



Great Totham Primary School Charging & Remissions Policy

The Governors are mindful of both the implications of the Education Act governing charges and the financial situation in which many parents find themselves. We wish to strike a balance between the two and support a range of educational activities, which enhance and enrich the curriculum without any child being disadvantaged.

Voluntary contributions

When organising school trips or visits which enrich the curriculum and educational experience of the children, the school will invite parents to contribute to the cost of the trip. All contributions are voluntary. If we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions, we may find it necessary to cancel an event. Children whose parents have not made a contribution will not be excluded from any event.

Damage to school property

When a child's inappropriate behaviour leads to damage requiring the repair or replacement of school property, then parents may be asked to either meet the full cost or make a contribution at the Headteacher's discretion.

After School Clubs

The school offers a range of after school clubs that are led by staff at the school. Most of these activities are offered free of charge (a small fee for material costs may be charged). In addition, there are several after school clubs that are led by outside commercial organisations. Qualified instructors, who are not members of the school staff, run and organise these sessions. The organising companies make a charge for these activities and any money paid goes directly to these providers.

Great Totham Child Care Provision – The Lodge

The school provides child care facilities as part of its commitment to supporting families through the extended school agenda. The school provides breakfast and after school child care and this is not part of the school's educational provision. Any parent wishing to access these facilities must agree to the terms and conditions of the club which includes fees and payment options.

Residential visits

The school organises a year 6 residential visit which takes place mainly in school time. This visit is not linked to the national curriculum and is intended to help develop personal & social skills in preparation for secondary school. The school does not charge for teaching or instruction that takes place as part of the visit but does charge for the cost of board, lodging and transportation.

All parents will be asked to make a non-refundable deposit to secure a place on the trip and all agreed costs must be paid in full before the date of the trip.

If meeting the cost of a residential trip is likely to create difficulties, then parents and carers are encouraged to contact the school at the earliest opportunity to discuss ways in which help may be provided. Where a pupil is not eligible for either free school meals or pupil premium funding then financial assistance will only be provided at the Headteacher's discretion.

Swimming

All schools must provide swimming instruction either in Key Stage 1 or 2 as part of the National Curriculum. The aim being that all children should be able to swim proficiently over a distance of at least 25 metres. At Great Totham we provide swimming lessons to all the children each year for four weeks in the first half of the summer term. A voluntary contribution is requested towards the costs of heating and running the pool.

In addition, the school offers further optional swimming lessons during the second half of the summer term, a contribution towards the cost is required.

As part of our commitment to ensure all children achieve the required standard in swimming and are safe in the water, some children may be provided with extra lessons before school during the swimming season. No additional voluntary contribution is sought for this focused support.

Remissions

The governing body recognises its responsibility to ensure that the offer of activities and educational visits does not place an unnecessary burden on family finances. The head teacher has the discretion to reduce or waiver charges based on individual circumstances for any family and not purely based on Pupil Premium Grant eligibility.

Pupil Premium Grant

In line with our Pupil Premium Strategy, funds are available to support disadvantaged families. This reflects our commitment to ensure disadvantaged children have the same enrichment opportunities as their more privileged peers. Families are offered support with the residential visit, swimming (curriculum & optional) and other enrichment activities.

Child care or extracurricular club provision will not normally be supported although this depends on individual circumstances and agreed need.

Monitoring & Review of Policy

It is the responsibility of the Resources Committee to evaluate and review this policy two years or sooner if there is an identified need.

Policy agreed January 2015

Date of Review	Comments
<i>January 2018</i>	Agreed, no changes Matt Freeman.
<i>January 2019</i>	Agreed the changes in review schedule & removal of music tuition.
<i>December 2021</i>	Review delayed due to COVID school closure