution they should not hesitate to discuss their circumstances in confidence with the Headteacher or another member of staff. We will always discuss the options that are available.

All remissions will be authorised by the Headteacher.

School Dinners

Currently our children do not pay for school dinners as part of the Universal Free School Dinner initiative.

This policy will be reviewed by Governors in the Autumn Term 2025