



Thorntree Primary School

Charging & Remissions Policy Statement

2018/19

This policy has been formulated in accordance with Authority's guidance on charging for School Activities.

The aim of this policy is to set out what charges will be levied for activities, what remissions will be implemented and the circumstances under which voluntary contributions will be requested from parents.

The Governing Body of the School recognise that the legislation prohibits charges for the following:

- education provided during school hours (including the supply of any materials, books, instruments or other equipment);
- education provided outside school hours if it is part of the National Curriculum;
- tuition for pupils learning to play musical instruments if the tuition is required as part of the National Curriculum;
- education provided on any trip that takes place during school hours;
- education provided on any trip that takes place outside school hours if it is part of the National Curriculum;
- transporting registered pupils to or from the school premises, where the local education authority has a statutory obligation to provide transport;
- transporting registered pupils to other premises where the governing body or local education authority has arranged for pupils to be educated;
- transport provided in connection with an educational trip.

As a school we recognise the valuable contribution visits from school, visitors to school and extra-curricular activities make to our children's education. We will endeavour to maximise these opportunities and ensure that all children have equality of opportunity.

Contributions from parents may be requested for extras such as residential visits and on occasion for extended school activities. Any monies requested will be of a voluntary nature in accordance with guidance from the DFE (last updated May 2018), unless additional outside funding becomes available. School will also ensure that they inform parents on low incomes and in receipt of benefits of the support available to them when being asked for contributions towards the cost of school visits.

Families qualifying for remission or help with charges

In order to remove financial barriers from disadvantaged children, the governing body has agreed that some activities and visits where charges can legally be made will be offered free of charge or at a reduced cost to parents/carers in particular circumstances. This remissions policy sets out the circumstances in which charges will be waived. Criteria for qualification for remission are given below.

Parents/carers in receipt of:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided that you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,180)
- Working Tax Credit run-on – paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit – if you apply on or after 1st April, 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

The responsibility for determining the level of voluntary contribution is delegated to the Head Teacher. The Head Teacher and the Governing Body will also agree the level of voluntary contribution towards breakages and replacements as a result of damage caused wilfully or negligently by children.

Date of Policy approval: September 2018

Date of Policy review: September 2019