

# Rakegate Primary School



## Charging & Remissions Policy

This charging policy has been compiled in line with DfE requirements and in accordance with s457 of the Education Act, 1996.

## **Introduction**

All education during school hours is free. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum. However for certain activities we may charge or ask for voluntary contributions.

## **Voluntary Contributions**

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

If a parent/carer 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/carers 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 may 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 expenses;
- outdoor adventure activities;
- visits to the theatre;
- musical events.

## **Residential Visits**

For residential visits in school time or mainly school time, which provides education directly related to the National Curriculum, we do not make any charge for the education or travel expenses. However, we do make a charge to cover the costs of board and lodging.

## **Music Tuition**

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

## **Swimming**

The school organises swimming lessons for children in Year 5. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We make no charge for this activity. We inform parents when these lessons are to take place, and we ask parents/carers for their written permission for their child to take part in swimming lessons.

## **Extra-Curricular Activities**

A range of extra-curricular activities organised by the school staff are provided free of Charge.

The school is sometimes able to offer additional specialised after school. Qualified Coaches/teachers, who are not a member of the school staff to run and organises sessions. We may make a charge for these sessions.

## **School Meals**

The school has adopted the standard Local Authority charging policy for school meals. In addition to this, we are also following the Local Authority Universal Free School Meals initiative introduced September 2014 where all infant pupils are able to receive a free school meal. We do ask that families who are eligible for free school meals still apply for them as the premium attached to this benefit comes in to school and helps provide children with additional benefits.

## **Goods or services sold by school**

Occasionally school will sell goods such as school uniform or book bags. A charge is made to the value of the goods received with the school receiving a small profit. It is not however school policy to specify which supplier people have to use.

## **Charges for miscellaneous services**

There are no charges for services, but we ask for a voluntary donation to school fund e.g. for passport applications.

## **Lost or deliberately damaged property**

If a child has provably and deliberately damaged or defaced school property or another child's property the parent of that child will be voluntarily requested to replace it. If the Policy on Charging parent requests the school to provide a replacement e.g. for a diary planner that they cannot access themselves, the school is happy to assist. However, these cannot be constituted as a charge because there is no way of enforcing this and it is therefore voluntary.

## **Paying for Information**

Where parents or carers request copies of information under the Freedom of Information Act, the Governors can make a charge for providing such copies – equivalent to the costs charged to school per copies by the photocopying contract.

## **Breakfast and Afterschool Club**

Breakfast Club and Afterschool Club is a service available to all Rakegate pupils, from Nursery through to Year 6. This is a chargeable service to cover costs of staffing and resources. These are led and managed by school staff so the children will be greeted and looked after by a familiar face. A range of activities are always available.

Charges listed below are effective from September 2020:

Breakfast Club

7.30 – 8.40am            £3.00 per session.

After School Club

3:10 – 4:30pm           £5.00 per session

3:10 – 5:30pm           £7.00 per session

**Remissions Policy**

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

The Headteacher, Finance Committee or Governing Body may decide not to levy charges in respect of a particular activity, if it feels it is reasonable in the circumstances.

Approved:

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Chair of Governors

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Headteacher