

Grayrigg Church of England Primary School

Policy on Charging

Introduction

All the education we provide during normal school hours is at no charge to pupils. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum, with the exception of some individual or small-group music tuition.

Voluntary contributions

When organising school trips or visits to enrich the curriculum and the educational experience of the children, the school invites parents and carers to contribute to the cost. 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 or carers have not paid any contribution. We do not treat these children differently from any others.

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 and carers have a right to know how each trip is funded, and the school provides this information on request.

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

- visits to museums;
- sporting activities which require transport expenses;
- outdoor adventure activities;
- visits to or by a theatre company;
- school trips;
- musical events.

Residential visits

If the school organises a residential visit in school time, or mainly in school time, which is to provide education directly related to the National Curriculum, we do not make any charge for the education. However, we do suggest a contribution to cover the costs of board and lodging, although parents and carers who are eligible for pupil premium are exempt from this contribution. If we cannot raise sufficient funding through these voluntary contributions, the visit may have to be cancelled, and that aspect of the curriculum would have to be covered in other ways.

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 small-group music tuition, since this is an additional curriculum activity, and not part of the National Curriculum. These individual or small-group lessons are taught by peripatetic music teachers. We may make a charge for these lessons, but parents and carers who are eligible for pupil premium are exempt from payment. We give parents and carers information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year.

Swimming

The school organises swimming lessons for all children in school. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We make no charge for this activity, but we may seek funding from FOGS or ask for a voluntary contribution from parents and carers to cover the cost of transport. We inform parents and carers when these lessons are to take place, and we seek the written permission of parents or carers for their children to take part.

Before & After School Care

The majority of after school clubs for school aged children are free of charge until 4.30pm. School also offers additional care between 8 – 8.30am and 3.30 – 5.30pm at a small charge.

School Meals

Free school meals are provided to infants through the Universal Free School Meals provision. School meals are also available to both Nursery & Key-stage 2 children and a charge is made direct to parents on a non-profit basis.

Nursery Provision

A governor led nursery provision is available for children aged 3+ and a charge is made for any additional hours booked beyond the free childcare entitlement (currently 15 or 30 hours per week). Before and after school care for nursery aged children is available between 8 – 8.30am and 3.30 – 5.30pm and is charged at the additional hourly rate.

Monitoring and review

This policy is monitored by the finance staffing and premises committee, and will be reviewed every two years, or more frequently if necessary.

Signed:

Date: 15.10.2025

Chair of Finance, Premises and Health & Safety Committee