



Charging and Remissions

Introduction

All education during school hours is free with the exception of individual or group music tuition (see 4 below). We do not charge for any activity undertaken during school hours as part of the National Curriculum.

At Livingstone we will ensure that at every level, in all our work and throughout all aspects of the school community and its life, all will be treated equally, with respect and dignity, free from discrimination and harassment. Each person will be given fair and equal opportunities to develop their full potential regardless of their age, disability, gender, gender-identity, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity (refers to staff / employment), socio-economic background and special educational needs. Our school will tackle the barriers which could lead to unequal outcomes for these protected groups, ensuring there is equality of access and that we celebrate and value the diversity within our school community. The school will work actively to promote equality and foster positive attitudes and commitment to an education for equality.

School visits and activities during in school time - voluntary contributions

When organising school activities, trips or visits which enrich the curriculum and educational experience of the children, the school invites parents/carers to contribute to the cost. All contributions are voluntary. If sufficient voluntary contributions are not made a proposed event would be cancelled unless school is able to cover the shortfall arising from parents/carers unwilling or unable to make a voluntary contribution. If the event does proceed each child would be allowed to participate fully without discrimination irrespective of contribution circumstances. Pupils in receipt of Pupil Premium will not be charged for such activities.

Parents/Carers have a right to know how each individual trip is funded. The school provides this information on request.

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

- visits to museums;
- sporting activities – sometimes involving transport expenses;
- outdoor adventure activities;
- visits to the theatre;
- musical events.

Parents/Carers will be given reasonable advanced notice of proposed visits/ activities and school will provide details of how each individual voluntary contribution amount has been determined. Staged payments may be arranged where contributions are significant.

Residential visits - Charges

If the school organises a residential visit in school time or mainly school time, which is to provide education directly related to the National Curriculum, we do not make any charge for the education itself. However, we do make a charge to cover the costs of board and lodging and transport to the site. We may invite voluntary contributions to meet other costs associated with the visit.

At Livingstone, Y5 and 6 are offered the opportunity to attend a three day residential at Robinwood. For Pupil Premium children, the PP grant will be used to cover the cost of this visit in either Y5 or Y6 so that all pupils have the opportunity to attend during their time at Livingstone.

Parents/Carers will be given advanced notice of proposed residential visit opportunities together with an early indication of charges and voluntary contribution requests and staged payments may be arranged where contributions are significant.

Music tuition

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

We currently provide small group brass instrument tuition to Class 5. This is arranged through the Mossley and Carrbrook Schools' Partnership and is provided at no cost to the children themselves. One class each term will also have the opportunity to be taught choral singing. Again this is not charged for. Individual piano tuition is provided by a visiting teacher in addition to the National Curriculum. We give parents information about availability of this facility and a charge is made for these lessons by the private tutor. In some cases we use the Pupil Premium grant to cover this cost. We consider these cases on an individual basis.

Swimming

The school organises swimming lessons for some children in Key Stage 2. These take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum. We make no charge for this activity or for associated transport costs. We inform parents when these lessons are to take place, and we ask parents for their permission for their child to take part in swimming lessons.

Out of School clubs and activities

The school offers a range of out-of-school clubs and reserves the right to charge for such sessions to cover the cost of provision where a private provider is involved. We endeavour to keep these costs low and charge a nominal amount each time. For pupils in receipt of the Pupil Premium, we use the grant to cover these costs.

Childcare

Parents/Carers will be responsible for meeting full costs for childcare provided by school or by another company who works alongside school, including any transport costs for supervised transfer. Parents/Carers may be eligible for financial support towards childcare costs e.g. through Working Tax Credits. The school will aim to promote financially self-sustainable childcare with full regard to existing provision within the locality.

Transport to Extra-Curricular Activities

Parents/Carers may be charged to cover the transport expenses associated with extra-curricular activities. Charges for transport will be strictly based on covering actual costs (as defined in legislation) with no profit element.

Loss of/ Damage to School Property

Parents/Carers may be asked to meet the costs of repair/replacement of school property lost or damaged as a result of a pupil's misbehaviour.