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| |  | | --- | | Littletown | | **Littletown Primary Academy**  **Honiton Bottom Road, Honiton, Devon, EX14 2EG**  01404 548749  [admin@littletown.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@littletown.devon.sch.uk)  [www.littletown.devon.sch.uk](http://www.littletown.devon.sch.uk) |   **Charging and Remissions Policy**  **This Policy was adopted by the Full Governing Body of**  **Littletown Primary Academy**  **on…………………Sept 2020…………………..**  **signed…………………………………………………..**  **(Chair of Governors)**  **Date Policy to be reviewed on:**  **……………………Sept 2022…………………** | | |
| **Charging and Remissions Policy** | | |
| This Policy describes the circumstances when the parents of children at this school will be asked to pay for school activities, when they will be asked to make a [voluntary contribution](#volcontribute) to costs and when they will not be asked to pay or contribute.  It also describes [Remission](#remission); when costs will be waived for children from low income households.  Text that is underlined in blue indicates a link to further information within the document or online. If you don’t have access to the internet or have any questions about this Policy, please ask for advice from the school. | | |
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| **Charging and Remissions Policy** | | |
| Section | **Contents** | Page |
| **Description of this Policy** | | 1 |
|  | | |
| 1 | Equality and Safeguarding Statements | 3 |
| 2 | Introduction | 3 |
| 3 | Responsibilities | 3 |
| 4 | Policy Statement | 3 |
| 5 | Voluntary Contributions | 3 |
| 6 | Optional activities outside of the school day | 4 |
| 7 | Education partly during school hours | 4 |
| 8 | Music Tuition | 4 |
| 9 | Residential Trips | 5 |
| 10 | Remission | 5 |
| 11 | Calculating Charges | 6 |
| 12 | Policy version | 6 |
| 13 | Contacts for further information | 6 |

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| **1** | **Equality and Safeguarding Statements** |
| 1.1 | This school and Devon County Council will only commit to policies and practices which will eradicate discrimination and promote equality for all, regardless of age, gender, disability, religion and belief, race and ethnicity and sexual orientation. This policy will be subject to an Impact Assessment which will be integral to all reviews. |
| 1.2 | We and our partners recognise that safeguarding is everybody’s responsibility. Whether their interest is in all young people ‘staying safe’ in all aspects of our services, or whether they are working in specific areas of vulnerability, all staff will have appropriate training and induction so that they understand their roles and responsibilities and are confident in carrying them out. Settings, schools, children, young people and their parents or carers, or any member of the community should feel secure that they could raise any issues or concerns about the safety or welfare of children and know that they will be listened to and taken seriously. This will be achieved by maintaining an ethos of commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. This is supported by a clear child protection policy, appropriate induction and training, briefings on and discussion of relevant factors and refreshed learning in line with current legislation and guidelines. |
| **2** | **Introduction** |
| 2.1 | The purpose of the Policy is to ensure that there is clarity over those items which the school will provide free of charge and for those items where there may be charge.  The Policy has been informed by the Department for Education Guidance “[Charging For School Activities](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/charging-for-school-activities)” which was last updated in October 2014. |
| **3** | **Responsibilities** |
| 3.1 | The head teacher will ensure that staff are familiar with and correctly apply the policy. The Governors will review the policy from time to time to ensure that it meets with current guidance from the Department for Education. |
| **4** | **Policy Statement** |
| 4.1 | All activities that are a part of the National Curriculum[[1]](#footnote-1) for compulsory school age children,[[2]](#footnote-2) necessary as part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for at school, or part of religious education will be provided free of charge. This includes any materials, equipment, and transport to take pupils between the school and the activity.  We will normally make a charge unless the teaching is an essential part of either the National Curriculum or a public examination syllabus being followed by the pupil(s) at school, |
| **5** | **Voluntary Contributions** |
| 5.1 | We will ask parents to make a voluntary contribution towards costs for activities during the school day[[3]](#footnote-3) which entail additional costs (for example school trips). If the activity cannot be funded without voluntary contributions it will be made clear when parents are initially informed about the planned activity that this is the case. . The head teacher or teacher will also make it clear to parents that there is no obligation to make any contribution.  No pupil will be prevented from participating because his/her parents cannot or will not make a contribution. However, if insufficient funds are available it may be necessary to curtail or cancel activities or trips.  From time to time we may invite a non-school based organisation such as a theatre company to arrange an activity or performance during the school day. Such organisations may wish to charge in these circumstances the school may ask for a voluntary contribution from parents. |
| **6** | **Optional activities outside of the school day** |
| 6.1 | We will charge for optional, extra activities provided outside of the school day. Such activities are not part of the National Curriculum, part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for at the school or part of religious education. Examples are sports activities, theatre visits and extended day services such as the before and after school club. Charges will be based on the cost incurred less any specific funding received, except the before and after school club which will be charged at a commercial rate.  **Extended School Services**  Payments for Extended School Services should be made in advance and are payable via ParentPay. Where parents are in arrears parents will be notified immediately and informed that no further sessions will be allowed and the child’s place will be cancelled. For further guidance please refer to our website:  <https://www.littletown.devon.sch.uk/website/extended_schools/332449>  **Optional activities during the school day:**  **Additional Nursery Days**  Additional sessions/hours are available if they cannot be are included in a child’s Early Years Entitlement. An invoice for these will be given at the beginning of the term for the whole terms sessions/hours. Half the amount must be paid by half-term and the full amount by the end of the term. Any payments outstanding at the end of the term, parents will be notified and no further sessions will be allowed until payment is received.  **School Dinners**  School Dinners cannot be ordered on ParentPay without full payment. Any dinners ordered ad hoc by the school office must be paid for immediately by parents and any arrears chased until payment has been made. |
| **7** | **Education partly during school hours** |
| 7.1 | A charge will only be made for the activity outside school hours if it is not part of the National Curriculum, not part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for at the school and not part of religious education.  A) Non-Residential  Where less than 50% of the time spent on activity falls during school hours, it is deemed to have taken place outside school hours.  B) Residential  If the number of school sessions taken up by the visit is equal to or greater than 50% of the number of half days spent on the visit, it is deemed to have taken place during school hours (even if some activities take place late in the evening). |
| **8** | **Music Tuition** |
| 8.1 | Charges may be made for teaching either an individual pupil or groups of any appropriate size to play a musical instrument or to sing. Charges may only be made if the teaching is not an essential part of either the National Curriculum or a public examination syllabus being followed by the pupil(s), or the first access to the Key Stage 2 Instrumental and Vocal Tuition Programme (Wider Opportunities).[[4]](#footnote-4) |
| **9** | **Residential Trips** |
| 9.1 | There will be **no charge** for:   * Education provided on any visit that takes place during school hours: * Education provided on any visit that takes place outside school hours if it is:   + part of the National Curriculum, or   + part of a syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for at the school, or   + part of religious education; and   + supply teachers to cover for those teachers who are absent from school accompanying pupils on a residential visit.   The school **will** **charge** for:  Board and lodging (the charge will not exceed the actual costs). |
| **10** | **Remission** |
| 10.1 | When parents are informed about a forthcoming visit, it will be made clear that parents who can prove they are in receipt of any of the following benefits will be exempt from paying the cost of board and lodging:   * Income Support * income-based Jobseeker’s 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 you’re not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190) * 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 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)   (The criteria that entitle families to an exemption from paying for the cost of board & lodging has been aligned with free school meals criteria.)  The Governors have agreed that children who are not covered by the Remission Policy above may be subsidised in accordance with need, as identified by the Headteacher, so that no child is discriminated against. All applications for support/special consideration should be made direct to the head teacher. |
| **11** | **Calculating Charges** |
| 11.1 | When charges are made for any activity, whether during or outside of the school day, they will be based on the actual costs incurred, divided by the total number of pupils participating. There will be no levy on those who can pay to support those who are unable to or do not wish to pay. |

**Policy version:**

This policy was determined by the Governing Board on 15th September 2020 and it will be reviewed and determined two yearly.

**Contacts for Further Information**

School contact information

01404548749

**The Department for Education (DfE)**

0870 000 2288 [www.education.gov.uk](http://www.education.gov.uk)

**The Education Funding Agency (EFA) - Bristol**

0370 000 2288 [www.education.gov.uk/b00199952/educationfundingagency](http://www.education.gov.uk/b00199952/educationfundingagency)

**Appendix 1**

Your child might be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

* Income Support
* income-based Jobseeker’s 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 you’re not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
* 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 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

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](https://www.gov.uk/school-attendance-absence/)
* in full-time education

If your child is eligible for free school meals, they’ll remain eligible until they finish the phase of schooling (primary or secondary) they’re in on 31 March 2022.

**Infant free school meals in England**

Your child will be able to get free school meals if they’re in:

* reception class
* year 1
* year 2

Tell your local authority if you also get any of the qualifying benefits. Your child’s school can get extra funding if you do.

Last updated: 15 September 2020

1. The national curriculum is a set of subjects and standards used by primary and secondary schools so children learn the same things. It covers what subjects are taught and the standards children should reach in each subject. Academies don’t have to follow the national curriculum but must teach a broad and balanced curriculum including English, maths, and science. They must also teach religious education. This school is an academy. We will consider our curriculum to be the national curriculum for this purpose. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Children reach compulsory school age on the prescribed day following their 5th birthday (or on their fifth birthday if it falls on a prescribed day). They must be in full time education by the beginning of the term following this. The prescribed days are 31 August, 31 December and 31 March. Children who are of compulsory school age do not have to be in school – they may be Home Educated. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Under [The Education (School Day and School Year) (England) Regulations 1999](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/1999/3181/contents/made), the school day is split into two half-day sessions, whatever time it starts and finishes. A school half day is any length of time up to 12 hours when the school meets, ending at noon or midnight that day. At this school, the session times are:

   Morning from 9am to 12:30

   Afternoon from 1:30 to 3:15 [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. For further information, see [www.education.gov.uk/publications/eOrderingDownload/0184-2006PDF-EN-01.pdf](http://www.education.gov.uk/publications/eOrderingDownload/0184-2006PDF-EN-01.pdf) [↑](#footnote-ref-4)