Rhodes Avenue Primary School

Charging and Remissions Policy

Date policy last reviewed: Spring 2025

Signed by:

_____ Headteacher Date: _____

_____ Chair of governors Date: _____

Last updated: Spring 2025

Ethos

We believe that all pupils should have an equal opportunity to benefit from school activities, both on and off site, within and outside the curriculum, regardless of their family's financial means. This policy sets out our school approach to charging and remissions. In formulating this policy, it underscores our intention to ensure transparency in setting charges and to ensure that all children are able to access the provision on offer.

Music Tuition

All children study music as part of the National Curriculum, for which there is no charge. However, there is a charge for all other instrumental and vocal tuition requested by parents/carers within school hours. The charge is paid directly to Haringey's Music Services which provides peripatetic music teachers to teach individual or small group sessions on the school site. Haringey Music Services will provide parents information about charges and availability of additional music tuition.

Voluntary contributions for activities as part of the Curriculum

When organising school trips, visits or workshop activities which enrich the curriculum and the educational experience, the school may, invite parents to contribute to the cost of the activity. All contributions are voluntary, although it may be the case that some activities may be unable to go ahead without a sufficient level of contribution. If this is the case, it will be made clear to parents when the contribution is requested. Provided that the activity is able to go ahead, no child will be excluded from any activity funded by voluntary contributions on the ground that their parent/carer is unwilling or unable to contribute. If appropriate and funds allow, the school or Rhodes Avenue Parents' Association (RAPSA) may pay a proportion of the costs in order to support a visit.

School Meals

No charge will be made for pupils entitled to free school meals.

Optional Extra Activities

Optional extra activities are ones that take place wholly or mainly outside school hours. Where an optional extra is being provided, a charge can be made for providing materials, books, instruments, or equipment. It is the school's policy to charge for these activities. Where a charge is made, the total collected will not exceed the cost of providing the activity and all children who wish to participate will be expected to pay the appropriate per capita charge. For those parents/carers who cannot afford to pay for optional extra activities, parents/carers will be encouraged to speak to the Headteacher in order to establish whether funding arrangements are available to support any optional extra activity.

Out of School Hours Provision

1. Extra- Curricular Clubs (outside agencies)

The school will determine annually the number of Extra-Curricular clubs and the requisite allocation of spaces – playgrounds, halls and school grounds that it can accommodate. The school will decide whether to charge these privately-run clubs a per-pupil rate or a fee for the allocated space; these charges are reviewed annually.

2. Extra-Curricular Clubs (school run clubs)

For clubs that support the curriculum and are taught by school staff voluntarily, parents are not charged a per-pupil rate but an administration fee is required for registering their child.

Activities not run by the School or LA

When an organisation is acting independently of the school or Local Authority and arranges an activity to take place during school hours and parents want their children to join the activity, such organisations may charge parents.

Residential Visits

The school organises annual residential visits. If the residential trip is classified as being in school hours, no charge will be made for travel costs nor activities, although a voluntary contribution will be sought; board and lodging will be charged for but not exceed their actual cost.

Pupils entitled to FSM (or pupil premium) and families in financial difficulties will be supported by the school as far as possible. Bursaries, if available, will be applied for by the Business Manager. At present RAPSA provide hardship funds to further support school trips and this may also be used to offset the cost of the residential visit.

This will be made clear when the visit is announced and will be dealt with discreetly and in confidence by the Headteacher. Where the residential is classified as being outside school hours, a charge will be made. All parents/carers will be given the option of a payment plan to spread the costs of the residential visit. Breakages The school may seek to recover any costs incurred due to willful damage or breakage of property belonging to a third party, by a pupil where the school has been charged.

Pupils with special needs

(Refer to the Special Educational Needs Policy)

Procedures for policy monitoring and dissemination

All members of staff and governors will receive a copy of this policy. Copies are available to parents/carers on request. This Policy has been approved by the Governing Body and the School Leadership Team and it will be reviewed in line with the curriculum policy schedule.

Staff responsible:

Headteacher

Deputy Headteacher

Business Manager

The Resource Committee