



Stanley Crook Primary School

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OUR MISSION: TO TRY OUR BEST, TO TELL THE TRUTH, TO LOOK AFTER EACH OTHER AND THE COMMUNITY

"Pupils' personal development, behaviour and welfare is OUTSTANDING" (Ofsted, 2019)

Charging and Remissions Policy

Completed by: Mrs Norris (Headteacher)

Date Implemented: September 2026

Review date: September 2027

Stanley Crook Primary School is committed to improving outcomes for all pupils



SCHOOL
MEMBER



Stanley Crook Primary School

Charging Policy

1. Introduction

1.1

The Governing Body of Stanley Crook Primary School recognises its responsibility to ensure that all children have equal access to a broad and balanced curriculum.

The Governing Body believes that no child should be disadvantaged because of financial circumstances and will comply with all relevant legislation governing charges and remissions in maintained schools.

1.2

This policy has been developed in accordance with:

- Education Act 1996
- Education Act 2002
- Charging for School Activities Guidance (DfE)
- School Finance Regulations
- Relevant Durham County Council guidance

1.3

At Stanley Crook Primary School, all education provided during school hours is free of charge. We do not charge for activities undertaken as part of the National Curriculum, except where legislation permits charges to be made.

2. Voluntary Contributions

2.1

When organising educational visits, visitors, enrichment activities and events which enhance the curriculum, the school may invite parents and carers to make a voluntary contribution towards the cost.

All contributions are entirely voluntary.

2.2

No pupil will be excluded from an activity because their parent or carer is unwilling or unable to contribute.

Pupils whose parents do not contribute will be treated no differently from any other pupil.

2.3

If insufficient voluntary contributions are received, the school reserves the right to cancel the activity.

2.4

Parents and carers have the right to request information regarding the funding arrangements for any trip, visit or activity.

2.5

Examples of activities for which voluntary contributions may be requested include:

- Educational visits and museum trips
- Sporting activities requiring transport
- Outdoor and adventurous activities
- Theatre visits and performances
- Visiting workshops and enrichment experiences
- Musical events
- Special curriculum enhancement activities

This list is not exhaustive.

3. Charges That May Be Made

The Governing Body reserves the right to make charges for:

3.1 Residential Visits

Board and lodging costs associated with residential educational visits.

3.2 Optional Extras

Activities that take place wholly or mainly outside school hours where participation is voluntary.

3.3 Individual and Small Group Music Tuition

Where the tuition is not provided as part of the National Curriculum or examination requirements.

3.4 Damage or Loss

The cost of repairing or replacing school property damaged as a result of wilful or negligent behaviour by a pupil.

3.5 Materials

Materials, ingredients or equipment where parents have indicated in advance that they wish to own the finished product.

3.6 Extended Services

Charges may be made for:

- Breakfast Club
- After School Clubs
- Wraparound Care
- Other extended childcare provision

Current charges are published separately by the school and reviewed annually by the Governing Body.

4. Residential Visits

4.1

Where a residential visit takes place wholly or mainly during school hours and is directly related to the National Curriculum, the school will not charge for:

- Education provided
- Travel costs
- Activities forming part of the curriculum

4.2

The school may charge for board and lodging.

4.3

Remission of all or part of these costs may be considered where families meet the school's remission criteria or are experiencing financial hardship.

5. Music Tuition

5.1

All pupils receive music teaching as part of the National Curriculum and no charge will be made for this provision.

5.2

A charge may be made for individual or small-group instrumental tuition provided by peripatetic music teachers where this tuition is additional to the National Curriculum.

5.3

No charge will be made where music tuition:

- Forms part of National Curriculum provision.
- Is required to fulfil examination specifications.
- Is specified within an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

5.4

Pupils eligible for Pupil Premium funding may receive funded music tuition at the discretion of the school.

5.5

Where music tuition is being delivered as part of SEND provision and is linked directly to identified outcomes, costs may be met through the school's SEND funding arrangements.

6. Swimming

6.1

Swimming lessons that form part of the National Curriculum are provided free of charge.

6.2

The school may, where funding permits, provide support towards the cost of swimming equipment and associated expenses for disadvantaged pupils.

7. Breakfast Club, After School Clubs and Wraparound Care

7.1

The school offers a range of extended services to support families and enrich pupils' experiences.

7.2

Charges may be made for:

- Breakfast Club
- After School Clubs
- Wraparound Care
- Holiday or extended childcare provision where offered

7.3

Current charges are reviewed annually and published separately through the school website and parental communications.

7.4

Where financial hardship is identified, support may be considered through the school's remission arrangements.

8. Transport

8.1

Where transport is provided solely in connection with an optional extra or extra-curricular activity, a charge may be made to cover transport costs.

8.2

Any charges will be limited to recovering actual costs and will not be used to generate profit.

9. Remissions

9.1

The Governing Body recognises that there may be occasions when families experience financial difficulty.

The school will therefore operate a remission scheme to support participation in educational opportunities wherever possible.

9.2

Full or partial remission may be considered where a family:

- Is experiencing financial hardship.
- Is eligible for Free School Meals.
- Receives Pupil Premium support.
- Is supported through Early Help or social care services.
- Has a child who is looked after by a Local Authority.
- Is experiencing exceptional circumstances.

9.3

Applications will be considered confidentially by the Headteacher.

9.4

Each application will be considered individually and decisions will take account of:

- Available school resources.
 - Individual family circumstances.
 - Educational benefit to the pupil.
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10. Equality and Inclusion

10.1

The Governing Body is committed to ensuring that no child is excluded from educational opportunities because of financial circumstances.

10.2

The school will make reasonable adjustments for pupils with SEND and will consider additional support where appropriate.

10.3

All requests for support will be handled sensitively and confidentially.

11. Support with Payments

11.1

Where families experience difficulty in meeting charges, the school encourages parents and carers to speak with the Headteacher at the earliest opportunity.

11.2

The school will make every reasonable effort to ensure that financial circumstances do not negatively impact on a child's educational experience.

11.3

Support may include:

- Remission of charges.
 - Additional financial assistance where funding is available.
 - Signposting to wider support services.
 - Flexible payment arrangements.
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12. Monitoring and Review

12.1

The Governing Body will:

- Review this policy annually.
- Monitor the impact of charges on participation.
- Review remissions arrangements regularly.
- Ensure compliance with statutory requirements and local guidance.
- Ensure that no pupil is disadvantaged because of financial hardship.

12.2

This policy will also be reviewed in response to changes in legislation or local authority guidance