

SWINEMOOR PRIMARY SCHOOL

Charging and Remissions Policy

Inclusion Statement

Swinemoor Primary School is committed to creating a school in which the teaching and learning, achievements, attitudes and well being of every member of the school matter. We seek to create opportunities for all children to achieve their very best in terms of academic attainments and personal attainments. We aim to make the curriculum accessible to all in a stimulating learning environment in which success is celebrated in all areas. We strive to make everyone feel welcome. We endeavour to work with parents and members of the community to create a supportive environment for learning.

We take account of the Single Equality and SEND Practices in this policy.

Overview

Under the terms of the 1988 Education Act, education should, in the main, be provided free from charges. The governors and staff accept this as a principle and the following policy outlines their view and proposed action.

Education for pupils is free from charge if:

- it takes place in school hours
- it is part of the National Curriculum.

Exceptions

The exceptions are -:

- A charge will be asked for any residential visits.
- Parents will be charged a small amount if they request any policy documents from school (to cover administration costs).
- We may charge for some activities outside school hours. We are one of the few schools which do not charge for musical tuition delivered in school.
- Children going to the swimming baths will be charged the swimming bath's rate. This is for additional swimming sessions over and above those allocated by the Local Authority.
- Some school meals are charged, this price will be set annually and parents notified via letter. If parents are in receipt of 'Income Support' or 'Job Seekers Allowance' their child may be eligible for free schools meals. Parents are encouraged to complete the appropriate form and return this to the school office. They will receive a free school water bottle for their child in return.
- The school also sells sweatshirts to parents. The sweatshirts are part of the agreed school uniform. The cost of these items is kept to a minimum and no profit is made by the school.

Voluntary Contributions

Voluntary contributions will be requested of parents to allow visits to take place, which supplement and extend work included in the National Curriculum. In cases where there are insufficient voluntary contributions visits will be cancelled. The school values the contribution made by parents over the past years which have allowed visits to take place. Voluntary contributions may be requested on occasions either in cash or kind for materials or ingredients used in various activities. If finished products are to be taken by pupils a charge may be made.

The Governing Body reserves the right to ask parents to pay for the cost of replacing items of school property which are broken, lost or damaged, where it is the result of a pupil's behaviour.

The school holds its own fund raising events from time to time. Sometimes these support our own funds, but usually they support such charities as Comic Relief or the Poppy Appeal. Note that financial contributions to these events are voluntary.

Financial difficulties

Where charges would cause financial difficulties a reduced rate or no charge may be made, at the discretion of the Head. Sometimes, alternative sources of funding can be found. Parents will however be encouraged to make whatever contribution they can. No child will be excluded from any activity because of genuine financial difficulty.

A copy of the Charging Policy is available on the web site. A paper copy can be obtained from the school office.

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