



PITMASTON PRIMARY SCHOOL CHARGING AND REMISSIONS POLICY

1 Introduction

1.1 All education during school hours is free. We do not charge for any activity undertaken as part of the National Curriculum, with the exception of individual or small-group music tuition provided by peripatetic music teachers.

2 Voluntary contributions

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

2.2 The 1988 Education Act draws a distinction between the term `charges` which are considered to be an obligatory cost and `voluntary contributions` which are self-explanatory.

2.3 Subsidies from various sources e.g. School Fund, Pupil Premium, whilst available, County Music Bursary Fund etc where applicable and voluntary organisations, will be considered to cover deficits.

2.4 Whenever possible, the school will give sufficient notice to allow parent/carers to pay by instalments.

2.5 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.

2.6 The following is a list of additional activities, organised 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;

- outdoor adventure activities;
- visits to or by a theatre company;
- school trips;
- musical events.
- transport

3 Residential visits

3.1 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 voluntary contributions for the travel will be requested however we do make a charge to cover the costs of board and lodging.

Parents who are in receipt of income related Free School Meals may be eligible for support with the cost of voluntary contributions. All Parents are required to pay the deposit payment, requests for support with the balance should be made to the School Business Manager via email freeschoolmeals@pitmaston.worcs.sch.uk. Please see Section 7 for full details of free school meal eligibility.

4 Music tuition

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

4.2 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. Severn Arts make a charge for these lessons. We give parents information about additional music tuition at the start of each academic year.

5 Swimming

5.1 The school organises swimming lessons for children in Year 4. These lessons take place in school time and are part of the National Curriculum.

We therefore make no charge for this activity. We do ask for a voluntary contribution to cover the cost of the transport to and from the swimming pool. Wherever possible we will use the school minibus to minimise the impact for parents.

We inform parents when these lessons are to take place, and we ask parents for their permission for their child to take part.

6 Lunch time / After School Sport and Creative Activities

6.1 The school offers additional activities after school and during lunch breaks. We reserve the right to make a small charge for these sessions as appropriate. If after school clubs are run by external providers, the charge for these activities are between the provider and parents and all fees are paid direct to the provider.

7 Free School Meals

You may be eligible for free school meals if your child attends a state school, and you must be receiving one or more of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Support under part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act, 1999
- Child Tax Credit, and your annual income is less than £16,190
- Guaranteed Pension Credit
- Income-based Employment and Support Allowance
- Working Tax Credit run-on
- Universal Credit, and your annual household income is £7,400 per annum (£616 per month) or less after tax, and not including any benefits.

If your child is currently receiving free school meals, and the above criteria no longer apply, your child's eligibility is protected, and they will continue to receive free school meals until the end of the Universal Credit Roll Out. The Government has currently scheduled no earlier than July 2023 for the protection period to end. This could be longer and will depend on your child's current year group.

Your child might also get free school meals if you get any of these benefits and your child is both:

- younger than the [compulsory age for starting school](#)
- in full-time education

This policy was reviewed and approved by the Governing Body at a meeting of the Resources committee meeting on Thursday 13th October 2022

Signed:



Headteacher

Date: 13.10.2022



Chair of Governors

To be reviewed: Autumn 2024