

Charging and Remissions Policy

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Date: 1 September 2012

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Signed:



1 Introduction

- 1.1 As a result of the 1988 Education Reform Act, the school may not charge for activities which take place during the school day, such as school trips, swimming, visiting speakers and artists, cooking, craft and technology work, etc.
- 1.2 As funds cannot meet the cost of all these activities, and the staff and governors feel it is right to offer as rich a curriculum as possible, we ask the parents for voluntary contributions to cover such costs. We are confident that parents recognise the value of these activities, and with your full co-operation hope to continue to provide a varied, interesting and exciting programme of events. No child will be excluded from participating in any school activity, although the school may need to cancel an event if voluntary contributions are not sufficient to cover the cost of that event and the school is unable to find the difference. Charges will be made for individual music lessons provided by peripatetic music teachers. Hertfordshire County Council has a policy relating to the remission of any such fees for families on low incomes.

2 Voluntary contributions

- 2.1 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. If a trip 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 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 have a right to know how each trip is funded. The school provides this information on request.

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2.3 The following is a list of additional activities organized by the school, which require voluntary contributions from parents. These activities are known as 'optional extras'. This list is not exhaustive:

- Swimming;
- visits to museums;
- sporting activities which require transport expenses;
- outdoor adventure activities;
- visits to the theatre;
- musical events;

3 Residential visits

3.1 The school organises an annual residential visit in school time, which is to provide education directly related to the National Curriculum. We ask parents / carers for a voluntary contribution to cover the costs of board and lodging, travel expenses and tuition. Parents who receive state benefits may receive a contribution towards the cost.

4 Music tuition

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

4.2 There is a charge for individual or group music tuition if this is provided by Herts Music Service. The peripatetic music teachers teach individual or small group lessons. We make a charge for these lessons. Parents in receipt of state benefits may be exempt from payment. We give parents information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year.

5 Swimming

5.1 The school organises swimming lessons for all children in Lower Key Stage 2 (NC Years 3 and 4). These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We ask parents / carers for a voluntary contribution 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 Football

6.1 The school offers additional football coaching after school. A qualified FA coach, who is not a member of the school staff, runs and organizes these sessions. The coach makes a small charge for these sessions.