



Grange First School Charging Policy

1. Introduction

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.

It is our firm belief that no child in our school should miss out on opportunities that are offered to the rest of the children. All charges are raised sensitively with consideration for cost implications for parents weighed against the educational benefits. Where appropriate, the school will use the Pupil Premium and discretionary payments to ensure children from lower income families are able to access the many curriculum enrichment activities we take part in.

2. Voluntary contributions

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 trip. All contributions are voluntary. If we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions, we may cancel a trip. Sometimes, however, 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. Pupils who eligible for FSM/Pupil Premium may have all or part of the costs of a trip paid for the pupil by the school.

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.

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;
- ingredients and materials used in practical lessons
- sporting activities which require transport expenses;
- outdoor adventure activities;
- visits to the theatre;
- school trips;
- musical events

3. Residential visits

If the school organises a residential visit in school time or mainly school time, we make a charge to cover the costs of board, lodging and travel expenses. If parents are experiencing financial difficulty they are invited to write in confidence to the headteacher. Parents of children eligible for FSM will be approached by the school and subsidised /supported rates will be offered.

4. Music tuition

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

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. We make a charge for these lessons. If parents are experiencing financial difficulty, they are invited to write in confidence to the headteacher. We give parents information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year. Children eligible for Pupil Premium are offered free music lessons.

5. 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 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 in swimming lessons.

6. Clubs

The school endeavours to offer as many clubs and opportunities to enrich the children's learning experiences as possible free of charge. However, we are a small school and to ensure the full range of clubs is available to our children we do use some external providers with specialist skills. These clubs take place outside of normal school hours and charges are made by the providers. Parents of children receiving Pupil Premium will be offered assistance in attending these clubs and activities.

6. Wilful Damage

Where a pupil has wilfully damaged books, materials, equipment or premises, then parents will be expected to contribute towards replacement or repair where appropriate