

Charging and Remissions Policy

Ferryhill Station Primary School



Approved by: Mrs Jemma Crosby

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Last reviewed on: January 2026

Next review due by: January 2028

CHARGING POLICY

Activities without charge:

- Education provided during school hours (including the supply of any materials, books, instruments or other equipment) and also transport provided in school hours to carry pupils between school and an activity.
- Education provided outside school hours if it is part of the National Curriculum or part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for at the school or part of religious education. □ Instrumental or vocal tuition, for pupils learning individually or in groups, unless the tuition is provided at the request of the pupil's parent
- Entry for a prescribed public examination if the pupil has been prepared for it at the school
- Examination re-sit(s) if the pupil is being prepared for the re-sit(s) at the school

Voluntary contributions:

As an exception to the requirements above, the school is able to ask for voluntary contributions from parents to fund activities during school hours which would not otherwise be possible. Some activities for which the school may ask parents for voluntary contributions include:

- Visits to museums, places of interest
- Sporting activities which require transport expenses
- Outdoor adventure activities
- Visits to or by a theatre company
- Musical events
- Visitors delivering workshops to the children

There is no obligation for parents to make any contribution, and no child will be excluded from an activity if their parents are unwilling or unable to pay. If the school is unable to raise enough funds for an activity or visit then it will be cancelled.

Where charges can be made:

- Any materials, books, instruments or equipment, where the child's parent wishes him or her to own them □
Optional extras (see below)
- Music and vocal tuition, in limited circumstances
- Certain early years provision
- Community facilities

Optional extras

We are able to charge for activities known as 'optional extras'. In these cases, the school can charge for providing materials, books, instruments or equipment. The following are optional extras:

- Education provided outside of school time that is not part of o The national curriculum o A syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for at the school o Religious education
- Examination entry fee(s) if the registered pupil has not been prepared for the examination(s) at the school
- Transport (other than transport that is required to take the pupil to school or to other premises where the local authority/governing board has arranged for the pupil to be provided with education)
- Board and lodging for a pupil on a residential visit
- Extended day services offered to pupils (such as breakfast clubs, after-school clubs, tea and supervised homework sessions)

When calculating the cost of optional extras, an amount may be included in relation to:

- Any materials, books, instruments or equipment provided in connection with the optional extra
- The cost of buildings and accommodation
- Non-teaching staff

- Teaching staff engaged under contracts for services purely to provide an optional extra (including supply teachers engaged specifically to provide the optional extra)
- The cost, or an appropriate proportion of the costs, for teaching staff employed to provide tuition in playing a musical instrument, or vocal tuition, where the tuition is an optional extra

Any charge made in respect of individual pupils will not be greater than the actual cost of providing the optional extra activity, divided equally by the number of pupils participating.

Any charge will not include an element of subsidy for any other pupils who wish to take part in the activity but whose parents are unwilling or unable to pay the full charge.

In cases where a small proportion of the activity takes place during school hours, the charge cannot include the cost of alternative provision for those pupils who do not wish to participate.

Parental agreement is necessary for the provision of an optional extra which is to be charged for.

Music tuition

The school can charge for vocal or instrumental tuition provided either individually or to groups of pupils, provided that the tuition is provided at the request of the pupil's parent.

Charges may not exceed the cost of the provision, including the cost of the staff giving the tuition.

Charges cannot be made:

- If the teaching is an essential part of the national curriculum
- If the teaching is provided under the first access to the Key Stage 2 instrumental and vocal tuition programme
- For a pupil who is looked after by a local authority

Residential visits

We can charge for board and lodging on residential visits, but the charge must not exceed the actual cost.

REMISSIONS POLICY

There will be no board and lodgings for pupils whose parents are receiving specified benefits. This is subject to change but usually equates to pupils being eligible for free school meals (due to the receipt of specified benefits and not through the introduction of universal infant FSM). Current eligible benefits can be found on the DfE website. Charges for other 'chargeable activities' may be partly or fully remitted. Where appropriate, Governors approve the use of the delegated budget and other funding streams such as Pupil Premium to allow 'chargeable activities' to be partly or fully remitted.

Details of any remission arrangements will be made clear when parents are informed of charges for individual activities.