

Stonegate C E Primary School



Charging and Remissions Policy

Adopted: June 2017
Governing Body Approval: July 2017
To be revised: June 2020

Vision

1. We will develop the confidence, independence and self-esteem of every child in our care, so that they are equipped to live as global citizens in our fast changing world.
2. We will develop the good manners, social skills and personal values of every child in our care and continue to promote 'pupil voice' through our School Council, to ensure that all children have the opportunity to be involved in decision-making.
3. We will care for our environment and continue to be aware of 'green issues' that improve the health and well-being of our school and the wider community.
4. We will ensure that all individuals are equipped with the necessary ICT skills to enable them to live and learn in the 21st Century.
5. We will develop and support staff in their personal and professional development.

Mission Statement

We value every child for what they are and prepare them for everything they could be.

Equal Opportunities

At Stonegate Primary School we believe that all children, regardless of first language, disability, race, gender, cultural or socio-economic background, should receive equal access to the full school curriculum.

Disability Statement

Stonegate Primary School is proud to be an inclusive school. We are able to offer access to the full curriculum for children who have a disability.

We have easy access into the main part of the building and have disabled toilet facilities within the school.

As with any additional needs the schools work closely with parents and appropriate outside agencies.

Charging Policy

1. Introduction

1.1 All education during school hours is free. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum with the exception of individual or group music tuition.

2. Voluntary contributions

2.1 Throughout the year there are likely to be events such as day visits organised for classes in conjunction with their topic work, or visits to the school by Theatres or

Workshops etc. Such events play an important part in the school curriculum, extending the learning that is started in the classroom and no child is excluded for financial reasons. When organising school trips or visits which enrich the curriculum and educational experience of the children, the school invites parents to contribute to the cost of the event. All contributions are voluntary.

If we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions, we may cancel the event. If an event 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 such an event, but is unwilling or unable to make a voluntary contribution, they will need to speak to the Headteacher. This can be in confidence. When a conversation is had regarding the voluntary contribution, a decision is made between the Headteacher and the parent as to how much of the contribution they can or are willing to pay. Also, whether another factor may be helpful e.g. more time to pay, or payment in instalments. The school is able to cover some costs to support the family. We will always allow their child to participate fully in the event or activity.

2.3 Parents have the right to know how each event is funded. The school provides this information on request.

2.4 There are no set rules or guidelines about which families (e.g. pupil premium/ non pupil premium) can receive financial support or regarding what the support is for. The school will negotiate with any family in financial difficulty, as this can happen to any family at any time and for a variety of reasons. Learning experiences within the National Curriculum or EYFS Curriculum and/or within the school day will always take priority. Any other activities are at the discretion of the Senior Leaders and are decided on a case by case basis. Any financial support is given in the interest of ensuring equality of opportunity for learning. Any support that should be given by another body (e.g. social services) will not be provided by the school.

2.5 At the start of each school year, we ask for a voluntary contribution of £25 from the parents for each child in school. This is used to purchase materials for homework including: phonics books, reading books, maths textbooks and online materials. No child is refused access to these materials if their parent does not or cannot pay this voluntary contribution.

3. Music tuition

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

3.2 There is a charge for individual or group music tuition if this is not part of the National Curriculum. The peripatetic music teachers teach individual or small group lessons and will make a charge for these lessons. We give parents information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year or on request.

4. Extended Services

4.1 Stonegate Primary School does not currently operate a Breakfast Club or specific wrap around care – names of external providers who will charge for this service are available from the office.

4.2 After school clubs – regular after school clubs are not charged for as we do not believe that children should be excluded from these clubs on the grounds of cost. A variety of clubs run every day of the week between 3.15 and normally 4.00 / 4.15 for year groups 1-6. Some clubs are limited in number due to the adult to child ratio and therefore children may miss out for a term but every effort is made to ensure that these children take part in the club at the next available opportunity.

5. Swimming

5.1 The school organises swimming lessons for all children in KS2. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We request a contribution for the cost of the transport to take the children to the pool. We inform parents when these lessons are to take place, and we ask parents for their written permission for their child to take part in swimming lessons.

6. Residential School Trips

6.1 At the time of writing, there are 2 residential trips for children in Year 3 / 4 and Year 5 / 6. The cost of this is met largely by contributions by parents. For children whose families are in receipt of certain government benefits, the cost can be reduced. And the offer of financial assistance is there for all families. The school will look for, wherever possible, local charities or grants to pay for these children.

Parents need to speak to the Headteacher to make these arrangements which will be confidential.

7. Ingredients/materials for practical subjects (e.g. D&T, cookery)

7.1 Parents/ Carers may be requested to provide materials for these activities, but the school will provide what is required for those who cannot bring in what is needed. No charge is made to parents/ carers for cooking ingredients and no child will be exempt from these activities.

8. Breakages, damage to school property

8.1 Parents/ Carers should be aware that wilful damage to school property (e.g. buildings, furniture, stationery, class supplies etc.) will be charged to parents / carers by the school.

9. Lettings

9.1 The school currently does not offer lettings.